

Nazareth College
Department of Music
Spring 2019

Instructor: Prof. David Miller
Office: Wilmot Hall A95
Office Hours: Tuesdays 2:30PM–3:30PM
(or by appointment)
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MUS.Q 101: Introduction to Western Classical Music

Tuesday/Thursday—1:10PM–2:25PM—Smyth Hall 161

Course Description:

MUS.Q 101: Introduction to Western Classical Music is designed to increase your knowledge, understanding, and enjoyment of Western classical music traditions. To this end, a number of composers and their works will be explored along with the cultural, socioeconomic, and political conditions that directly influenced their lives and musical styles. After a brief introduction to the basic elements of music and essential terminology, the course will progress chronologically from composers of the Middle Ages to the present, emphasizing major trends in music composition and important aspects of musical style while also considering a number of core questions about music (see “Tentative Course Outline” below).

Course Objectives and Learning Outcomes:

Upon completing this course, you will be able to:

- Listen to classical music with greater understanding and enjoyment.
 - Identify representative compositions of select composers and historical eras.
 - Understand the differences between the various musical styles and forms of the classical music tradition.
 - Understand the cultural, socioeconomic, and political conditions in which composers lived and worked.
 - Understand how classical music fits into the larger world music environment.
 - Understand and use relevant musical terminology.
 - Develop strong listening skills.
 - Learn how to write about music in a clear and insightful way.
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Enduring Questions:

Perspectives (Enduring Questions) courses address one or more of the four (4) Core Curriculum's Enduring Questions. The Enduring Questions categories are:

- 1) The construction of limitations to knowledge and the determination of truth.
- 2) Individual and shared humanity: living a life of meaning and purpose.
- 3) The significance of creativity in our lives.
- 4) Culture as the foundation and experience of a society.

Student Question(s) and Course Artifact:

In addition to the designated Enduring Questions, students will be encouraged to bring their own personal questions that they might wish to explore this semester. It is hoped that your specific questions will complement or amplify one or both of the enduring questions. For instance, the two EQs designated for the course might be clarified by the following queries: What is music? What is culture? Why do people value classical music? Why do I like a certain kind of music? Etc. With the help of the instructor, you will be able to relate your musical preferences and personal questions to the larger context defined by the EQs. Students' personal questions should inform the topic of your final project in this class; this project is designated as the main artifact from this course.

P@N:

(P@N) is the electronic portfolio system that you will be using to create your Core portfolio. If instructed to do so, you will upload artifacts and reflections from each P-EQ class and an artifact (of your choosing) from each of your potential Integrative Studies courses. For help, go to P@N Frequently Asked Questions (<http://www.naz.edu/portfolio-naz>), email portfolio@naz.edu, or click on the life-saver icon in P@N.

Materials:

There is no textbook for this course. All materials will be made available on Moodle; if there is sufficient demand, printed coursepacks may also be made available.

Attendance, Assignments, and Expectations:

Your attendance is of primary importance: three unexcused absences will result in a deduction of your grade, as will any further absences thereafter.

You are required to complete all assignments (reading, listening, and writing) and make up missed work in a timely manner. If you fail to submit a written assignment by the specified deadline without a legitimate reason, you will lose 5 points per day for this assignment. There will be written homework assignments throughout the semester, every week or every other week. There will also be semi-regular pop quizzes, two exams, a concert report, and a final project; see below for further information on the latter two items. To complete all of these assignments **students will be required to commit a significant amount of time each week listening attentively to the assigned compositions.**

I strive to be an understanding, generous, and helpful teacher. If you are sick or dealing with a family emergency and you need to miss a class or two, please let me know; you will not be penalized. If an extra day on an assignment would make a huge difference in your life, please ask for an extension; I will likely grant it. *In other words, when life happens, please let me know—I want to help!*

Evaluation and Percentages:

Attendance, participation, and engagement	15%
Homework assignments (8 total—lowest grade dropped)	15%
(Pop) quizzes (8 total—lowest grade dropped)	10%
Concert report	10%
Midterm exam	15%
Final exam (non-cumulative)	15%
Final project	20%

Letter Grades and Percentages:

A	93%	B+	88%	C+	78%	D+	68%
A-	90%	B	83%	C	73%	D	63%
F	59%	B-	80%	C-	70%	D-	60%

Other Things to Note:

What to Bring to Class: Please be sure you have access to the assigned materials during class, either on your computer or by printing them out and bringing them to class. **Laptops are allowed during class, permitted they are used responsibly.**

Statement on Diversity: the Nazareth community, embrace both respect for the person and freedom of speech. The college promotes civility and denounces acts of hatred or intolerance. The free exchange of idea is possible only when concepts, values, and viewpoints can be expressed and challenged in a manner that is neither threatening nor demeaning. It is the policy of Nazareth College, in keeping with its efforts to foster a community in which the diversity of all members is respected, not to discriminate on the basis of race, religion, color, sexual orientation, national or ethnic origin, sex, age, marital or veteran status, carrier status, genetic predisposition or disability. Respect for the dignity of all peoples is an essential part of the college's tradition and mission, and its vision for the future.

Prohibited Discrimination and Harassment Reporting: Any student who has experienced sexual assault, relationship violence, sex or gender-based bullying, stalking, and/or sexual harassment may seek resources and help at <https://www2.naz.edu/student-experience-division/title-ix-sexual-harassment-assault-discrimination/>. As a faculty member and mandated Title IX reporter, I am required to report any incidents of prohibited discrimination and harassment, including sexual violence and sexual harassment, to university administration. All such reports will be kept private, but complete confidentiality cannot be guaranteed. Confidential resources are accessible via Health and Counseling Services. During the semester, students can also access emergency mental health services by calling Campus Safety at ext. 3333 or by dialing 585-389-2850.

Statement on People with Disabilities: If you have a physical, psychological, medical or learning disability that may impact your academic course work or participation in this class, please contact the Office for Students with Disabilities (GAC, Room 61; Tel. 585.389.2498). It is your responsibility as a student requesting an accommodation due to a qualifying disability to self-identify by registering with the Office for Students with Disabilities and to furnish documentation about the nature of the disability. Informing other faculty or staff personnel does not constitute registering with the Office for Students with Disabilities. You must provide documentation of the disability to the Office for Students with Disabilities so that reasonable accommodations can be requested in a timely manner. The Director of the Office of Students with Disabilities will determine with you what accommodations are necessary, appropriate and reasonable based on the documentation provided. All information and documentation is confidential. If appropriate, the Director of the Office of Students with Disabilities will write a “letter of academic accommodation” that you can share with me as your course instructor. Note: all students are expected to fulfill essential course requirements with or without reasonable accommodations.

Academic Integrity Statement: Academic integrity is essential to the educational mission of Nazareth College of Rochester, for the free pursuit of knowledge and understand is seriously impeded by any form of academic dishonesty. Hence, the college will condone no form of academic dishonesty. “Academic dishonesty” is understood as any act of deceit bearing on one’s own or another’s academic work, where “academic work” is understood to mean any activity pertaining to the educational mission of the college. Such acts include, but are not limited to, plagiarism in any form and the use during an exam of information of materials not authorized by the instructor for such use. For information on the procedure used in the event that an instructor believes a student to be guilty of some form of academic dishonesty, visit: <http://www.naz.edu/academic-affairs/for-faculty>. It is always necessary to identify the original source of supporting information. It is your responsibility to cite sources properly using APA 6th edition style or CMS 16th edition style guidelines or whatever else your course instructor states. Infractions may result in a zero for the assignment or a failing grade in the course.

Safety Information: The Department of Art, Music Department and Nazareth College work to maintain a safe academic and working environment at all times. Efforts will be made in this class to comply with this intent. For music students, use of the department’s facilities (i.e. practice rooms, classrooms, rehearsal hall, recital hall) after hours is possible. Yet, it is encouraged that students use good judgment in remaining fully aware of their surroundings, managing their equipment and personal items (purse, wallet, laptop, cellular phones, tablets, etc.). Please do not leave any of your personal effects unattended. If for any reason, you feel unsafe or uncomfortable after hours or need someone to accompany you to a different campus location or out to the parking lot, please call Campus Security immediately for assistance: (585) 389-2850. If necessary, please call 911.

Tentative Course Outline:

- Week 1 **Introduction: terms and concepts (Hildegard of Bingen)**
- Week 2 **What is spiritual music? (Leoninus, Perotinus, Barbara Strozzi)**
- Week 3 **What is spiritual music? (J.S. Bach)**
- Week 4 **What is universal music? (J.S. Bach, Ludwig van Beethoven)**
N.B. There will be no class on Tuesday, February 5.
- Week 5 **What is universal music?—What is personal music?**
(Ludwig van Beethoven’s Symphony No. 5)
- Week 6 **What is personal music?**
(Clara Schumann, Chevalier de Saint-Georges, Franz Schubert)
- Week 7 **Review and *Midterm Exam***
- Week 8 **What is ethical music? (W.A. Mozart’s *Don Giovanni*)**
- Spring Break!*
- Week 9 **What is ethical music? (Richard Wagner’s *Die Walküre*)**
- Week 9 **What is modern music?**
(Igor Stravinsky’s *The Rite of Spring*)
- Week 10 **What is American music?**
(Antonín Dvořák, Amy Beach, Florence Price)
- Weeks 11 **What is American music?**
(William Grant Still’s *And They Lynched Him on a Tree*)
- Week 12 **What is American music?—What is modern music?**
(Ruth Crawford Seeger, Leonard Bernstein, Pauline Oliveros)
- Week 14 **What is modern music?**
(Steve Reich, Krzysztof Penderecki)

Last day to submit Concert Reports on Moodle: Friday, April 26

Final Exam: Wednesday, May 1, 1:20PM–3:50PM

Final Projects due on Moodle: Monday, May 6

Concert Report

Attending live performances is an essential to increasing your appreciation and understanding of classical music. To that end, you are required to attend one of the performances listed below (**or another performance pre-approved by me**) and submit a 2–3 paragraph report (500 words min.) about your experience **within a week of the performance**. Possible topics include but are not limited to:

- What jumped out to you about the performers, the venue, and/or the audience?
- Did you enjoy the concert? Why or why not?
- Which piece was your favorite? What did you like about it?
- Would attend a similar event again in the future? Why or why not?

You may also consider any additional questions that you consider relevant. **All concert reports must be submitted to Moodle by Friday, April 26 (the last day of classes).**

- Friday, January 25 and Saturday, January 26, 7:30PM—Callahan Theater, Nazareth Arts Center—Nazareth College Opera Workshop presents Gian Carlo Menotti's *The Medium*. **FREE**
- Thursday, January 31, 7:30PM and Saturday, February 2, 8:00PM—Kodak Hall at Eastman Theater, Rochester—Rochester Philharmonic performs music of Rachmaninoff, Beethoven, and Stravinsky
- Thursday, February 7, 7:30PM and Saturday, February 9, 8:00PM—Kodak Hall at Eastman Theater, Rochester—Rochester Philharmonic performs music of Kodály, Mozart, Delius, and Elgar
- Sunday, February 10, 3:00PM—Beston Hall, Glazer Music Performance Center—Nazareth College Wind Symphony and Symphonic Band perform music by Wang, Hindemith, and Ticheli. **FREE**
- Saturday, February 16, 4:00PM—Beston Hall, Glazer Music Performance Center—Nazareth College Symphony Orchestra "Rising Stars" concert. **FREE**
- Thursday, February 28, 7:30PM and Saturday, March 2, 8:00PM—Kodak Hall at Eastman Theater, Rochester—Rochester Philharmonic performs Gustav Mahler's Symphony No. 7
- Thursday, March 21, 7:30PM and Saturday, March 23, 8:00PM—Kodak Hall at Eastman Theater, Rochester—Rochester Philharmonic performs music of Dvorak, Brahms, and Strauss
- Friday, March 29, 7:30PM—Wilmot Recital Hall, Arts Center—Nazareth College Faculty Recital: Songs and Strings. **FREE**
- Sunday, March 31, 3:00PM—Wilmot Recital Hall, Arts—Nazareth College Faculty Recital: Leonard Bernstein, Up Close and Personal. **FREE**
- Friday, April 12, 7:30PM—Beston Hall, Glazer Music Performance Center—Nazareth College Symphony Orchestra performs music of Dvořák, Bernstein, and Copland. **FREE (and highly recommended!)**

Final Project: *My Classical Playlist*

Requirements:

Make a playlist consisting of **six to twelve pieces** that would amount to at least 40 minutes of music. Your playlist must include **at least three pieces from our syllabus**, including **at least two different composers, one from before the midterm and one from after**. You are free to choose the topic of your anthology but it must be related to the concept of Western classical music and approved by me. Write extended album notes for the collection which provide a **narrative or rationale for the collection**, explaining the particular relationship that you feel exists among the musical selections and/or linking them to a particular argument you are making or theme you are tracing.

Required components of each anthology:

- 1) **TITLE:** give the collection a title that reflects the main theme of the anthology.
- 2) **TRACK LIST:** provide a complete list of the selections in your anthology, together with the names of composers/performers, durations for all tracks, just as they would appear on a commercial album. In addition, provide active links to all recordings on your list.
- 3) **LINER NOTES:** write fully documented album notes for the collection. **The liner notes are the core of the project.** The notes should be 5–6 pages of text (double spaced in 12 point type such as Times New Roman). Make a compelling and representative selection of pieces; then present them in a well-written essay, which helps a general listener understand how they relate to the theme or idea of your anthology. The notes should not be written for an imagined academic reader (such as a music history professor), but for an interested public of informed listeners, to whom you must speak directly, clearly and engagingly as they listen to the pieces you have assembled. Be sure to include introduction and conclusion paragraphs.
- 4) **BIBLIOGRAPHY:** a list, alphabetized by author's last name, of all sources you have consulted when writing your notes. Make sure to use Chicago style (http://www.chicagomanualofstyle.org/tools_citationguide.html).

Sample playlist project titles:

A History of Dance Music	Modern Classical Sounds
Classical Music in the Cinema	Contemporary Classics
Classical Guitar	Music for a Rainy Day
Music for Brass Instruments	Wedding Music
Music and Politics	Yo-Yo Ma: The Greatest Hits
Classical Chillout	The Many Sounds of the Piano

*Please do not use any of these exact titles for your own projects;
they are meant to serve only as models and inspiration!*

Important project deadlines:

- **Topic** (just an initial idea) due in-class on **Thursday, March 21**
- **Preliminary proposal** (working title plus 1–2 paragraphs describing the projected content of your anthology and how it reflects your personal question or EQ; tentative list of compositions with durations and related bibliography entries) due on Moodle by the start of class on **Thursday, March 28**
(N.B. The proposal will count as a homework assignment.)
- **1x1 meeting with me to discuss your project**—10-minute meetings to be scheduled during the first two weeks of April
- **Completed project** due **Monday, May 6 at 11:55PM** (submitted to Moodle)