

Bowling Green State University  
**Exploring Classical Music, MUCT 2210**  
Monday and Wednesday, 3:30-4:45  
Room 1002, Moore Musical Arts  
Instructor: Dr. Mary Natvig, mnatvig@bgsu.edu  
Office Hours TBA (please email for an appointment)

**Welcome to MUCT 2210**  
**Exploring Classical Music**



***Course Summary***

MUCT 2210 examines the genesis and first performances of various works of Western Art Music (Classical Music) from the Middle Ages to the present. Compositions of: J. S. Bach, Handel, Mozart, Beethoven, Berlioz, Clara and Robert Schuman, Mendelssohn, Wagner, Stravinsky, Berg and Bernstein are included. Musical elements and listening skills are introduced and developed throughout the course in order to enhance musical understanding.

***Course Aim***

The aim of this course is to facilitate student understanding of selected works of the classical repertory and the historical significance of art music from the Western canon.

<b>Course Learning Outcomes</b>
1. Become familiar with select works of Western art music and composers.
1. Examine how the social and cultural contexts of Western art music have arisen over a variety of historical periods.
4. Illustrate the acquisition of critical listening skills and intuitions necessary to differentiate musical styles and genres from various historical periods.

## Textbook



*Music Then and Now*, Thomas Forrest Kelly (Norton, 2013)

New copies of the text include a link to streaming musical examples and extra media. If you purchase a used text, you may purchase access to the listening examples and the media by going to:

<http://wwnorton.com/college/music/musicthenandnow/>

This site includes animated listening guides, author videos, quizzes, etc. You can also purchase an ebook from this site. You may choose to access the music through YouTube or Naxos, but know that the official recordings will be those that accompany the text.

### ***Class Policies***

***Help outside of class:*** I am very happy to help you outside of class. Please make an appointment via e-mail. You may also hand in assignments early for suggestions before the grade is assigned. It's a good idea to take advantage of this and I'm happy to help. However, the earlier the better. Don't wait until the last minute!

***Disability Statement:*** If you have a disability that may warrant accommodations I urge you to register with Disability Services, College Park 38, 2-8495.

***Attendance and Classroom Policies:*** Class attendance is expected and **you must take all exams, quizzes, etc. on the day they are administered unless you have an excused absence.\*** You are responsible for all class notes if you are absent (I suggest emailing another student and ask if he/she will take notes for you.) I will not provide these for you. If you are late for class, please enter the room quietly. Shut off all cell phones and electronic devices unless asked to use them in class. **Please do not text, use Facebook, write emails, or work on assignments for other courses during class time.** If you use a computer in class, be sure you are taking notes for this class only. Violation of this policy may affect your grade.

#### ***\*Excused absences:***

An excused absence is granted for student illness, death in the family or other extenuating circumstances. Excused absences will be granted if the instructor is contacted in advance of the class missed. (e-mail or phone message). **Exams and tests will not be available for make-up unless the student has made arrangements with the instructor. Your final exam MUST be taken at the University scheduled time, Tuesday, Dec. 15, 3:30-5:30.**

Canvas:

Everyone in the course needs to check email and Canvas on a regular basis. I will send out announcements, review sheets, syllabi, and listening assignments, etc. to our class site and/or to your e-mail accounts.

Grading:

A: 90-100                      B: 80-89                      C: 70-79                      D: 60-69                      F: 0-59

Grading/Assessment Scheme

On-line weekly quizzes: 15% total

Midterm: 15%

Final exam: 15%

In-class assignments/quizzes/notes checks: 15%

Paper: 15%

Concert attendance papers: 25% (Five concerts at 5% each)

Tests and quizzes:

There will be weekly on-line (Canvas) chapter quizzes on the reading/listening material for the week due on Mondays at noon. This will help you come to class prepared, having read the chapters and having listened to the musical examples before class. The purpose of these quizzes is to enhance your depth of learning and facilitate informed discussions during class.

The midterm and final will cover material from all assigned readings, lectures, and listening examples from the book. Class time will not necessarily explore all the material in the chapters and there may be supplemental information provided in class. Therefore, it's a good idea to take detailed class notes. For exams, you will need to know specific information as well as be able to synthesize and connect ideas and concepts (information provides evidence for ideas and concepts). You will also be asked to listen to and identify the musical examples from the book (titles, composers, genres, time periods, and musical characteristics).

**Make-ups of exams and quizzes are given only with excused absences (you must e-mail or phone in advance in order to receive an excused absence, which consists of illness or death in the immediate family).**

In- Class Assignments/ Quizzes/Notes checks

Occasionally there will be graded activities in class. These could include one-minute papers, short reflection paragraphs, listening quizzes, checking notes (you need to take notes) or other activities that encourage engagement with the material presented. If you are absent from class you are excused from in-class graded activities only if you have an excused absence (see above).

Paper Assignment (500-600 words):

Papers should be written in a formal academic style and use correct grammar, spelling, topic sentences, and citations if necessary. Topics will be individual and established during a conference with the professor. You will hand in both a draft and a final version.

Five concert reports--Western Art Music Concerts (including jazz and musicals). For on-campus concerts, put your name and ID number on your concert program and have it signed by a faculty

member or graduate assistant at the concert, immediately afterwards. For off-campus concerts, put your name on your program and staple your ticket stub to the program. In every case, you must submit a concert report form (found under Course Documents on the Canvas Site)

The first two concert reports are due on or before XXX

The last three concert reports are due on or before XXX

LATE REPORTS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED. Be sure to have “back up” concerts in case of bad weather or cancellations.

### **HOW TO FIND A CONCERT:**

On-campus concerts are listed on the web <http://calendar.bgsu.edu/cal/main/showMain.rdo> (Click on “events calendar” on the left)

Off-campus concerts can be found in local newspapers or announced on WGTE (FM 91.3) or in the Toledo Blade on Thursdays.

### *Concert Etiquette:*

It is important to remember that going to a formal concert (on campus or off) carries certain expectations and responsibilities. We will talk about these expectations in class, but the main thing to remember is that one should not be disruptive. If you have to leave, it should be done between pieces, when the audience is clapping. No food or drink is allowed in any campus concert hall. No photography. Do not read or do homework. Keep your feet on the floor, not on the upholstery. **TURN OFF CELL PHONES. PLEASE DO NOT TEXT MESSAGE** during the performances (the light of the LCD screen is visible and disruptive to your neighbors; plus it is very disrespectful to the performers—the only exception to this is a designated “Twitter” Concert; and texting during intermission is fine). This may seem like many rules to follow, but every type of event carries its own cultural expectations—like not walking on the court during a basketball game. These expectations are obvious and important to those “in the know” but newcomers may not always be aware of them.

### *Academic Honesty:*

1. It is assumed that all students will conduct themselves with integrity and honesty. Cases of academic dishonesty will be dealt with according to the policies in the student handbook. See: <http://www.bgsu.edu/colleges/library/assistance/page41070.html> for more information.
2. You must ask for permission before audio recording class lectures.
3. It is illegal to download music posted on Canvas. The music is available for academic use only.



yeah. . . that's life.

## **Class Schedule**

(\* denotes there is an online quiz due on the day's materials at 1:00 PM, before class)

Aug. 24 Course introduction / Chapter 1: Fundamental Musical Concepts and Form

Aug. 26 More on the above...

### **The Middle Ages (ca. 450 - ca. 1450) and Renaissance (ca. 1430 - 1600)**

\*Aug. 31 Pt. I Intro and Chapter 2

Sept. 2 Chapter 2 continued

Sept. 7 No Classes (Labor Day)

Sept. 9 Chapter 3

### **The Baroque Period (1600-1750)**

\*Sept. 14 Pt. II, Intro and Chapter 4

Sept. 16 Chapter 4 continued

\*Sept. 21 Chapter 5

Sept. 23 Chapter 5 continued

\*Sept. 28 Chapter 6

Sept. 30 Chapter 6 continued

### **The Classical Period (ca. 1750 – c. 1825)**

\*Oct. 5 Pt. III, Intro and Chapter 7

Oct. 7 Chapter 7 continued

Oct. 12 No Classes (Fall Break)

Oct. 14 Chapter 9

\*Oct. 19 Chapter 8

Oct. 21 Midterm review and/or catch up

Oct.26 MIDTERM EXAM

### **The Romantic Period (19th century)**

Oct. 28 Pt. IV, Intro and Chapter 10

\*Nov. 2 Chapter 10 continued

Nov. 4 Chapter 14

\*Nov. 9 Chapter 11

Nov. 11 No Classes (Veteran's Day)

\*Nov. 16 Chapter 13

Nov. 18 Chapter 12

### **The Twentieth Century**

\*Nov. 23 Pt. V, Intro and Chapter 15; 2 concert reports due  
Nov. 25 No Classes (Thanksgiving)

Nov. 30 Chapter 15 continued  
Dec. 2 Chapter 16 or 17

\*Dec. 7 Chapter 18  
Dec. 9 Chapter 19 and review; 3 concert reports due

Final Exam: **Tuesday, Dec. 15, 3:30-5:30**

Undergraduate Syllabus Example

**Assessment Rubric for MUCT 2210**

<b>Written work</b>	Does not meet expectations (D or F grade)	Meets expectations (C grade)	Exceeds expectations (B or A grade)
Clarity of point of view or thesis statement	Student does not clearly demonstrate a thesis statement or point of view	The student demonstrates an ambiguous or vague thesis statement or point of view	Student articulates a clear point of view or thesis statement
Understanding of relevant topic (cultural context, musical examples, global or historical issues)	Little understanding or misunderstanding of the topic or issues	Moderate understanding of the topic or issues	Clear understanding of the topic or issues with ability to apply to other areas or concepts
Convincing interpretation and use of reliable evidence and sources	An absence or misinterpretation of sources or evidence	Limited or superficial understanding or use of sources or evidence	Sufficient and appropriate use and understanding of sources or evidence
Logical conclusions drawn	An absence of conclusions or illogical conclusions drawn	Weak conclusions drawn	Strong and insightful conclusions drawn
Grammar and spelling (for written work)	Many or egregious errors; writing unclear	Some technical errors but understandable	Few if any errors. Clear and succinct style
Organization	No discernable organizational structure	Organization clear but structure needs work to make the argument persuasive	Organization clear and leads smoothly to the argument or conclusion

MUCT 2210 **SAMPLE Concert Report Form**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

**Signed program (if no programs available, then photo) attached?    yes    no**

**Important tips:**

- Song titles should be in quotes (like poetry). See:  
[http://www.ehow.com/how\\_6494405\\_punctuate-song-titles.html](http://www.ehow.com/how_6494405_punctuate-song-titles.html)
- Large-scale works such as musicals or operas should be italicized (like books). Generic titles, such as Symphony Number 3 or Sonata in B major, need neither quotation marks nor italics. See:  
<http://www.potsdam.edu/academics/Crane/MusicTheory/Musical-Titles.cfm>
- The first time you refer to a person in academic writing use both first and last names. Every time thereafter, use the *last* name only. For instance:

for example: Henry Smith performed five of the works on this concert. Smith plays the viola.

**Concert Name/Artist/Performing Group**

Date and  
time \_\_\_\_\_

Place \_\_\_\_\_

**Describe the nature of this concert (who performed, pieces performed, targeted audience, purpose of the concert).**

**How would you categorize the individual works on this concert (art music, jazz, world music, new music, religious, musical theater)?**

**Chose one work and discuss its musical characteristics (melody, harmony, rhythm, timbre, texture, form, etc.).**

**Do you think the performers communicated the meaning of the music effectively? Why?**

**What are your reactions to this concert?**

**Do you have any questions about the music or the performance?**