



MUSHL 101, Sec 04 – Fall 2021

Introduction to Music

Online Course

Prof. Chen

Office Hrs: Th 1:20-2:30 pm, or by appointment

achen1@gc.cuny.edu

Course Objectives:

This course is an introduction to Western art music, often referred to as “classical music,” that was developed in Europe from the medieval period to the present day. No experience or formal training in music is necessary. The class aims to foster an appreciation and an understanding of classical music through the development of listening and analytical skills. Students will be able to understand elements such as pitch, consonance, dissonance, melody, harmony, rhythm, timbre, and instrumentation. Students will also become familiar with musical forms and genres, how these and other musical elements developed from the Middle Ages through the present, how these elements overlap with music in popular styles and in the music of non-Western cultures, and a basic knowledge of significant composers and repertory from the various stylistic periods. The workload of the course will consist of a combination of blog post assignments, quiz/exams, and a written concert essay aimed at developing the students’ ability to combine their critical insight with their acquired listening and analytical skills so as to produce an interesting essay.

Zoom Information:

We will meet online via Zoom on Mondays and Thursdays from 2:45-4:00 pm EST. Lecture sections of the Zoom class will be recorded and made available to the class, with the understanding that students will only use the recordings for their own studies and will not share or disseminate the recordings in any way. We must protect everyone’s privacy and cultivate a safe and comfortable learning environment. Note that you will be able to rename yourself on the Zoom, and that camera use is not required, so you can be anonymous on the recordings if you have concerns about privacy (it would be good for me to know what name you are using though so I know who you are and can mark attendance!)

NOTE: The Zoom recordings will be deleted after about a week, so you must keep up with watching them if you miss class! Attendance via Zoom is greatly encouraged, but absence will not be penalized. Completing assignments is important, as well as class attendance. We are looking to meaningfully engage with music and one another, so in that spirit we will cultivate a flexible and adaptable class style in these uncertain and difficult times. If, at any time, you are having difficulty keeping up with the work, please be in touch with me over email, and we will make accommodations. It is important to me that this class be a source of interesting and thoughtful exploration for you — NOT an additional source of stress and hardship. If you have thoughtful and meaningful experiences with music this semester, then we have succeeded! So please know that is my priority.

Zoom Link:

Audrey Chen is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: MUSHL1001 - Section 4

Time: This is a recurring meeting Meet anytime

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://gc-cuny-edu.zoom.us/j/87596133601?pwd=emlSWHR3d0ZkTVZWt3ladW5qdFF6dz09>



Meeting ID: 875 9613 3601

Passcode: 220454

One tap mobile

+12532158782,,87596133601# US (Tacoma)

+16699006833,,87596133601# US (San Jose)

Dial by your location

+1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)

+1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose)

+1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)

+1 929 205 6099 US (New York)

+1 301 715 8592 US (Washington DC)

+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

Meeting ID: 875 9613 3601

Find your local number: <https://gc-cuny-edu.zoom.us/j/87596133601>

Join by Skype for Business

<https://gc-cuny-edu.zoom.us/j/87596133601>

Required Text:

Morgan-Ellis, Esther, *Resonances: Engaging Music in Its Cultural Context*, University of North Georgia Press, 2020. Free digital download access at <https://ung.edu/university-press/books/resonances-engaging-music.php>

Please let me know if you have any difficulties accessing the textbook.

Learning Outcomes:

1. Gather, interpret, and assess information from a variety of sources and points of view by focusing on repertoire from a range of musical sources: chronological periods of Western art music (Middle Ages to the present), popular music, and non-Western repertoire.
2. Evaluate evidence and arguments critically or analytically by responding to discussion prompts about specific elements heard in assigned repertoire and the ways in which those elements facilitate human expression and contribute to the formation of a particular genre, form, and/or style of music.
3. Produce well-reasoned written and oral arguments using evidence to support conclusions by attending a concert and writing essays that demonstrate the specific ways in which that repertoire achieves its expressive goals as it adheres to or exceeds the expectations for its particular style.
4. Identify and apply the fundamental concepts of music with an interactive Listening Log that highlights salient musical features in real time during the listening process.
5. Analyze how arts from diverse cultures of the past serve as a foundation for those of the present. By studying music of the Medieval, Renaissance, Baroque, Classical, and Romantic eras, and understanding the significance of the societies that produced them, students will understand the basis for many contemporary styles such as pop, rock, jazz, blues, and classical.

Course Calendar:

Units I and II

Class	Date	Topic	Anything Due?
1	Th 8/26	Welcome/Intro, and Syllabus Overview	
2	M 8/30	Unit 1: Fundamentals Pitch, Dynamics, Tempo	Introduction blackboard post due
3	Th 9/2	Melody and Harmony	
NO CLASS	M 9/6		
4	Th 9/9	Performing Media, Timbre, and Texture	
5	M 9/13	Rhythm and Form	Read Resonances (Res.) p. 23-32 to review, email me questions
NO CLASS	Th 9/16		
6	M 9/20	Other Elements of Music/Review	Blog Post #1 Due 9/19 by 11:59 pm
7	Th 9/23	Unit 2: Through the Eras Approaches to Musical Style, Genres	Set up Listening Log
8	M 9/27	Medieval and Renaissance Style	
9	Th 9/30	Baroque Period	
10	M 10/4	Classical Period	
11	Th 10/7	Romantic Period	
NO CLASS	M 10/11		
12	Th 10/14	Twentieth Century and 21 st Century	Listening Log Checkpoint 1

Units III, IV, and V

Class	Date	Topic	Anything Due?
13	10/18	Unit 3: Programmatic Music - storytelling and characterization (Williams, Wagner)	Read Res. pg. 44-57 (listen to the examples)
14	10/21	Mussorgsky Pictures at an Exhibition	Blog Post #2 Due 10/20 by 11:59 pm
15	10/25	Opera (Orpheus, Figaro)	Read Res. pg. 85-104
16	10/28	Danced Drama (Nutcracker, Rite of Spring)	Read and Listen to Res. pg 61-68, 112-121
17	11/1	Songs – the Lied	Read pg. 129-143
18	11/4	Song Cycles Part Two – Schumann's <i>Dichterliebe</i>	
19	11/8	Programmatic Music – Holst	
20	11/11	Programmatic Music Part Two – Vivaldi and Piazzolla <i>Four Seasons</i>	Listening Log Checkpoint 2
21	11/15	Pt. 3 Aaron Copland - Appalachian Spring and American sounds	Blog Post #3 Due
22	11/18	Unit 4: Absolute Music – The Symphony –	Listen: Beethoven

		Beethoven and more	Symphony 5
23	11/22	Bach (TIME CHANGE TO 12:45-2 PM)	Blog Post #3 Due!
NO CLASS	11/25		Thanksgiving Break
24	11/29	The String Quartet – Haydn, Mozart, and more	Tell me what concert you are going to/have attended for concert essay – EC points
25	12/2	Concertos and their soloists	
26	12/6	Unit 5: Specific Composers and their landscapes Folk Music Influences in the Music of Dvorak and Bartok	
27	12/9	Nationalism and Political Resistance	Listening Log Due
28	12/13	Review of Unit 4 and 5	
29	12/16	What is good music? Final Exam – peer review	Concert Essay Due

COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND GRADING:

Grades will be determined according to the following breakdown:

Blog Posts (x3)	(30%)	10% each
Listening Log	(30%)	
Concert Review Essay	(30%)	(-½ grade per day late)
Class Participation	(10%)	

Blog Posts: You will complete three Blog Post Projects. These assignments will be posted in the Discussion Board section of Blackboard. We will go over these assignments in more detail during class, but the overall idea is for you to have the opportunity for introspection and analysis of music, as well as preparation work for the other larger assignments in the class (the concert review and the listening log)

Listening Log:

A large part of this course is being an active listener. Throughout this course, you will each keep a listening log where you keep track of the music we've listened to, with some initial reactions upon the first listen (which I will make time for in class) and then notes/comments from you after we've discussed some of the examples. Treat this as your own annotated playlist – there will be chances in class to discuss and share some of your discoveries. You will also put all the examples into an interactive timeline using TimelineJS – to be discussed further in class.

The listening log should have 15 entries – you can pick and choose which of the listening examples we've had in class you'd like to include as up to 7 log entries. Then, I'd like you to suggest the rest – something that you've discovered in the course of this class on your own – can be the same composer as another piece, same period, etc.. There will be a periodically updated list of listening examples we've had in class, as well as a template for your listening logs.

Concert Review Essay:

Concert Essay DUE DATE: Thursday, Dec 16, 2021 (Last day of class)

This essay is based on required attendance of one (ONLINE or IN-PERSON) concert of some kind of “Western art music” during the semester. We will devote class time to going over possible concerts to watch online or attend in-person, given the circumstances. The essay will be at least 2-pages (standard margins, double spaced).

Choose one work from the concert and write a review of the concert. You can follow these steps as a guideline:

- 1) Identify the type (vocal, instrumental, program, absolute, etc.) and the style period (i.e. Baroque, Classical, etc.). Provide some context for the piece for someone reading the review who may know nothing about music. (1-2 paragraphs)
- 2) Discuss the overall listening experience and mood. (1-2 paragraphs)
- 3) Describe three musical elements (e.g. dynamics, tone color, tempo, etc.) as you heard them used in the piece and how it contributes to the listening experience and mood. (1-2 paragraphs)
- 4) Discuss the performers, their background, and their execution of the piece. (1-2 paragraphs)
- 5) Use your own voice to make the review interesting and fun to read.

Class Participation:

The class will benefit greatly from your active participation, which may take the form of being a focused and engaged presence during class, asking relevant questions, offering your own thoughts and ideas, and working in a supportive fashion with your classmates. You may also contribute to the class by commenting on the blog and emailing Prof. Chen with questions and ideas. You will have the option to self-assess for this part of the grade.

DEPARTMENTAL POLICIES

GRADE OF INCOMPLETE: In the Music Department, the grade of “Incomplete” will be granted only in cases of serious, documented emergencies, and then only when permission has been obtained in writing from the Department Chair, no later than one week before the final class meeting.

WITHDRAWAL: Students who wish to withdraw from a class with a grade of W may do so by submitting a withdrawal form with the required signatures to Oasis by the announced deadline (around the 8th week of class). Withdrawal after the deadline is allowed only in cases of serious emergency and must be approved by Student Services. Students who stop attending a class without withdrawing officially will receive grades of WU, which count the same as F. The Music Department does not support requests to have grades of WU changed retroactively to W.

COLLEGE-WIDE POLICIES

Plagiarism:

Hunter College regards acts of academic dishonesty (e.g. plagiarism, cheating on examinations, obtaining unfair advantage, and falsification of records and official documents) as serious offenses against the values of intellectual honesty. The College is committed to enforcing the CUNY policy on Academic Integrity and will pursue cases of academic dishonesty according to the Hunter College Academic Integrity Procedures. For more information on the College Policy on Academic Integrity, go to: <http://www.hunter.cuny.edu/senate/assets/Documents/Hunter%20College%20Policy%20on%20Academic%20Integrity.pdf>

For CUNY Policy on Academic Integrity:



http://www1.cuny.edu/portal_url/content/2004/policies/image/policy.pdf

(or see Hunter College Undergraduate Catalog 2004-07, Appendix F, pages 251-252)

ADA Statement Regarding Accessibility:

In compliance with the ADA and with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act, Hunter College is committed to ensuring educational access and accommodations for all its registered students. Hunter College's students with disabilities and medical conditions are encouraged to register with the Office of AccessABILITY for assistance and accommodation. For information and appointment contact the Office of AccessABILITY located in Room E1214 or call (212) 772-4857 /or VRS (646) 755-3129.

HUNTER COLLEGE POLICY ON SEXUAL MISCONDUCT In compliance with the CUNY Policy on Sexual Misconduct, Hunter College reaffirms the prohibition of any sexual misconduct, which includes sexual violence, sexual harassment, and gender-based harassment retaliation against students, employees, or visitors, as well as certain intimate relationships. Students who have experienced any form of sexual violence on or off campus (including CUNY-sponsored trips and events) are entitled to the rights outlined in the Bill of Rights for Hunter College.

A. Sexual Violence: Students are strongly encouraged to immediately report the incident by calling 911, contacting NYPD Special Victims Division Hotline (646-610-7272) or their local police precinct, or contacting the College's Public Safety Office (212-772-4444).

B. All Other Forms of Sexual Misconduct: Students are also encouraged to contact the College's Title IX Campus Coordinator, Dean John Rose (jtrose@hunter.cuny.edu or 212-650-3262) or Colleen Barry (colleen.barry@hunter.cuny.edu or 212-772-4534) and seek complimentary services through the Counseling and Wellness Services Office, Hunter East 1123.

CUNY Policy on Sexual Misconduct Link: <http://www.cuny.edu/about/administration/offices/la/Policy-on-Sexual-Misconduct-12-1-14-with-links.pdf>