Conrad Grebel University College, University of Waterloo  
**MUSIC 332: AESTHETICS OF MUSIC**  
**Winter 2017: Course Syllabus**

**Class times & location:**  Tuesdays & Thursdays, 2:30-3:50, CGR Room 1302  
**Instructor:**  Dr. Laura Gray, Associate Professor & Chair, Music, CGR 1103A  
**Contact Information:**  519-885-0220 ext.24247, ljgray@uwaterloo.ca  
**Office Hrs:**  Tues & Thurs, 11:30-1 & 4-4:30, drop in or by appointment

**Required Materials and Resources:**  
1. Required readings are available on Learn website. See the reading list below for assignments and links.  
2. **Access to Learn:** required and supplemental readings, external links, handouts, course reserves, and more: **Login:** [https://learn.uwaterloo.ca/d2l/home](https://learn.uwaterloo.ca/d2l/home)  
3. **Mandatory Chicago Style Citation & Bibliographic Guide** (also available on Learn):  
4. **Music Library:**  
   Conrad Grebel College library, 3rd floor  
   - **Hours:** Mon-Thurs, 8:30 am-10:00 pm, Fri, 8:30-6 & Sat, 1-5 (closed Sundays)  
   - **Library website:** [http://www.lib.uwaterloo.ca/](http://www.lib.uwaterloo.ca/)  
   - **Course reserves:** [https://www.reserves.uwaterloo.ca/ares/ares.dll](https://www.reserves.uwaterloo.ca/ares/ares.dll)

**Prerequisites:** Instructor Consent Required. Some knowledge of musical-historical periods, musical forms and styles, or some background in philosophy is strongly recommended.

**Course Description:**  
The history of music involves not only a body of musical works by various composers in different eras but also a history of ideas: the aesthetic, philosophical, and sociological impulses and questions that arise in the context of musical creation and experience. Some questions are perennial: they return again and again, perhaps never fully answered or answerable: What is music? Who or what is a musician? What is music=s purpose or role in society? How do we assess a piece of music? Other questions reflect more closely a particular time in history or they respond to issues stemming from a particular “Zeitgeist” (or “Spirit of the Age”).

This course offers an opportunity to contemplate music and to explore questions of musical meaning. Through study and discussion of selected primary and secondary sources from antiquity to the present, such themes as imitation and abstraction in music, the ways in which music is related to beauty, expression and emotion, and the nature and purpose of music will be examined in historical context and in relation to the other arts. Because musical thinkers take their place in a historical continuum, building on or reacting to the work of their predecessors, the framework of our study is chronological. We will focus most closely, however, on ideas and debates from the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. Classes will combine lectures, group discussion, and student presentations.
Requirements, Grade Breakdown & Due Dates:

5 Take-home quizzes on Reading (see below) 25% (5X5%) See schedule for due dates
2 Reading Responses (see below) 10% (2X5%) Due Feb 14 & Mar 14
Participation (see below) 10%
   5%: attendance
   2.5% instructor evaluation & grade
   2.5%: student participation self-evaluation Due Thurs March 30
Meeting with me about essay topic 2% sign up for appointment; before Jan 31
Essay proposal, outline & bibliography 8% Due Thurs Feb 2
(see proposal instructions & guidelines)
Class Presentation (on essay topic) 20% TBA (March 7-March 28)
(see presentation instructions & guidelines)
Essay (see essay instructions & guidelines) 20% Due Thurs March 30
Revised Essay* 5% Due Thurs April 13, 4:30 pm

*If a student decides not to revise the essay, the original mark out of 20% will be recalculated out of 25%.
***All assignments are due at the beginning of class and must be submitted in hard copy.***

Participation: 10%
-5% is based on attendance:
   -daily and punctual attendance: please check off your name on attendance sheet each class
   -please contact me if unavoidable circumstances prevent your attendance or punctuality
- 2.5% is based on my assessment of your participation, which includes:
   -being engaged:
      -in many ways, not just in the frequency of responses or questions
      -in class with your peers and with in-class exercises and assignments
      -full attendance and engagement in the presentations of your peers
      -refraining from electronic distractions (texting, facebook, surfing, working on other assignments for other classes, etc)
- 2.5% is based on your own assessment of your participation:
   -January 3: in-class questionnaire of personal engagement goals for the term
   -March 30: in-class questionnaire reflection on your goals and your engagement in class (assign yourself a grade out of 5, which I will recalculate as a grade out of 2.5%)

Take-home quizzes on reading materials:
-these will be distributed in hard copy (and posted on Learn) well in advance of their due date.
-they are take-home and open-book.
-the purpose is to facilitate engagement with the reading before the class in which the reading is discussed.
-the types of questions are a mixture of short-answer, multiple-choice, and true-false.
-to be completed and submitted by 2:30pm on the due date listed in the course outline and printed at the top of the test.
Reading Responses:
- there are two reading responses: one due before reading week, the other after reading week.
- each reading response should be approximately 2 pages (12-point font, double-spaced).
- for each response, pick one text from this term’s readings that you found most interesting or that more than any other may have altered your perception of music and its meaning. (Please refrain from discussing a text that you are using in your essay project.)
*Reading Response 1: pick a reading from 1-11.*
*Reading Response 2: pick a reading from 12-24.*

a) Identify and summarize very briefly the main argument in this text.

b) Discuss which element of the text you found most interesting, persuasive or thought-provoking and why.

c) Identify which element of the reading you found most problematic and explain why.

- avoid making your assignment a string of quotations. Demonstrate your critical understanding and assimilation of the text by paraphrasing in your own words. Make sure that whether you quote or paraphrase, that you properly cite the source.

Some Expectations: *MUTUAL RESPECT*

Electronic devices: please turn off cell phones and other electronic devices during class: they distract your peers. Use of a laptop for Music 332 class notes is acceptable. Do not record lectures or photograph slides without prior permission.

Listening and speaking: speak and listen to each other with courtesy and respect.

Eating: in class is acceptable as long as you do not disturb your peers and clean up after yourself.

Attendance: Students are expected to attend all classes and to have completed all reading and listening assignments (as indicated on the class schedule) before class. It is the student’s responsibility to catch up on any missed lectures. (I will not email class notes.)

Late arrivals: arrive on time and be ready to begin by 2:30 pm (or let me know if you must be late).

Due dates and Penalties: Students are expected to submit assignments at the beginning of class on the day indicated on the class schedule. Without a doctor’s note or other official document, an assignment will lose 10% of its value for every week or part of a week that it is late.

Schedule conflicts: Students are encouraged to take a pro-active approach to addressing potential scheduling conflicts or other problems (and please communicate any problems to me as soon as possible).

Communicate: one of the most important things you can do is to communicate with me if there are any issues preventing you from succeeding in the course. You can call, email or talk to me in person and you don’t have to tell me anything more than you feel comfortable. If I don’t know that there is a problem, I can’t help.

Your experience in class: matters to me! Please let me know if there’s something that I can do to improve your experience.
UW Policies on Academic Integrity & Student Resources:

**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. Refer to Academic Integrity website ([https://uwaterloo.ca/academic-integrity/](https://uwaterloo.ca/academic-integrity/)) for details.

**Discipline:** A student is expected to know what constitutes academic integrity to avoid committing an academic offence, 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 instructor, academic advisor, or the undergraduate Associate Dean. For information on categories of offenses and types of penalties, students should refer to Policy 71 - Student Discipline ([https://uwaterloo.ca/secretariat/policies-procedures-guidelines/policy-71](https://uwaterloo.ca/secretariat/policies-procedures-guidelines/policy-71)). For typical penalties check Guidelines for the Assessment of Penalties ([https://uwaterloo.ca/secretariat/policies-procedures-guidelines/guidelines/guidelines-assessment-penalties](https://uwaterloo.ca/secretariat/policies-procedures-guidelines/guidelines/guidelines-assessment-penalties)).

**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, Student Petitions and Grievances, Section 4. When in doubt, please contact the department’s administrative assistant who will provide further assistance.

**Appeals:** A decision made or penalty imposed under Policy 70 (Student Petitions and Grievances) (other than a petition) or Policy 71 (Student Discipline) may be appealed if there is a ground. A student who believes he/she has a ground for an appeal should refer to Policy 72 (Student Appeals) ([https://uwaterloo.ca/secretariat-general-counsel/policies-procedures-guidelines/policy-72](https://uwaterloo.ca/secretariat-general-counsel/policies-procedures-guidelines/policy-72)).

**Note for students with learning differences:** AccessAbility Services ([https://uwaterloo.ca/accessability-services/](https://uwaterloo.ca/accessability-services/)), located in Needles Hall Room 1401, 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 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](http://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](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](http://www.uwaterloo.ca/writing-centre).
Music 332: Reading Assignments:
(found in pdf form on Learn. Some print resources are on reserve at CGC library)

Many of the readings are drawn from the following sources, with their abbreviated titles, unless otherwise indicated below:

*Contemplating Music:*

*Music in the Western World:*

*Source Readings:*

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**Antiquity:**


**The Middle Ages:**


**Renaissance:**


**The Baroque:**

**Classical Aesthetics:**

**Romanticism:**

**Early Twentieth Century: New Sounds & A New Aesthetic:**


**The Second Viennese School:**


**Adorno and Modernism:**


**Postwar Directions and Debates:**


**New Thoughts on Musical Expression:**


**The New Musicology:**


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<th>Presentations, Quizzes &amp; Due Dates</th>
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<td>T Jan 3 &amp; Th Jan 5</td>
<td>Introduction Classical Antiquity: The Foundation: Pythagoras, Plato &amp; Aristotle</td>
<td>1a-c</td>
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<tr>
<td>T Jan 10 &amp; Th Jan 12</td>
<td>The Middle Ages: Boethius The Renaissance</td>
<td>2a-b 3-4</td>
<td>T Jan 10: quiz #1 due (on readings 1-4)</td>
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<tr>
<td>T Jan 17 &amp; Th Jan 19</td>
<td>The Baroque Classical Aesthetics</td>
<td>5-6 7</td>
<td>T Jan 17: quiz #2 due (on readings 5-7)</td>
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<td>T Jan 24 &amp; Th Jan 26</td>
<td>Early Romanticism Late-Romantic Polemics: Schopenhauer, Wagner, Nietzsche &amp; Hanslick</td>
<td>8a (66-75) 8b (76-89)</td>
<td>T Jan 24: quiz #3 due (on readings 8a-8b)</td>
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<td>T Feb 7 &amp; Th Feb 9</td>
<td>The Second Viennese School Modernism: TW Adorno &amp; Constant Lambert</td>
<td>12-14 15a-b</td>
<td>T Feb 7: quiz #5 due (on readings 12-15b)</td>
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<td>T Feb 14 &amp; Th Feb 16</td>
<td>Adorno &amp; Modernism continued Postwar Directions &amp; Debates</td>
<td>16-18</td>
<td>T Feb 14: reading response #1 due (select from readings 1-11)</td>
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<td><em><strong>Feb 20-24: Reading Week (no classes)</strong></em></td>
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<td>T Mar 7 &amp; Th Mar 9</td>
<td>Presentations</td>
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<td>3 Student Presentations</td>
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<td>T Mar 14 &amp; Th Mar 16</td>
<td>Presentations</td>
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<td>T Mar 14: reading response #2 due (select from readings 12-24) 3 Student Presentations</td>
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<td>T Mar 21 &amp; Th Mar 23</td>
<td>Presentations</td>
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<td>3 Student Presentations</td>
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<td>T Mar 28 &amp; Th Mar 30</td>
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<td>3 Student Presentations</td>
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<td>Wrap up</td>
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