



Syllabus

Study Abroad: *Brazil Cultural Experience*

MUSI 4391 • Research Topic: Music Ensembles & Literature Summer I • 2022

This course will explore the orchestra, its history, makeup, and development through different eras of music history along with associated elements performing musicians encounter.

Course Description

Literature for the Symphony Orchestra can be considered one of Western art music's greatest monument to its history. For over four centuries, numerous composers have worked tirelessly crafting these great pieces to an ever-growing appreciative audience. This course will explore the orchestra and its literature as to better understand how these works have helped shape the course of music as well as look into their historical, cultural, and performing forces add to their meaning and value.

Course Objectives

The student who satisfactorily completes this course should be able to:

- identify specific works and composers, placing them in historical context
- compare the style and aesthetics of musical works and composers, tracing the historical trends of the genre from the Early Baroque to today
- analyze the important musical elements of symphonic works, based on score analysis and listening
- articulate notions of performance practice, reception, and critical response with reference to specific works and scholars, always considering the broader historical, socio-cultural context
- communicate (verbal and written) one's process of critical thinking and listening (including individual research) on the topic of symphonic music

Learning Outcomes

- Develop specific skills, competencies, and points of view needed by music professionals
- Develop creative capacities in music writing and research
- Gain a broader understanding and appreciation of appropriate musical idioms

Requirements and Guidelines

Listening Logs - worth 225 points (5 x 45 points)

Credit will be earned for submitting all five listening logs. The assigned works and instructions are posted on Blackboard. The completed logs will be due at the beginning of our classes in Brazil, June 20, 2022.

You will listen to an entire symphonic work for each Listening Log. The Listening Log will provide a brief introduction to the work (based on basic research), main musical characteristics for each movement, and a reflection on its position in the overall genre. Students will be encouraged to offer insights based on their own instrument and performance experiences. See models I have provided.

Symphony Projects - worth 225 points

You will plan a feasible concert for a contemporary (i.e., 21st-century) symphony orchestra. This plan will consider all aspects of planning such an event, including booking a venue, hiring musicians (and working within union regulations where appropriate), creating a program, and so on. You will be asked to reflect on your decision-making processes, including but not limited to why the proposed concert does or does not adhere to accepted traditions of symphonic orchestra performance, such as a concert hall as venue. Careful planning on the hiring of musicians, choosing repertoire, and formulating the budget needs to be factored in. Projects will be due June 22 and 24, 2022.

Grading and Evaluation

The semester grade will be based on the following:

- 45% Work completed prior to the trip on the listening logs
- 45% Work completed on the Symphony Projects—both prior to the trip and in classtime
- 10% Attendance and participation during the class days while in Brazil

University Course Withdrawal Policy

The last day to drop or totally withdraw from regular session courses and the University is **June 27, 2022**. Withdrawal grades will be indicated with W.

Syllabus Addenda: Click on the “CV and Syllabus” tab on our Blackboard site for more detailed information on:

Wearing of Face Coverings

Student Disability Services/ADA Compliance

Title IX

Student Absence for Observance of Religious Holy Day

Incomplete Grade Policy

Student Conduct Policies/Academic Honor Code

Course Summary

Lesson 1

Holborne: 5-part consort
 Gabrieli: Antiphonal
 Tallis: *Spem in alium*
 Caccini: *Euridice*
 Monteverdi: *Orfeo*
 Bach: Orchestra
 Torelli: Solo works
 Telemann: Violin Concerto

Lesson 2

Mozart: Sym. #40
 Bassett Clarinet
 Mozart: *La Clemenza di Tito*
 Haydn: Sym. #104
 Transposing Instruments
 Schubert: Sym #8
 Schubert: Trout Quintet • Octet
 Beethoven: Sym. #5 • Sym. #9
 Beethoven: String Quartet

Lesson 3

Mendelssohn: A Midsummer Night's Dream
 Robert Schumann: Sym. #3
 Clara (Wieck) Schumann: Piano Concerto
 Brahms: Sym. #3
 Berlioz: Sym. Fantastique
 Advances in instrument development

Lesson 4

Tchaikovsky: Sym. #4
 Moussorgsky: Night of Bald Mountain
 Rimsky-Korsakov: Scheherazade
 Dvořák: Sym. #8
 Wagner: Bayreuth • The Ring Operas
 Wagner: New instruments
 Mahler: Sym. #8
 R. Strauss: Alpine Sym.

Lesson 5

Stravinsky: Rite of Spring
 Stravinsky: Soldier's Tale • Octet for Winds
 Schoenberg: Gurre Lieder
 Schoenberg: The Painter
 Berg: Three Pieces for Orchestra
 Webern: Five Pieces for Orchestra

Lesson	Class Topic	Assignment	Related Activity	Activity Due date	Grade
Pre-trip	Listening Logs	Complete 5 logs		June 20, 2022	
1	Origins of the Orchestra (Baroque & early Baroque)	Study/listen to material	Orchestra set-up	June 21, 2022	
2	Classical Developments	Study/listen to material	Conductor—yes/no?	June 22, 2022	
3	The Romantic Era	Study/listen to material	Orchestration	June 23, 2022	

4	The LARGE Orchestras of Post-Romanticism	Study/listen to material	Instruments	June 24, 2022	
5	Modern Sounds and Writing	Study/listen to material	Orchestra Protocol	June 27, 2022	