

Music 2012
Understanding Classical Music
Memorial University of Newfoundland
Winter 2008

Lecturer:	Janice Esther Tulk	Time:	MWF 11:00 – 11:50am
Office:	149 Arts & Culture Centre	Room:	M-2025
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Course Description:

This course is designed to enhance and develop listening skills and an understanding of the basic elements of music. Form and musical style in Western classical music will be explored within a cultural and historical context, as well as compared to other major works in art history. Through guided listening the student will be exposed to a variety of musical styles and traditions. This course has a strong listening component. The ability to read music is not required.

Note: Credit for this course may NOT be applied to the Bachelor of Music degree. Students who have completed any of Music 1000, 1001, 1002, 1003, 1010, 1020, or 1021 will not receive credit for this course.

Text: Jeremy Yudkin, *Discover Music*. Upper Saddle River, NJ: Pearson Prentice Hall, 2004.
Note: This text comes with a CD. You are strongly advised to store this disk separately from the book to protect its surface. Separate copies of the disk itself are not available.
You are *required* to purchase this text and bring it to each class.

Audio Recordings: The CD set that accompanies this text book will be placed on reserve in Music Resource Centre (MU2026) and can be used at listening stations provided. Reserve recordings cannot be removed from this library. Students should schedule regular listening time each week to ensure adequate access to audio recordings.
Note: This CD set is also available for purchase should students wish to order a copy. Inquire at the bookstore.

Supplementary Material: Supplementary readings, recordings, and other materials may be placed on reserve occasionally. These will be announced in class and available at the reserve desk in the Music Resource Centre (MU2026).

Evaluation:

<i>Item</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Value</i>
Midterm Exam No. 1, featuring: Listening Test No. 1 Written Test No. 1	1 February 2008	20%
Paper Proposal and Bibliography	15 February 2008 Due: in class at 11am	10%
Midterm Exam No. 2, featuring: Listening Test No. 2 Written Test No. 2	3 March 2008	20%
Research Paper	4 April 2008 Due: in class at 11am	25%
Final Exam, featuring: Listening Test No. 3 Written Test No. 3	TBA by Registrar	25%

Nota Bene:

In the case of **documented** medical emergency or family distress, students unable to complete course requirements as outlined will not be penalized. The value of a missed mid-term exam will be added to the weight of the final exam. Extensions for written assignments will be arranged in consultation with the student. Appropriate documentation must be presented in a timely manner – ***before the due date or examination date where possible and within one week of the due date or examination date in all other cases.*** In the case of illness, documentation should be written on letterhead and signed by the physician. It must indicate dates on which the student was seen by the physician, as well as the length of time and degree to which the illness would affect the student's ability to complete course requirements. See the current Calendar for guidelines.

Late submission of assignments without prior approval for an extension will result in a penalty of 5% per day.

Exams:

65% of your final grade will be based on your performance in three listening and written tests. These tests will include fill-ins, multiple choice, short answer questions, and essay questions. They will focus on material covered in class, during any guest lectures, and in reading assignments. Students are strongly encouraged to attend every class to ensure success in exams. If you do miss a class, you are responsible to obtain missed material from your fellow students. Make a missed class/study buddy today!

Written Assignments: Paper Proposal and Bibliography and the Research Paper 35%

There are two written assignments required for this course. These assignments are linked. By completing the first assignment (a paper proposal and bibliography) students will lay the foundation

for the second assignment (the research paper).

Where to Begin

Students must begin by choosing a topic for their research paper that appeals to them and falls within the confines of this course. That is, topics must focus on some aspect of Western classical music (in any of the “eras”, including Medieval, Renaissance, Classical, Romantic, or Twentieth Century). Students are strongly encouraged to be creative when choosing the topic for their research paper. Some possible topics for the research paper include:

1. Life and Works – Choose a composer and write a paper on that composer’s life, his/her important contributions to Western classical music, the style era into which he/she fits, etc.
2. Major Work – Choose one major work by a composer (such as an opera by Mozart or a symphony by Beethoven) and discuss that work in detail. How does it compare to the composer’s other works in the same genre? What is its place in music history? Why is it an important work?
3. Instrument – Choose an instrument of Western classical music and research its origins, its construction, its changes over time, and its usage. For example, trace the development of the piano. What changes were made over time? What technological advances contributed to this?
4. Music and Art – Choose a piece of music and a piece of art from the same style period and compare their features. How do they reflect the ideology and aesthetics of the time period?
5. Music and the Church – Discuss the use of music in the church, its relationship to secular music, and the way in which this changed over time.
6. Music and Dance – Choose a piece of music that was choreographed for dance (such as Stravinsky’s *Rite of Spring*) and discuss the way in which dance adds to the musical experience. How do audiences react? What is the relationship between music and dance?
7. Popular Classical Music – Compilation CDs of the “Great Classical Masters” have been made for years. You might even own one or have a friend who does. What works are featured on the recording? Which composers are included? Where do these composers and their works fit in the history of classical music? Why have they been chosen for this compilation? What were their major contributions to Western classical music?
8. Classical Music on the Big (or Little) Screen – Research the use of classical music in film and television of the twentieth century. Where is it used and why? You may like to choose a specific film (like *Shawshank Redemption* or *Così*) to address these questions. What is the effect that classical music has on the audience? How does the style of music relate to the scene?
9. Classical Music on the Airways – Research the radio history of classical music. What impact does this have on the musical education of listeners? You may like to choose one particular radio show and listen to it. What works are played? Which composers are featured? Why have they been chosen for airplay? What does the DJ/announcer say about the works before/after playing them? Where do these composers and their works fit in the history of classical music?

These are only suggestions for paper topics. Students may choose other topics for their research. If you are uncertain about whether your topic is appropriate to this course, please feel free to send me an e-mail or pop by during an office hour.

Now that you have that paper topic...what next?

So you have a paper topic. The next step is to write a paper proposal and compile a preliminary bibliography of resources that you can use in writing your research paper. Read on...

Paper Proposal and Preliminary Bibliography

10%

Due: 15 February 2008 at 11am

On **15 February 2008**, students will be required to submit in ***hard copy*** a proposal outlining the topic of their term papers. This proposal should clearly explain what the student plans to study and how the student plans to go about completing the task. The proposal should also identify useful sources that will be central to writing the term paper. This proposal should be no more than **400 words** long (***double-spaced, 12pt Times New Roman font, 1" margins***).

Attached to this proposal, the student will submit a preliminary bibliography of sources to be consulted for the paper. This bibliography must include good, ***scholarly*** sources: a minimum of **3** books and **3** articles or entries in encyclopaedias. Students must include in the bibliography any recordings of music and/or videos that will be used in the study (minimum of **1**). Finally, **3** internet resources should be included in the bibliography. These websites should be reliable sources sponsored by universities, societies, or well-known publishers such as *New Grove*.

Note: Wikipedia is **NOT** an appropriate source for a research paper. You will not receive credit for bibliographic entries that reference Wikipedia or similar "open forum" or fan websites.

Students must follow MLA style for citations and in-text references. Please consult the *MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers* [LB 2369 M53 2003 in QEII Reference Section].

The Research Paper

25%

Due: 4 April 2008 at 11am

The research paper for this course focusses on a topic of the student's choice as it relates Western classical music. The final paper should be written on the topic for which the student has submitted a proposal and preliminary bibliography. Topic changes will not normally be permitted. In the event that this may become necessary, please notify me immediately and set up an appointment to discuss your concerns.

Papers should make use of primary and secondary sources, and draw upon the student's own creative thoughts and ideas. The term paper is to be entirely the work of the student alone. Collaborations are not acceptable.

The paper should be approximately **10 pages long, double-spaced, in 12pt Times New Roman**

font. The paper is due in *hard copy* at the start of class on **4 April 2008**. Extensions will only be granted in situations of *documented* medical emergency or family distress. Late papers will be subject to a 5% per day penalty.

Students must make use of the MLA style in documenting sources. Please note that materials drawn from other sources and ideas that are not the student's own *must* be appropriately cited via in-text citations and a bibliography. Failure to do so constitutes plagiarism. The *Calendar* states:

Plagiarism: is the act of presenting the ideas or works of another as one's own. This applies to all material such as essays, laboratory reports, work term reports, design projects, seminar presentations, statistical data, computer programs and research results. The properly acknowledged use of sources is an accepted and important part of scholarship. Use of such material without acknowledgment is contrary to accepted norms of academic behaviour.

See: 4.11.4 - Academic Offenses at <http://www.mun.ca/regoff/calendar/>

Please note that in MLA style, there is no distinction made between an idea and a fact – any information taken from another source must be documented accordingly. Thus, even so-called “historical facts” must be attributed to the source from which the student obtains the information. Please consult the *MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers*.

Term papers will be graded on both content and writing style. Writing style includes proper spelling, grammar, and punctuation, as well as adherence to the MLA documentation style. 25% of the grade for the term paper will be based on writing style and 75% for content. It is strongly recommended that students who struggle with their writing visit the Writing Centre on campus for help (Science Building Room 2053, 737-3168, www.mun.ca/writingcentre). Students who avail of this service are encouraged to have the appropriate paperwork indicating that they went to the Writing Centre completed and forwarded to me no later than **9 April 2008**.

Submission Guidelines Summarized:

Assignments must be:

- submitted at the *start* of class on the date that they are due
- submitted in hard copy (do not submit via e-mail)
- double-spaced
- 12 point font, Times New Roman
- 1" margins on all sides
- in MLA format

Core Reading and Listening Assignments

Generally, this course will be structured chronologically and follow the topics outlined below. Listening examples will be on reserve in the Music Resource Centre (MU-2026). Additional reading excerpts and listening examples may be assigned throughout the term. These will also be placed on reserve in the MRC.

Plan your time wisely, as these recordings cannot be removed from the MRC and must be used during posted hours of operation.

1. The Elements of Music

Read & Listen: Chapter One – *Please read this chapter by 14 January 2008 and bring questions to class on that day.*

View: Inside the Orchestra [CD-ROM on reserve]

2. Medieval Music / Music of the Middle Ages

Read & Listen: Chapter Three

3. Renaissance Music

Read & Listen: Chapter Four

4. Baroque Music

Read & Listen: Chapter Five

5. Classical Music

Read & Listen: Chapter Six

6. Romantic Music

Read & Listen: Chapter Eight

7. Focus on Beethoven

Read & Listen: Chapter Seven

8. 20th Century Music

Read & Listen: Chapter Nine