



MUS 301W Topics in Musicology: Bach in the Concert Hall Edition Comparison Assignment

Select any Bach composition and locate three editions of the score: the *Bach-Gesellschaft*, the *Neue Bach Ausgabe*, and one of your choosing. If you pick a larger work, focus on one or two movements in your written comparison. Ideally this assignment can help prepare you for your final research paper, so choose wisely.

To earn 15 points, write 2-3 pages that includes background information on the piece including its origin and transmission (*i.e.* what manuscripts, copies, or early editions was the music preserved in), a brief description of your three editions, and a comparison of the editions. Your comparison could discuss differences in notation, editorial markings, score layout, intended audience or use, what sources the edition consulted, etc. You may include score examples to illustrate your comparisons, but the images won't be included in your required page count.

The BG can be found on [IMSLP](#) or in the Music Library, while the NBA can only be accessed in the Music Library. You can find alternative editions by searching IMSLP, [the library catalog](#), or using a personal score. I suggest making sure you can find a satisfactory third edition before settling on your piece. While the NBA is a reference edition that can't be checked out, you can use your phone or the scanner to make a copy of your score and the matching critical report (*Kritische Bericht*).