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Amy

CHAMINADE UNIVERSITY

Music 101 Syllabus

Introduction to Classical Music and the Great Composers

Instructor:

Karen Drozd (543-9528/735-4865)

Spring '98 Semester

Tripler, Sat., 08:00-12:10

This class is a freshman level survey of Western Art Music (classical music) from medieval to modern times. Topics include:

- 1) Basics in musical elements;
- 2) A historical and stylistic examination of musical eras, important composers, social and artistic trends;
- 3) Learning to analyze musical form, aspects, etc;
- 4) Developing listening skills and identification of musical compositions.

Schedule of sessions (subject to revision):

- 1/17 **General** introduction to course requirements.
Music Elements: Pitch, Dynamics, Tone Color, Voices and Instruments, Rhythm, Rhythm Music Notation, Melody (Part 1-5)
- 1/24 **Music Elements:** Harmony, Key, Musical Texture, Musical form, Performance, Musical Style (Part I: 6-11)
The Middle Ages: Early music, Gregorian chant, Secular music, Polyphony/Organum, Fourteenth Century (Part II: 1-5)
The Renaissance: Society & Music Part, Sacred Music (Part III: 1-2)
- 1/31 **Quiz #1 - Part I**
The Renaissance: Secular Music, The Venetian School (Part III: 3-4)
The Baroque Era: Music, Society, Forms, Opera, Composers, Sonata, Bach (Part IV: 1-12)
- 2/07 **Quiz #2 - Parts II & III**
The Baroque Era: Suite, Cantata, Oratorio, Handel (Part IV: 13-16)
The Classical Era: Styles, Trends, Forms (Part V: 1-7)
Performance Report #1 - Due
- 2/14 **Quiz #3 - Part IV**
The Classical Era: Ensembles, Composers (Part V: 8-12)
- 2/21 **The Romantic Era:** Characteristics, Composers, Program Music, Nationalism (Part VI: 1-12)
Video: Opera
- 2/28 **Quiz #4 - Part V**
The Romantic Era: Composers (Part VI: 13-20)
Performance Report #2 - Due
- 3/07 **Twentieth Century:** Styles, Society, Composers (Part VII: 6-10)
- 3/14 **Quiz #5 - Part VI**
Twentieth Century: Composers, Styles (Part VII: 11-17)

3/21 Quiz #6 - Part VII
Final Project Due

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Attendance: Lectures supplement the text with expanded explanations and definitions, listening examples, and audio-visual presentations. I urge you to attend class consistently and listen to your recordings daily. Students should complete the reading assignments prior to each session so that comprehension of the lecture and participation in class activities will not be effected negatively.

Quizzes: Six quizzes are scheduled and include objective components (true/false, multiple choice, short answer, identification of listening examples) gathered from vocabulary, concepts, factual information, and listening outlines.

Performance Reports: Students will be required to review TWO classical music concerts (i.e., a **live performance, video recording, or audio recording**). Each review should be approximately two pages in length (600 words). You will be required to make observations about the performers, instrumentation, musical form, styles and texture, audience reactions, and form opinions (all this while expressing your ideas in an organized manner!). Please include in the introduction the time, place, and performing group, as well as the specific compositions, composers, and lyricists if applicable.

Extra Credit: You may submit up to three performance reports for extra credit. Each additional report will be worth approximately 5%.

Final Project - A five page, typed paper on the life and music of a composer of Western classical music. You may wish to begin by providing biographical information about the composer and chronologically discussing important compositions or turning events in the composer's life, etc. Review and/or analysis of listening examples may be included. Remember: **You must cite your references!** E.g., blah blah blah (Nelson 1980, 547) in text and again in your bibliography/reference list.

Grading guidelines are: quizzes 60%, performance reports 10% each, final project 20%. Completion of the course assumes earning 50% of the points (for a grade of D).

Evaluation: The papers and quizzes are assigned points (0-100) and then averaged together. Grading breakdown will be as follows: A=90-100, B=89-78, C=77-65, D=64-50, F=0-49. Points will be deducted from late assignments (2.5 points per day)

Listening tapes: (five in total) available through the instructor. Students must supply their own blank cassettes for duplication.

Textbook. Kamien. A Music Appreciation, Fifth Edition. Specific chapters will be assigned each week. If time, there will be in-class viewing of videos on opera and composers.