**MUS 1109 History, Literature and Analysis of Baroque Music**

***Description:***

The course examines both the general and specific characteristics of Western Baroque Music; the major instrumental and vocal forms; the main composers and the analysis of the major representative works of the period.

***Objectives:***

1. To offer a historical and analytical appreciation of music of the Classical period, which will be the basis for the students’ understanding of Western art music composition and performance
2. To develop an understanding of the historical context of the Baroque Era
3. To be able to discuss the musical genres and musical style of the Baroque Era
4. To be able to identify and recognize important masterworks of the Baroque Era, their composers, and their stylistic idioms

*Course Outline*

Topic 1: General Introduction

* Geographical and Cultural Background of the Baroque Period
* Characteristics of the Western Baroque Music Period

Topic 2: Basic Methods of Music Analysis

Topic 3: Methods of Listening to Music

* Passive, Sensuous, Emotional, and Perceptive Listening
* How to Develop Perception in Listening: Attention, Repetition, Familiarity, Background Knowledge, Participation, Auditory, and Visual Approaches
* Obstacles to Music Appreciation: Auditory Difficulties, Time Element, Preferences and Prejudices

Topic 3: The New Musical Idiom

* Idiomatic Writing
* Types of Idiomatic Writing

Topic 4: Affection and rhythms of the Baroque music

* New Counterpoint
* Basso Continuo

Topic 5: Dissonances in the Baroque Period

* Chromaticism in Baroque Music
* Major and Minor Tonalities

Topic 6: Baroque Opera

* The Early Opera and Its Fore-runners
* Rise of the Baroque Opera
* Florentine Camerata
* Recitative Styles
* Venice Operas

Topic 7: Chamber Music of the Baroque Period

Topic 8: Baroque Orchestra

* Works for Large Ensembles

Topic 9: Vocal music of the Baroque period

* Genres of Vocal Music
* Genres of Catholic Music
* Lutheran Church Music
* Vocal Chamber Music

Topic 10: Instrumental Music

* Toccatta, the Fugue, and the Chorale Prelude
* Baroque Organ
* Harpsichord and Clavichord Music

Topic 11: Composers of the Baroque Period and Their Music

* Antonio Vivaldi
* Jean Baptiste Lully
* Henry Purcell
* Phillipe Rameau
* George Frederick Handel
* Johann Sebastian Bach

Topic 12: Writing Skills

*Learning Outcomes*

1. Developed comparative understanding of the styles, trends, and achievements of the Baroque Period
2. Ability to identify the most important composers of the Baroque Period and explain their contributions and analyze their music
3. Analytical appreciation of music of the Baroque period, which will be the basis for understanding Western art music composition and performance of the seventeenth century

*Methods of Teaching/Delivery*

Lectures, listening and watching (audio and video recordings), assigned readings, class discussions, written assignments

*Modes of Assessment*

Course Work

* Attendance and participation in class discussions: 5%
* Assigned Readings and Presentations: 5%
* Written assignment 10%
* Mid-semester test: 10%

Final Examination

Written: 70%

*Selected Readings*

Berger, Melvin. 1990. *Guide to Chamber Music.* New York: Anchor Books.

# Burkholder, J. Peter and Claude V. Palisca. 2005. *Norton Anthology of Western Music: Volume 1: Ancient to Baroque.* New York and London:W.W. Norton and Company.

# Judd, Cristle Collins. 2000. *Tonal Structures in Early Music (Criticism and Analysis of Early Music).* New York: Garland Publishing Inc.

# Stolba, K. 1998. *The Development of Western Music: An Anthology, Volume I: From Ancient Times through the Baroque Era*. New York: McGraw-Hill Humanities.