University of West Georgia
MUSC 3900—Music in the Elementary Schools
Syllabus

Dr. Dawn Harmon McCord

Class: R 5:30-8:00 PM
3 hr. credit
Office: Humanities 233
770-839-6266
Email: CourseDen email preferred
dmccord@westga.edu

Office Hours:
M 5:00-5:30
T 8:00 AM-Noon
R 8:00 AM-11:00 AM
F 2:30PM-5:00PM

Classroom: Humanities 235
Appointments are available at other
770-839-6266
times

Course Description
Principles, methods, and materials for teaching music in the elementary schools. Includes
the study of instructional procedures, techniques, resources, and tools for teaching
appropriate for early childhood and elementary schools children; appraisal of instructional
innovations, classroom organization and management; and measurement and evaluation
techniques. Includes a fields-experience component.
Prerequisite: Music 2302, 2402, 2502.

Required Materials
Chicago: GIA Publications, Inc.
1285057473
Membership in CNAfME (Collegiate National Association for Music Education) which
will provide you with journals (Music Educators Journal, Teaching Music, and
Georgia Music Educators) needed for class assignments.
Admission to Teacher Education and Field Experience Application (Includes Tort
liability insurance; Tk-20—electronic portfolio required by UWG-College of
Education for assessment, field placement, and certification; and, COE ID
available through auxiliary services for no charge but fee charge for replacement
IDs. IDs required when on site for field experiences.)
ASO Symphony ticket sold by CNAfME, $14

Objectives/Learning Outcomes
Each student will:
   1. Expand their knowledge and understanding of principals/theories/approaches
      for teaching and assessing music instruction in elementary schools attenuating
      that all students from diverse backgrounds can learn
2. Become familiar with instructional materials, resources and tools used in teaching music in elementary schools including the introduction of multicultural issues and approaches to addressing diversity.

3. Develop classroom organization, procedures, and management skills based on fairness when actuating the implementation of same.

4. Observe music teachers in elementary music classes for teaching strategies, learning styles, and processes used.

5. Perform on instruments commonly used in elementary music.

**Methods and Learning Activities**

The class will be taught by lecture, demonstration, discussion, observation, and student presentations. Students will:

1. Demonstrate proficiency in on recorder, Orff and classroom instruments.
2. Teach songs using prescribed pedagogy.
4. Develop assessment instruments for use in lessons designed by the student.
5. Demonstrate knowledge of theories/approaches for elementary music curriculum.
6. Complete field experiences in an pre-school and elementary music classroom.

**UWG Common Language Syllabi Information**

It is important that you review and understand the statements that are common to all courses at UWG. These items address the Americans with Disabilities Act, UWG Email Policy, Credit Hour Policy, and the University of West Georgia Honor Code.

These statements may be viewed at: [https://www.westga.edu/UWGSyllabusPolicies/](https://www.westga.edu/UWGSyllabusPolicies/)

To emphasize the information provided in the above policies, understand that student’s work must be his/her own product. Failure to comply may result in a grade of “F” on the offending project/test or a grade of “F” in the course. Turnitin, a program for reviewing scholarly academic work, may be used to assess, critique, and validate original work.

**Email and Office Hours:**

Most course materials, correspondence, and grades will be available on CourseDen. Email concerning this class should be transmitted in CourseDen. Grades will not be discussed through email. Conferences are the appropriate venue for the discussion of grades.

**Evaluation**

Students are graded on the quality of work done on curriculum development, lesson planning, examinations, projects, and on their ability to articulate understandings orally and in writing. The instructor will evaluate the quality of work done on course assignments, papers, presentations, and class participation. Work must be completed when due in order to receive credit. Some assignments will have non-class day due dates. Unless noted otherwise, all work must be typed. Assignments are due as assigned and if due at a class time, the assignment is considered late after 10 minutes from start time. As
a rule, assignments will not be accepted late with a few noted exceptions and penalties be applied. No extra credit will be given.

Assignment deadlines are provided in class and on a student-maintained Assignment Page located in CourseDen. It is the student’s responsibility for making note of these adjustments. Weighted Categories, topics and activities may include:

Items in each category may include:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Grade Item</th>
<th>Weight</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Field Experience</strong></td>
<td>Preschool</td>
<td>30</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Elementary School</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Teaching Projects</strong></td>
<td>Rote Song and Preschool Presentation</td>
<td>25</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Group Lesson Presentation</td>
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<td>Song Project</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Reconstructed Field Lesson Plan</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Atlanta Symphony Orchestra repertoire assignments, Listening Maps and ASO attendance</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Learning Segment: Step 1--Planning</td>
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<td>Learning Segment: Step 2—Activities and Assessment</td>
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<td>Learning Segment: Step 3-5—In-field presentation and edTPA tasks</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Professional Activities</strong></td>
<td>Music Education History and Trends Paper and Presentation</td>
<td>20</td>
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<td>Professional journal reports</td>
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<td>Philosophy</td>
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<td>CNAfME Membership</td>
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<td>Tk20 Submissions</td>
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<td><strong>Performance/ Knowledge-Based Activities and Assessments</strong></td>
<td>Accompanied Song Performance</td>
<td>20</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Recorder (Final)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Song Performance (Final)</td>
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<td>Orff Arrangement/Presentation</td>
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<td>Quizzes, tests</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Accompanied Song Performance</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Support Activities</strong></td>
<td>Various brief reports and assignments</td>
<td>5</td>
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<td>Binder Checks</td>
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<td>Category</td>
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<tr>
<td>Recorder Checks</td>
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<td>Midweek Assignments</td>
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<td>Informal assessments</td>
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Grades will be assigned as based on the following:

- **91-100%** A  
- **81-90%** B  
- **71-80%** C  
- **61-70%** D  
- **60% or below** F

**Attendance**

Learning and participation is only possible if the student participates in class and receives essential information. Since the course will move at a very fast pace with assignments due on a regular basis, students are expected to attend every class meeting. Should a student not be able to attend a class, he/she is responsible for the information covered and work assigned. Even if a student is absent, presentations and assignments must be completed as assigned with written assignments turned in no later than 5:40. Absence or tardiness will result in 5 points being subtracted from the student’s final points for each absence for any reason beyond one absence. Two points subtracted per tardy.

**Field Experiences**

**Requirements**

Students in Music 3900 are required to have 30 field experience hours in the field. Four of the 30 hours will take place at the UWG Pre-Kindergarten School and 26 hours will be at an assigned elementary school. Placement by the COE Office of Field experiences must be approved before observations may be begun. For every observation, students must complete and turn in observation forms. These forms must be completed in ink. Completed forms should be turned in weekly in student-specific files. At the end of the semester, files will be archived in the Department of Music office. Under extreme circumstances, a student may be granted permission to turn in observation forms after the deadline with a penalty imposed. After observation submission deadline and if granted, a penalty of 5 points will be subtracted for each day that forms are late, including weekends. Students who have not completed 12 documented hours of their field assignment by an announced mid-point date of the term (will receive no points for course observations. The midpoint 12 hours must be from the following two settings:

- Preschool observations (4 hours). Failure to sign up for field participation in the first week may not be used for excuse. The Child Development Center rarely allows make up observations as they have students from the COE coming in after music students have completed their field experiences.
- Elementary School observations (8 hours)

**Documentation—Field Observation Forms**

Copy the field observation form as needed. The form must be completed in **ink** during the observation and the attending teacher must sign the form in ink at the end of each observation. Each student will have a file in the classroom for collecting forms each week.
The deadline for turning in the forms is in the course schedule. If forms do not record class procedures identified on the form, 8 points will be deducted from total observation points.

**Field Site Access**
A UWG College of Education name badge MUST be visible on your body at all times when you are at your school site. Administrators have been notified that candidates/interns should not be allowed on school property without the College of Education name badge. If you have misplaced your badge or if you are a first semester teacher candidate, you will need to acquire a badge from Auxiliary Services (the round building in the center of the campus). Your UWG ID badge will not be accepted as identification in the schools.

**Calendar, Topics, and Activities**

**Topics and Assignments**
Posted online

**Disclaimer**
Instruction contained in this syllabus was, to the knowledge of the instructor, considered correct and complete when distributed for use; however, this syllabus should not be considered a contract between University of West Georgia and the student. The instructor reserves the right to make changes in course content or instructional techniques without notice or obligation.