

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

## Course Syllabus

# MUS-108 History of Western Music after 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-108 History of Western Music after 1750.** [3.00 cr.] This course is a study of the historical and stylistic development of music from the Classical period to the present. General Education Course – Humanities Elective 3 lectures, 3 credits No prerequisites

### Recommended Texts

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

### 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"><li>• Essay examinations</li><li>• Quizzes and objective tests</li><li>• Writing assignments</li></ul>
2. develop a working vocabulary of musical terminology	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Essay examinations</li><li>• Quizzes and objective tests</li><li>• Writing assignments</li></ul>
3. recognize distinctive musical characteristics of each of the historical periods covered during the course 4. Identify significant historical events from the Classical Period to the present and apply aspects of critical thinking by writing a term paper on a selected topic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Essay examinations</li><li>• Quizzes and objective tests</li><li>• Writing assignments</li></ul>

5. 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;	
6. 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"> <li>• Writing assignments</li> </ul>

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-108 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.**

**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

**Any late assignments or papers will be evaluated one letter grade**

**lower. There are no extended dates for exams unless students contact the instructor directly and explain the circumstance.**

Grading of homework assignments: Your homework assignments will be received by me through the moodle e-mail. I receive all assignments via the moodle system. There is no need to write me to ask if I received your homework. All homework is recorded through moodle and BCC e-mail automatically. I will grade and return quality responses to some of the assignments. NOT ALL will have a comment, but may have a rubric response that most closely describes my evaluation and responses to your work. Some assignments may be graded without comment after the first 8 assignments of the course. An internet course is for those that learn best in a solo circumstance. If you need added help, please consider one of the music tutors...Call the tutoring center and ask for one of our proficient music tutors! Also just give me a call if you are in panic mode.

### 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 <a href="mailto:psimms@bergen.edu">psimms@bergen.edu</a>
Smarthinking Tutorial Service	On Line at:	<a href="http://www.bergen.edu/pages1/Pages/4787.aspx">http://www.bergen.edu/pages1/Pages/4787.aspx</a>
The Tutoring Center	Room L-125	201-447-7908 <a href="http://www.bergen.edu/pages1/pages/2192.aspx">http://www.bergen.edu/pages1/pages/2192.aspx</a>
The Writing Center	Room L-125	201-447-7908 <a href="http://www.bergen.edu/pages1/Pages/1795.aspx">http://www.bergen.edu/pages1/Pages/1795.aspx</a>
The Office of Specialized Services (for Students with Disabilities)	Room S-131	201-612-5270 <a href="http://www.bergen.edu/oss">http://www.bergen.edu/oss</a>
BCC Library – Reference Desk	Room L-226	201-447-7436

**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/pages/2192.asp](http://www.bergen.edu/pages/2192.asp). 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.

All examples used for assignments can be found on YOU TUBE or the BCC Library website. Directions for BCC library: Go to the **library** home page, under **Electronic Server** click on **Full list of Databases**. Click on **subject**, go to **Classical Music**. (type in composer and title) Call the BCC library help desk if you are having trouble.

### **SAMPLE COURSE OUTLINE**

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

Primary readings: Music: The Art of Listening 7<sup>th</sup> ed. By Jean Ferris. McGraw-Hill Publishers.

<b>Week</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Topic/Activity/Assignments</b>	<b>Student Learning Objectives</b>
1	Jan. 19-21	Intro. to Course and overview What are the major stylistic/historical eras Appendix pages 392-399: C. Wright assign.	1-6
2	Jan. 26-28	Quiz. Intro. To musical terminology, concepts and listening skills C. Wright assign. Pages 1-14	
3	Feb. 2-4	Intro. To musical terminology, concepts and Listening skills. Toward Classicism. Chp. 15	1-6
4.	Feb. 9-11	Toward Classicism: General Characteristics, Chp. 16	1-6
5.	Feb. 16-18	Formal Design in the Classical Period, Chp. 17	1-6
6.	Feb. 23-25	Vocal music of the Classical Period, Chp. 18	1-6
7.	Mar. 1-3	Toward Romanticism: General Characteristics Chapter 19 and Chp. 20	1-6
8.	Mar 7-10	Orchestra, Solo instrument Chp. 21, 22	1-6
9	Mar 21-24	Voice and Dramatic Music, Chp. 23	1-6
10	Mar 28-31	Music of 19C America, Chap 24	1-6
11	April 5 – 7	Toward New Music, Chp. 25	1-6
12	April 12-14	20 <sup>th</sup> C. Arts: General Characteristics, Chp. 26	1-6
13	April 19-21	Music Revolutionaries, Chp. 27	1-6
14	April 26-28	Music Evolutionaries, Chp. 28	1-7
15	May 3 – 10	Music for Stage and Films, Chp. 29: Exam 3	1-7