

Conrad Grebel University College
The University of Waterloo
Department of Music
Music 100: Understanding Music – Course Outline
Spring Term 2019
Section 001

Classes: Tuesdays and Thursdays, 11:30-12:50, CGC 1208
Instructor: Dr. John Brownell, jbrownel@uwaterloo.ca or LEARN mail
Office Hours: Tuesdays and Thursdays, 10:00-11:15 (CGC 1113) or by appointment

Course Description

This course presents a broad overview of European art music and develops skills and concepts that can contribute to knowledgeable listening. Though the focus is on the music of a particular rich tradition, the technical and theoretical concepts introduced in this course are fundamental to music discourse in many genres and idioms. No knowledge of music notation is necessary.

Textbook (required)

Yudkin, Jeremy
2015 *Understanding Music, Eighth Edition*. Upper Saddle River, NJ: Pearson Prentice Hall.

There is a course website on LEARN. All assignments, listening lists, lecture notes, test results and other information of note will be posted there. Stay tuned.

Buy the text only and *not* the accompanying CD set. Musical examples will be available online in a Music 100 Brownell folder in the Naxos Music Library at the UW library website or on LEARN.

Evaluation

Assessment	Weighting	Date
Listening Quiz	15%	May 21
Midterm Test	25%	June 20
1 st Concert Review	10%	Due at Final Exam
2 nd Concert Review	10%	Due at Final Exam
<i>Optional</i> short presentation	10% Note: if a Student chooses this option the weight of the final exam is reduced to 30%.	TBA
Final Exam	40%	TBA

Class Expectations

Bring the text to each class. The many listening guides and illustrations will be referred to frequently. Assigned readings should be completed *before* each class begins. It is a good idea to listen to each meeting's listening assignments at least once before class and then repeat and re-listen as necessary. Remember that the primary subject matter of this course is music. . . *sound*. Writings about music (the textbook), while crucial, are supplemental to the listening experience.

In addition to the listening quiz on May 21, both the midterm test and the final exam will include a significant listening component. We will occasionally listen to music in class that is not in your text but you will never be asked to identify compositions or composers that we have not listened to in class. All test examples will be taken from the Naxos Music 100 (Brownell) playlist.

You are also required to attend and review two *live*, in-person performances of “non-popular” (i.e., “classical”) music. There are many opportunities to satisfy this requirement in the KW area including, of course, the KW Symphony as well as chamber and vocal music performances and recitals at both UW and Laurier. Please note: *online performances - even if they are “live” (i.e., in real time) - are not acceptable.*

Missed Tests and Assignment Deadlines

The deadline for receipt of the concert reviews is the same as the date of the final exam. There will be no extensions. Exceptions will only be made if official documentation such as a doctor's note can be provided. Missed quizzes or midterms will require similar documentation before any makeup opportunity will be offered.

Further Listening (without breaking the bank):

CBC Radio1 (90.7 FM in Waterloo, 94.1 in Toronto)

Check cbc.ca for details.

cbc.ca has extensive classical music resources featuring Canadian and international performers.

Classical 96 (96.3 FM)

If you can endure the ads for all the upscale consumer items (luxury cars, restaurants, and travel figure prominently), this station does play the warhorses. . . the “standards” of the standard repertoire.

There are also many internet sites devoted to classical music (too many to list here).

Further Reading:

Copland, Aaron

1999 What to Listen For in Music. New York: Mentor.

(1939)

This book was one of the first of its kind and is still one of the best. As a composer of great skill, Copland’s main concern was to encourage his reader “to become as completely conscious and wide awake a listener as can possibly be developed,” a goal that (modestly) is also the aim of *Music 100*.

Staines, Joe

1999 *Classical Music: 100 Essential CDs/The Rough Guide*. New York: Penguin.

This small volume (it really is a pocket book) contains more useful information than some music encyclopedias. The *Rough Guide* books began as a series of travel and phrase books that could fit easily into a backpack. This volume packs a lot of knowledge into a very small space.

Plotkin, Fred

2002 *Classical Music 101: A Complete Guide to Learning and Loving Classical Music*. New York: Hyperion.

This very readable volume covers much the same ground as the other two but has the added bonus of many interviews with musicians.

All three books are available as inexpensive paperbacks and are in the CG library.

UWaterloo Policies

Academic Integrity: In order to maintain a culture of academic integrity, members of the University of Waterloo are expected to promote honesty, trust, fairness, respect and responsibility.

Arts: [Academic Integrity website](#) University of Waterloo: [Academic Integrity Office](#)

Discipline: A student is expected to know what constitutes academic integrity, to avoid committing academic offences, and to take responsibility for his/her actions. A student who is unsure whether an action constitutes an offence, or who needs help in learning how to avoid offences (e.g., plagiarism, cheating) or about “rules” for group work/collaboration should seek guidance from the course professor, academic advisor, or the Undergraduate Associate Dean. When misconduct has been found to have occurred, disciplinary penalties will be imposed under Policy 71 – Student Discipline. For information on categories of offenses and types of penalties, students should refer to Policy 71 - Student Discipline.

Grievance: A student who believes that a decision affecting some aspect of his/her university life has been unfair or unreasonable may have grounds for initiating a grievance. Read Policy 70 - [Student Petitions and Grievances](#), Section 4.

Appeals: A student may appeal the finding and/or penalty in a decision made under Policy 70 - Student Petitions and Grievances (other than regarding a petition) or Policy 71 - Student Discipline if a ground for an appeal can be established. Read Policy 72 - Student Appeals.

Other sources of information for students:

Note for students with learning differences: The [AccessAbility Services \(AAS\)](#) office, located in Needles Hall Room 1132, collaborates with all academic departments to arrange appropriate accommodations for students with disabilities without compromising the academic integrity of the curriculum. If you require academic accommodations to lessen the impact of your disability, please register with the ASS office at the beginning of each academic term.

Counselling Services: Counselling Services provides free confidential counselling, in both individual and group sessions, with qualified professionals to help registered students, faculty and staff with personal concerns, educational career decisions, and strategies to studies and exams: www.adm.uwaterloo.ca/infocs, ext. 33528, NH Room 2080.

Accommodation for Illness: A medical certificate presented in support of an official petition for relief from normal academic requirements must provide all of the information requested on the “University of Waterloo Verification of Illness” form or it will not be accepted. More information can be obtained from Health Services and the form is available in pdf: <https://uwaterloo.ca/health-services/student-medical-clinic/services/verification-illness>

The Writing Centre: Writing Centre staff offer one-on-one support in planning assignments and presentations, using and documenting research, organizing and structuring papers, and revising for clarity and coherence. Make an appointment or drop in at the Library for quick questions or feedback. To book a 50-minute appointment and to see drop-in hours, visit www.uwaterloo.ca/writing-centre

CLASS SCHEDULE

Date	Topic/Readings
May 7, 9	Introduction The Social Context of Music. Fundamentals: Texture, Melody, Rhythm, Harmony Chapters 1, 2
May 14, 16	Fundamentals: Form, Expression, Instruments, Ensembles Chapter 2, 3
May 21, 23	The Middle Ages and Renaissance Chapters 4, 5 Listening Quiz: May 21
May 28, 30	Renaissance Chapters 5, 6
June 4, 6	Baroque Chapter 6
June 11, 13	Baroque (continued) Chapter 6 The Classical Era Chapter 7
June 18, 20	The Classical Era Chapter 7 <i>Midterm Test: June 20</i>
June 25, 27	Beethoven Chapter 8 The Nineteenth Century Chapter 9
July 4, 9	Romantic Opera (NOTE: NO CLASS ON TUESDAY, JULY 2. JULY 2 FOLLOWS A MONDAY SCHEDULE)
July 11, 16	The Nineteenth Century Chapter 10 The Late Nineteenth to Mid-Twentieth Centuries Impressionism, Primitivism
July 18, 23	Mid-Twentieth Century Expressionism, Atonality, Serialism Chapter 11
July 25, 30	The Twentieth and Twenty-first Centuries Music in America, Aleatoric Music Postmodern/Contemporary Chapter 11 Concert Reviews due at Final Exam