MSC 1003 - "Music in Civilization" - Spring 2025

Prof. Nathan Fletcher (nathan.fletcher@baruch.cuny.edu)

Sec. FTRA, Class No. 4637, In Person: **Tue/Thu 4:10-5:25PM, Vertical Campus Rm. 6-170**

Drop-in hours: before or after class, or by appointment

From the Catalog: "*An introductory survey of music in cultural and social history. The course proceeds chronologically through historical style periods to consider the development of Western classical music in relation to the cultural background with some inclusion of non-Western traditions.*" Examples will be primarily, but not exclusively, drawn from the history of Western art music (Middle Ages to the present day), aiming to increase our understanding of various parameters of music and strengthen our ability to identify and describe them in English.

Attendance

As an In Person course, our meeting time and place is set unless otherwise notified. Per the Baruch College Catalog Policies and Procedures, "*Although Baruch College is officially characterized as a 'non-attendance taking institution,' our faculty are allowed to take attendance and must do so during the 'Verification of Enrollment' period at the beginning of each semester. All students are encouraged to attend every session of their courses to support their learning and academic success; some faculty may factor 'participation' into a course grade.*" Our class time together is important, but I recognize that occasionally things come up and you may have to miss class. Following any absence, it is advised that you catch up with material that you missed; lecture slides are available on Brightspace, and MindTap contains many resources. In general, there is no distinction between excused & unexcused absences. Graded coursework administered during class time cannot be made up if missed, nor can due date exceptions be made for any individual, except in certain extraordinary circumstances mediated by the Office of the Dean of Students.

Grading & Coursework Categories

Bookwork: 33.33%. This component will be earned via MindTap activities labeled "Counts Towards Grade" in the Cengage interface. Your grades for these activities (Chapter Quizzes, Listening Exercises, etc.) will be visible in your Cengage MindTap Gradebook, with the average synchronized to the Grades area in Brightspace.

Comprehension, Discussion & Engagement Questions ("Qs"): 33.34%. These will be deployed in class every day we meet at various times throughout the lecture. Sometimes, you will be asked to discuss & practice proper descriptive & analytical terminology with your classmates. You will only earn points if you answer each question satisfactorily via Brightspace. Your six lowest scores in this category will be dropped from your average.

Tests: 33.33%. There will be 4 equally-weighted, multiple-choice tests. When applicable, test grades will be curved. The final exam period will include the fourth test as well as three tests corresponding to the same units as the previous tests. (Material on these "retakes" will be similar but not identical to the previous tests.) Between each of the first three tests and their corresponding "retakes," only the higher attempt will count. In these tests, completed in class via Brightspace, you will answer audio-based questions concerning the repertoire and related material and concepts covered in the textbook and during lectures. The first three tests will be given in class on the dates listed (continued on next page)

below, subject to change as announced. The fourth test, as well as the three "retakes," will be given during our final exam period. As of Jan 28, the Registrar has not published a Spring 2025 tentative final exam schedule grid, but judging from past years, it will likely take place on May 20 or 22 during a two-hour timeslot to be announced and confirmed by the Registrar. If you have a valid schedule conflict with the final, apply for a Conflict Examination via the Office of Testing and Evaluation. Of the four test grades that count, the lowest one will be dropped from your average.

Materials, Equipment & Textbook

To take & satisfactorily engage with this course, you must have:

- the capability to listen to music via headphones, earbuds or speakers
- working CUNY Login credentials (firstname.lastname##@login.cuny.edu) allowing you to access campus wifi and Brightspace
- a laptop with fast internet and an updated browser that can handle Brightspace, Cengage MindTap, media-rich web interfaces with streaming audio & video, and in certain cases Respondus LockDown Browser
    - Please bring your laptops to class for note-taking and to complete and submit coursework (e.g. in-class exercises and tests) via Brightspace.
    - Phones and tablets can be useful in a pinch but may present compatibility issues with media interfaces required for assessments.
    - If practice tests are made available for use outside of class, they may require Respondus LockDown Browser.
    - Please bring a writing utensil to class in case of handwritten activities.
- the textbook for this course, Craig Wright's *The Essential Listening to Music*, 2nd ed. Published by Cengage Learning ©2016. You must purchase this book in its **MindTap** format, which includes digital textbook access and a variety of interactive activities such as streaming musical examples, Active Listening Guides, Listening Exercises and Chapter Quizzes. Completion of many of these activities will count towards your grade. After 6 months you will lose access to the platform.

Please purchase access using the **second tab**, "**MindTap from $97.00**" at: cengage.com/c/the-essential-listening-to-music-2e-wright/9781305113879PF. Then register for this course section using the link in **Brightspace** via the Navbar: **Content** > **Bookwork** > **External Learning Tool**.

Follow the instructions on screen to create your Cengage account and register for this MindTap course. Begin your temporary access period. You can access your MindTap course until 5:00 AM (UTC) on 2/8/2025 for free. At the end of the temporary access period, you will be prompted to purchase access. Your work will be saved and will be available to you again once you've completed your purchase.

Need help? Visit startstrong.cengage.com for step-by-step instructions. Learn more about navigating your MindTap course at help.cengage.com/mindtap/mt-student/introduction.html.
Technical Support & Troubleshooting: Cengage's US-based support team delivers answers and advice via 24/7 online chat, Twitter, live phone support (1-800-354-9706) and through support.cengage.com, which includes helpful articles, and tutorials.
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If you are having trouble loading MindTap, run the MindTap browser check (ng.cengage.com/static/browsercheck/index.html) to make sure your browser is compatible or refer to the MindTap System Requirements (help.cengage.com/mindtap/MindTap-System-Requirements.pdf). If MindTap isn't loading, be sure to visit Techcheck (techcheck.cengage.com) to see if there is an outage.

Outline of Lecture Topics & Bookwork

In addition to graded activities on MindTap (e.g. Listening Exercises, Chapter Quizzes), you are responsible for studying all texts, embedded content (e.g. Active Listening Guides) and other audio and video included in the digital textbook and lecture slides. MindTap activities that count toward your grade are labeled as such with a red dot and their due dates in the Cengage interface. Below is an overview of topics and chapters, subject to adjustment as needed (we will try to move through the chapters slightly faster than indicated below).

Class 1: Jan 28 **ASYNCHRONOUS/PRE-RECORDED** Intro/orientation

Class 2: Jan 30 The Elements of Music: How to describe & listen to music (Chapter 1)

Class 3: Feb 4 Rhythm--Meter (Chapter 2-1, 2-2)

Class 4: Feb 6 Melody--Harmony (Chapter 2-3, 2-4)

Class 5: Feb 11 Color/Timbre; Orch. families/other instruments & voices (Ch. 3-1, 3-2)

Class 6: Feb 13 Instruments etc. continued**;** Texture (Chapter 3-3, 3-4)

NO CLASS FEB 18 (MONDAY SCHEDULE)

Class 7: Feb 20 Middle Ages: Gregorian Chant--Polyphony (Chapter 4-1, 4-2)

Class 8: Feb 25 The Renaissance: Josquin--The Madrigal (Chapter 4-4)

Class 9: Feb 27 The Baroque: Monteverdi (Chapter 5-1, 5-2, 5-3, 5-4)

Class 10: Mar 4 **TEST #1 (MindTap activities from Chs. 1 through 4 due)**
Vivaldi: Concerto; Bach: Fugue--Concerto (Ch. 5-5; 6-1, 6-1a, 6-1b)

NO CLASS MAR 6 (WEDNESDAY SCHEDULE)

Class 11: Mar 11 Bach continued; Cantata (Chapter 6-1)

Class 12: Mar 13 Handel: Suite--Oratorio (Chapter 6-2)

Class 13: Mar 18 Classicism--Haydn, Mozart–Forms (Chapters 7 & 8)

Class 14: Mar 20 Forms cont.: Minuet & Trio, Theme & Vars., Rondo (Ch. 8-1, 8-2, 8-4, 8-5)

Class 15: Mar 25 **ASYNCHRONOUS/PRE-RECORDED**
Musical Forms: Sonata allegro (Chapter 8-3, 9-1a, 9-1b, 9-1c)

Class 16: Mar 27 Classicism; Genres: Symphony/String 4tet/Sonata/Concerto (Ch. 9-1, 9-2)

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Class 17: Apr 1 **TEST #2 (MindTap activities from Chs. 5 through 8 due)**
Classical Opera: Mozart's *Don Giovanni* (Chapter 9-5)
(Bonus topic: Joseph Bologne, Le Chevalier de St-Georges)

Class 18: Apr 3 Beethoven, Symphony no. 5 in c minor, etc. (Chapter 10)

Class 19: Apr 8 Romantic Chamber Music - Lied, Character Piece, Virtuoso (Ch. 11)

Class 20: Apr 10 Romantic Orchestral & Program Music & Opera (Chapters 12 & 13)

NO CLASS APR 15 & APR 17 (SPRING RECESS)

Class 21: Apr 22 **TEST #3 (MindTap activities from Chs. 9 through 13 due)**
Late Romantic Orchestral Music (Chapter 14)
(Bonus topics: Brahms's counterpoint; Korngold)

Class 22: Apr 24 Impressionism & Modernism (Chapter 15-1, 15-2, 15-3, 15-4)
(Bonus topics: Lili Boulanger; Intro to Orientalism)

Class 23: Apr 29 **ASYNCHRONOUS/PRE-RECORDED**
European Modernism: Stravinsky (Chapter 15-5)

Class 24: May 1 European Modernism: Schoenberg/Second Viennese School (Ch. 15-6)

Class 25: May 6 American Modernism: Copland, Zwilich (Chapter 16-1)

Class 26: May 8 Jazz; High Modernism-Postmodernism: Varèse-Cage (Ch. 16-4a, 4b, -4c)

Class 27: May 13 (Bonus topic: Wendy Carlos)
Postmodernism (Chapter 16-2, 16-3, 16-4d)

Class 28: May 15 (Bonus topics: Kapustin, Bernstein's *Mass*, Barber, George Walker)
Overflow / Epilogue / Review

Final Exam: May 20 or 22, two-hour timeslot TBA (tentative, to be confirmed by Registrar)
TEST #4 (**MindTap activities from Chs. 14 through 16 due) & Tests 1, 2 & 3 "retakes"**

Code of Conduct & Academic Honesty

Behaviors that constitute "intentional disruption or obstruction of teaching, research, administration, disciplinary proceedings, or other institutional activities" are sanctionable. Occasionally, in this class, you will be encouraged to discuss specific questions and their potential answers with your classmates. Outside of these contexts, in general, the work that you do in this class must represent your own individual intellectual effort. Unless stated otherwise in a specific activity prompt, the use of artificial intelligence (AI) tools such as ChatGPT is prohibited in this class. Ignorance is not an acceptable excuse for unacceptable practices. If you violate the precepts of academic integrity you will receive an F for the course and your name will be forwarded to the Office of the Dean of Students, where a notation will become part of your file at Baruch. By remaining registered for this class, you agree that you understand this, and will act according to the principles expressed here. For further discussion of plagiarism, see the online plagiarism tutorial prepared by members of the Newman Library faculty at guides.newman.baruch.cuny.edu/plagiarism.

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Student Support Resources (links embedded)

- SACC - Student Academic Consulting Center
- The Writing Center
- Tools for Clear Speech (TfCS)
- Bernard L. Schwartz Communication Institute
- Baruch College Honors Program and Macaulay Honors College at Baruch
- Office of National & Prestigious Fellowships Advising
- William & Anita Newman Library
- The Baruch College Ombuds
- The Campus Intervention Team (CIT) / Portal for Incident Reporting
- Office of Undergraduate Advisement and Orientation
- The Starr Career Development Center

Baruch has a continuing commitment to providing reasonable **accommodations** for students with disabilities. Students with disabilities who may need accommodations in order to fully participate in this class should contact Student Disability Services (SDS) as soon as possible at disability.services@baruch.cuny.edu or call 646/312-4590. Starting this year, Baruch is using a new, centralized student disability management system, CUNY Accommodate, to coordinate and streamline communication between students, faculty, and campus Disability Services Offices (DSOs).

The **Counseling Center** (646/312-2155; counseling@baruch.cuny.edu) provides free & confidential services to anyone who is currently enrolled & registered as an undergraduate or graduate student at Baruch College. Counseling services are focused on the mental health & well-being of the student body. Counselors are trained to provide culturally-responsive & compassionate care to address a wide range of concerns, with a focus on the emotional, professional, & personal development of undergraduate & graduate students. If you are in emotional distress and need to speak to a counselor right away, please call NYC WELL at 1-888-NYC-WELL (1-888-692-9355) for free, immediate & confidential support for any mental health or substance use concern. NYC WELL is available 24/7 and can provide assistance in over 200 languages. You can also text WELL to 65173 or access the NYC WELL website to chat with a counselor. If you are experiencing a psychiatric or medical emergency, please call 911 or go to your nearest emergency room.

By remaining registered for this course, you indicate that you have read, understood and accepted the contents of this syllabus. Please reach out to me with any questions or concerns.