

IDIS 191.2  
Special Topic: Music and Literature

Instructor: Dr. Carol Traupman-Carr  
Office: Monocacy Hall 205  
Office Hours: By appointment

Course description: Interconnectedness of music and literature; music as used in literature. Guided readings and papers, including creative writing. Discussion of Jane Campion's film "The Piano" and Toni Morrison's novel "Jazz." Open to all students without prerequisite.

Required texts:

Morrison, Toni. *Jazz*. Vintage, 2004.

Other readings provided by the instructor or placed on reserve:

Cather, Willa. *Song of the Lark*.

Chopin, Kate. *The Awakening*.

Forster, E. M. *Howard's End*.

Kundera, Milan. *The Book of Laughter and Forgetting*.

Waller, Robert James. *Border Music*.

Grading:

Paper #1: 25%

Paper #2: 10%

Paper #3: 25%

Paper #4: 25%

Book discussion: 15%

It is within the instructor's purview to apply qualitative judgment in determining the grade.

Schedule of topics.

Part I: Music in literature.

Readings: Cather, Chopin, Forster, Kundera.

Asks the question how is music used in literature? How can literature help explain music?

How is music connected to other aspects of popular culture, specifically games/sports?

Papers #1, #2, #3.

Part II: Interconnection between music and literature through the medium of film.

Watch Jane Campion's film *The Piano*.

Paper #4.

Part III: *Jazz*

Group discussion of Toni Morrison's *Jazz*. Music in literature, literature "as" music.