

Music and Culture 219

"European Routes"

Instructor: Dr. John M. Minniear

Dates of course:

Jan 30 through Mar 3 (Paris / Oxford / Edinburgh)*

Apr 3 through 27 (Bologna / Rome)*

Course Description:

Today's western music is primarily an interfusion of musical styles from around the world. Still, its predominant features are derived from a long tradition of musical evolution stretching back through Western Europe, through Greece, through the so called "cradle of civilization" and probably even farther back than the antecedents of Western civilization itself. The progression of known musical developments over the centuries reflect a broad context of social forces at work throughout the ages. Music and Culture will focus specifically on the geographic region of Western Europe and will follow the circuitous "routes" of musical evolution as it reflects socio-political, economic, intellectual and religious life. Our European Odyssey will provide opportunities to examine this broad context by interacting with the historical remnants that abound in some of Europe's major cultural centers. Emphasis will be placed on the materials of music and the exploration of the historical and cultural past still present in today's western music.

***Concurrently offered with Culture and Values 200:**

The course content of both courses is closely related and is historical and geographical in nature. By extending the courses over an eight week period, both will be able to draw from the advantages of mini residencies in five cities. Each course will, however, be taught as a separate entity with its own requirements. However, the historical context will often overlap and the same historical timeline will be followed.

Class Policies:

Academic honesty and integrity is expected at all times. Plagiarism, cheating, and other forms of academic misconduct will not be tolerated and will be handled according to university guidelines.

Learning Resources:

Cultural monuments: site visits in the cities of residence during the duration of the course (eight weeks). (You will be encouraged to notice specific sites during all of the semester's visits without encroaching on the requirements and time spent in your other classes.)

Classroom lectures, handouts, discussions and presentations of musical, literary, artistic and architectural examples.

Musical examples: musical excerpts played and discussed in class

Requirements:

The success of this class depends not just on the instructor but on the active participation of each class member. An active participant should be present in class on time for the entire class period and should be prepared to discuss the material when appropriate. Because this course is accelerated like, as are all others, it is important for students to attend every day that they are physically to do so. For this reason, attendance is required.

Course Assessment:

Required readings; class attendance; class discussion; reaction papers; exams and projects (such as on site observations)

Exams and Grading:

Course grades will be based on the following table:

93-100% A	76-81% BC	59-63% D
88-92% AB	70-75% C	58% or less F
82-87% B	64-69% CD	

Incomplete (I) will only be given in exceptional circumstances.

Students with Special Needs:

It is university policy to provide reasonable accommodations to students who have documented disabilities that may affect their ability to participate in course activities or to meet course requirements. Please contact me as soon as possible to discuss any accommodations you might need and provide appropriate documentation.

Topic headings / units:

Part I: The Material of Music

1. The elements of Music

2. Musical Instruments and Ensembles

Part II: Medieval and Renaissance Music

1. The Middle Ages
2. The Renaissance

Part III: More Materials of Music

1. The Organization of Musical Sound

Part IV: The Baroque Era

1. The Baroque and the Arts
2. Vocal Music of the Baroque
3. Instrumental Music of the Baroque

Part V: More Materials of Form

1. Focus on Form

Part VI: Eighteenth-Century Classicism

1. The Classical Spirit
2. Classical Chamber Music
3. The Classical Symphony
4. The 18th Century Concerto and Sonata
5. Choral Music and Opera in the Classical Era

Part VII: The 19th Century

1. The Romantic Movement
2. The 19th Century Art Song
3. The 19th Century Piano Piece
4. Romantic Program Music

5. Absolute Forms in the 19th Century

6. Choral and Dramatic Music in the 19th Century

Part VIII: The Twentieth Century

1. The Impressionist and the Post-Impressionist Eras

2. The Early 20th Century

3. Nationalism of the 20th Century

4. Popular Styles

5. The New Music