Syllabus

Music 122 – Music History and Literature
Dr. Cecily Sweeney

Evidence of musical instruments can be found as early as prehistoric times: bone flutes, drums, a proto-Greek sculpture of a man playing a harp from the Cycladic islands. From the first documented piece of musical notation found on a cuneiform tablet in Syria (ca. 1400 BCE=BC) in 1951, we can see that music had even then modern components. They consisted of melody, rhythm, and harmony. The way that these elements have been used through the centuries has constantly been in a state of change, in the search for "something new." This is what music history is all about.

Music 122 covers the development of Western music from 1600 CE=AD until the present day. Music 121, given on alternate semesters, covers the early period from prehistory to 1600. The same textbook is used for both courses:


There will be weekly assignments, each assignment consisting of short essay questions about the subject matter studied during that week. Do not copy verbatim from either the textbook or the modules - that is plagiarism. Put your answers in your own words. I wish to see if students are grasping the concepts presented. I will read each submission and include annotations.

There will be three exams each worth 15 points; and a final worth 40 points.

15 Homework/Assignments  3 each  15

3 Exams  15 each  45

Final  40  40

Total  100

91 - 100 = A; 79 - 90 = B; 67 - 78 = C; 55 - 66 = D; below 50 = F.

Please read the Modules and Announcements - class lectures – in which I comment upon the textbook information and include a reminder of the homework/assignment to be written and submitted for that week. These will include also listening assignments included as part of the purchase of the textbook.

Week One – August 26
Part Three - The Seventeenth Century

Chapter 13 – New Styles in the 17th Century
Chapter 14 - The Invention of Opera
Chapter 15 - Music for Chamber and Church in the Early 17th Century
Week Two - September 2 (Labor Day)
 Chapter 16 - France, England, Spain, and the New World in the 17th C.
 Chapter 17 - Italy and Germany in the Late Seventeenth Century

Week Three - September 9

 Part Four – The 18th Century

 Chapter 18 – Early 18th Century in Italy and France
 Farinelli, Vivaldi, Rameau

 Chapter 19 – German composers of the Late Baroque
 Bach, Handel

Week Four – September 16
 Chapters 20 – Musical Taste and Style of the Enlightenment
 Public concerts
 21 – Opera and Vocal Music in the early Classic Period
 Operas Comic and Seria, Opera reform

Week Five – September 23
 Chapter 22 - Instrumental Music, Sonata, Symphony and Concerto at Mid-century
 Genres and Forms, Keyboard music, Orchestral music

 Chapter 23 – Classical Music in the Late 18th Century
 Haydn, Mozart

EXAM 1 – open September 27-28

Week Six – September 30
 Part Five – the 19th Century
 Chapter 24 – Revolution and Change
 Revolution, War and Music, Beethoven

Week Seven – October 7
 Chapter 25 – The Romantic Generation – Song and Piano Music
 Innovations, Romanticism, Song, music for piano

Week Eight – October 14
 Chapter 26 – Romanticism in Classic Forms: Orchestral, Chamber, and Choral Music
 Orchestral music, Chamber Music, Choral Music

Week Nine – October 21
 Chapters 27 – Romantic Opera and Musical Theater to Midcentury
 Italy, France, Germany, Russia, The United States
 28 – Opera and Musical Theater in the Later 19th Century
 Politics and the arts, Wagner, Nationalism, Verdi

EXAM 2 – open October 20 through October 21
Week Ten – October 28
Chapters 29 – *Late Romanticism in Germany and Austria*
   Dichotomies, Brahms
30 – *Diverging Traditions in the Later 19th Century*
   Eastern and Northern Europe, The United States

Week Eleven – November 4
Part Six – The 20th Century and After
Chapter 31 – *The Early 20th Century*
   Recorded sound, Classical traditions, Debussy
32 – *Modernism and the Classical Tradition*
   Schoenberg, Berg, Webern, Stravinsky, Bartok, Ives

Exam 3 - Open from November 15-16.

Week Twelve – November 11
Chapter 33 – *Between the World Wars – Jazz and Popular Music*
   American Musical Theater and Popular song, Ellington

Week Thirteen – November 18
Chapter 34 – *Between the World Wars – The Classical Tradition*
   France, Germany, Soviet Union, Americas, and The United States

Week Fourteen – November 26 (Thanksgiving Holiday, Nov. 28-Dec.1)
Chapter 35 – *Postwar Crosscurrents*
   Popular music, Broadway and Film music, John Cage, Serialism

Week Fifteen – December 2
Chapter 36 – *Music since 1970*
   Digital Technologies, Minimalism, and Postminimalism, What’s next?

Week Sixteen – December 10
FINAL – open December 13 through 14.

Humanities/Fine Arts Divisional SLO’s (Student Learning Outcomes)
1. Develop individual creative process and routine.
2. Secure technique.
3. Discover inspiration and its value.
4. Self assessment for personal fulfillment.
5. Cultivate relationships with other disciplines.
6. Develop ethical practices.
7. Employment in area of emphasis.

Students examine your site. Check for weekly Announcements which will refer to Modules and Assignments, Tests, and Surveys. Notice that all Modules and Tests are dated as to when they will open and close. It is highly recommended that each student do the weekly assignments!

Students with learning disabilities need to contact Student Services for special needs.

All communication will take place through Discussion and Private Messages as well as in the Assignments area.