

Bergen Community College
Division of Business, Arts and Social Science
Department of Performing Arts

Course Syllabus

MUS-107 History of Western Music before 1750

Basic Information about Course and Instructor

Semester and year:
Course and Section Number:
Meeting Times and Locations:

Instructor:
Office Location:
Phone:
Departmental Secretary: [optional]
Office Hours:
Email Address:

Course Description

MUS-107 History of Western Music before 1750 [3.00 cr.] This course is a study of the historical and stylistic development of music from the Gothic period through the Baroque period. General Education Course – Humanities Elective 3 lectures, 3 credits No prerequisites

Listening to Music, 5th ed. by Craig Wright. Thomson Schirmer Publishing. ISBN 13-978-0-495-18973-2
Music the Art of Listening, 7th ed. by Jean Ferris. McGraw Hill Publishing. ISBN 978-0-07-312213-7

Student Learning Objectives: As a result of meeting the requirements in this course, students will be able to:

1. develop an understanding of the selected period in history through the avenue of music.
2. develop a working vocabulary of musical terminology
3. recognize distinctive musical characteristics of each of the historical periods covered during the course.
4. Identify significant historical events between the Middle Ages, Renaissance and through the 18th century.
5. apply aspects of critical thinking by writing a term paper on a selected topic.
6. utilize library and online resources and research tools to retrieve primary and secondary sources, in order to present an individual perspective on the role of music in contemporary society;
7. critique live and recorded music representing music reflective of the historical periods considered during class and show a work use of the vocabularies mastered during coursework.

Learning Assessment

Student Learning Objective	Suggested Means of Assessment
1. develop an understanding of the selected period in history through the avenue of music.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Essay examinations• Quizzes and objective tests• Writing assignments
2. develop a working vocabulary of musical terminology	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Essay examinations• Quizzes and objective tests• Writing assignments
3. recognize distinctive musical characteristics of each of the historical periods covered during the course 4. Identify significant historical events between the Middle Ages, Renaissance and through the 18 th century. 5. apply aspects of critical thinking by writing a term paper on a selected topic 6. utilize library and online resources and research tools to retrieve primary and secondary sources, in order to present an individual perspective on the role of music in contemporary society;	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Essay examinations• Quizzes and objective tests• Writing assignments
7. critique live and recorded music representing music reflective of the historical periods considered during class and show a work use of the vocabularies mastered during coursework.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Writing assignments

The course is intended to introduce students to the academic study of music, including music analysis and the historical and sociocultural issues regarding music of that period. The course includes studying the musical elements of timbre, rhythm, melody, harmony, texture, and form. The course studies the historical and sociocultural context of music through the time periods considered. Because MUS-107 is a General Education course, it requires students to complete a variety of critical thinking and writing assignments. These assignments may include class discussions and the application of critical thinking skills, short essays, and examinations containing essay writing.

Grading Policy

EVALUATION:

Class Involvement = 20%

(Based on responses and reactions concerning the week's assignments, discussions, responses and descriptions of recordings)

Three tests = 60%

(Based on assigned readings and listening assignments)

One Major Paper = 20% DUE DATE IS FIRM.

This term paper must be created during THIS semester.

Any late assignments or papers will be evaluated one letter grade lower unless the exception has been approved by the instructor

* Anyone who would like to improve one of his or her test scores may submit an additional review for extra credit of an *instructor approved* and *instructor identified* concert. This is not mandatory.

GRADING: Letter grades evaluating course work as required by the college.

90-100 = A

86-89 = B+

80-85 = B

76-79 = C+

70 -75 = C

65-69 = D

Below 64 =R

Official Withdrawal

Incomplete (N) will typically not be given without permission from the instructor

Student and Faculty Support Services

The Distance Learning Office – for any problems you may have accessing your online courses	Room C-334	201-612-5581 psimms@bergen.edu
English Language Resource Center	C-212	http://www.bergen.edu/elrc
The Tutoring Center	Room L-125	201-447-7908 http://www.bergen.edu/tutoring
The Writing Center	Room L-125	201-447-7908 http://www.bergen.edu/owl
The Office of Specialized Services (for Students with Disabilities)	Room S-131	201-612-5270 http://www.bergen.edu/oss
BCC Library – Reference Desk	Room L-226	201-447-7436

Special Note on the Tutoring Center

The Henry and Edith Cerullo Learning Assistance Center encompasses the Tutoring Center, the English Language Resource Center, and the Writing Center. The website of the Learning Assistance Center is located at www.bergen.edu/tutoring. Tutoring services are available for this course in the Tutoring Center. I strongly recommend that you make use of those services as we progress through the course. As listed above, the Tutoring Center is located in Room L-125, and its phone number is 201-447-7908.

SAMPLE COURSE OUTLINE

Each week a topic will be explored through readings, listening activities, and the completion of assignments. Discussions will also be included.

Week(s)	Date(s)	Topic/Activity/Assignments	Student Learning Objectives
1	Sept 23	Introduction to Music – The elements of music	1-6
2	Sep 30	Rhythm and Melody and Harmony	1-6
3	Oct. 7	Form and Structure, Dynamics	1-6
4	Oct 14	Musical Styles by Period. The Middle Ages	1-6
5	Oct 21	The Middle Ages and the Renaissance	1-6
6	Oct 28	The Renaissance – The National Styles Italy and France TEST 1 (October 28-November 2)	1-6
7	Nov 4	The Baroque Period - Counter Reformation	1-6
8	Nov 11	Baroque Architecture and Music	1-6
9	Nov 18	Early Baroque Orchestra, Solo and Trio, Sonata	1-6
10	Nov 25	J.S. Bach, Late Baroque TERM PAPER DUE – December 1st	1-6
11	Dec 2	The Church Cantata, TEST 2 (December 2 – 6)	1-6
12	Dec 9	G.F. Handel – The Messiah	1-6
13	Dec 16-21	Review and TEST 3 *Cumulative (December 16 – 21)	1-6