Music 1a – Exploring Western Music

Brandeis University – Fall 2018

Dr. Andrew Friedman
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Slosberg 216
Office hours: M&W 12-1pm or by appointment

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COURSE DESCRIPTION

Music 1a introduces the fundamentals and history of Western Classical music, with some ventures into other genres. It is designed for students with little to no experience (i.e. you do not need to know how to read music or what a bassoon is). Our primary goals are learning to listen closely and critically to music, to communicate what we hear in a clear way, and gaining an appreciation for this rich tradition’s major figures, compositions, and shaping cultural forces.

REQUIRED TEXT

Listen, by Kerman & Tomlinson (8th edition) + Total Access (online audio content). Available as paperback, loose leaf, or Ebook at books.wwnorton.com, all of which come with Total Access. Paperback also available at campus bookstore. Do not buy used – only new copies come with a Total Access code.

GRADING

Listening Quizzes (4): 25%
Listening Journal (due in 3 installments): 15%
  2 short papers: 20%
  2 concert reviews: 10%
Class participation: 10%
  Final: 20%
POLICIES

* No laptops, tablets, phones.
* Each unexcused absence after your first lowers your final grade 1/3 of a letter (e.g. B+ to B).
  If you are going to be absent for any reason, notify Shawn before the start of lecture.
* If you are a student with a documented disability on record at Brandeis University and wish to have a reasonable accommodation made for you in this class, please see me immediately.
* You are expected to be honest in all of your academic work. Please consult Brandeis University Rights and Responsibilities for all policies and procedures related to academic integrity. Students may be required to submit work to TurnItIn.com software to verify originality. Allegations of alleged academic dishonesty will be forwarded to the Director of Academic Integrity. Sanctions for academic dishonesty can include failing grades and/or suspension from the university. Citation and research assistance can be found at LTS – Library guides.

SCHEDULE
[Readings are to be done in advance of the given lecture and include the associated listening]

**Wed 8.29 Fundamentals I: Rhythm, Meter, & the Orchestra**
*Listen, chs. 1-2*

**Wed 9.5 Fundamentals II: Melody, Harmony, & Texture**
*Listen, chs. 3-4*

**Thu 9.6 Fundamentals III: Style & Form**
*Listen, ch. 5*

**Wed 9.12 Middle Ages**
*Listen, ch. 6*

**Mon 9.17 Renaissance**
*Listen, ch. 7*

**Tue 9.25 Listening Quiz #1**
Listening Journal #1 due

**Wed 9.26 Baroque I**
*Listen, ch. 8*

**Wed 10.3 Baroque II**
*Listen, chs. 9-10*
Short paper #1 assigned
Mon 10.8 Baroque III
Listen, ch. 11

Wed 10.10 Classical I
Listen, ch. 12
Short paper #1 due

Mon 10.15 Classical II
Listen, ch. 13

Wed 10.17 Classical III
Listen, ch. 14

Mon 10.22 Listening Quiz #2
Listening Journal #2

Wed 10.24 Beethoven
Listen, ch. 14

Mon 10.29 Romanticism I
Listen, chs. 16–17

Wed 10.31 Romanticism II
Listen, ch. 18

Mon 11.5 Romanticism III
Listen, ch. 19
Short paper #2 assigned

Wed 11.7 Listening Quiz #3

Mon 11.12 20th Century I
Listen, chs. 20–21
Short paper #2 due

Wed 11.14 20th Century II
Listen, ch. 22

Mon 11.19 20th Century III
Listen, ch. 23

Mon 11.26 Film Music
Wed 11.28 Jazz
*Listen*, ch. 24

Mon 12.3 Rock ‘n’ Roll

Wed 12.5 Listening Quiz #4
Listening Journal #3

Mon 12.10 – Review for Final

**CONCERT REVIEWS**

Twice over the course of the semester, at your choosing, you are to attend a classical music concert at Brandeis and write a simple, one-page review describing the program and giving your impressions of the music. There are many, many concerts to choose from, and tickets for students are generally $5. Here is a sampling, but check online (or campus bulletin boards) for full listings. If you are uncertain if a concert counts as “classical,” run it by me.

10.13 @ 8pm, Slosberg: Lydian String Quartet: Prokofiev, Gubaidulina, Beethoven
10.14 @ 3pm, Slosberg: Piano and Violin music: Bach, Webern, Debussy
11.11 @ 2pm, Slosberg: Brandeis Chamber Singers and University Chorus
11.18 @ 3pm, Slosberg: Brandeis-Wellesley Orchestra
11.18 @ 7pm, Slosberg: Brandeis Wind Ensemble
12.2 @ 3pm, Slosberg: Leonard Bernstein Fellowship Recital
12.8 @ 8pm, Slosberg: Viola/Violin duos: Mozart, Rohde
12.9 @ 3pm, Slosberg: Brandeis Early Music Ensemble
12.10 @ 7pm, Slosberg: Chamber Music Recital