



University of
St Andrews

600
YEARS

DEPARTMENT OF MUSIC
Music as part of your Degree

Understanding Music

MU1003

2011/12

Please read in conjunction with the Departmental Handbook

MU1003

UNDERSTANDING MUSIC

This module examines the topics of music history, acoustics, aesthetics and musical theory and analysis. It aims to provide an overview of the history of western art music and a broad appreciation of different ways in which the study of music be approached in an academic context. There are no prerequisites for entry to this class. During the first week of the semester there will be a short diagnostic test to ascertain previous level of knowledge and this information will be used to group students accordingly for the theory and analysis lectures and tutorials.

AIMS OF MU1003

- To assist students to develop a broad understanding of the different eras of musical history and how they relate to each other
- To develop skills in musical analysis and score reading
- To encourage an understanding of the many different methodologies used in the academic study of music

KEY TEXTS FOR THE MODULE

- Burkholder, Grout and Palisca: *A History of Western Music*, 8th Edition: New York, London, Norton, 2009
- Eds. Sadie with Latham: *The Cambridge Music Guide*: London, Cambridge University Press, 1985
- Herbert: *Music in Words: A Guide to Researching and Writing About Music*: New York, Oxford University Press, 2009
- Taylor: *The AB Guide to Music Theory* Parts 1 and 2

Module co-ordinator: Dr Sarah Sneddon. Please address problems to her.

Lecturers: Dr Michael Downes (mjd14), Dr Jonathan Kemp (jk50), Dr Jane Pettegree (jkp1), Dr Sarah Sneddon (sjs4), Mr Tom Wilkinson (taw21)

Semester: 1 **Credits:** 20

Teaching: 2 lectures, 1 seminar and one tutorial per week

Class hour: Lectures and seminars will be held on Tuesday, Thursday and Friday at 3pm in the Arts Building, Seminar Room 7.

Tutorials: These are held weekly in the Music Department and the Music Centre at times which will be confirmed during the first week of the semester.

Course assessment: Two assignments = 50% Two hour examination = 50%

Re-assessment: 3 hour examination

LECTURES AND SEMINARS

	Tuesday (History lecture)	Thursday (General topics lecture)	Friday (Music Theory and Analysis Seminar)
Week 1 26/9/11	Welcome (SJS and JK)	Diagnostic Test (SJS)	Writing about Music (MJD)
Week 2 3/10/11	The Middle Ages	History of Keyboard Instruments (TW)	Theory and Analysis
Week 3 10/10/11	The Renaissance	History of Orchestral Instruments (TW)	Theory and Analysis
Week 4 17/10/11	Baroque 1	Score Reading (TW)	Theory and Analysis
Week 5 24/10/11	Baroque 2	Aesthetics 1 (MD)	Theory and Analysis
Week 6 31/10/11	Classical 1	Aesthetics 2 (MD)	Theory and Analysis
Week 7 7/11/11	Reading Week	Reading Week	Reading Week
Week 8 14/11/11	Classical 2	Aesthetics 3 (MD)	Theory and Analysis
Week 9 21/11/11	Romantic 1	Acoustics 1 (JK)	Theory and Analysis
Week 10 28/11/11	Romantic 2	Acoustics 2 (JK)	Theory and Analysis
Week 11 5/12/11	Modern	Acoustics 3 (JK)	Theory and Analysis
Week 12 – 12/12/11	Revision (SJS and TW)	Revision (MD)	No Lecture

The lectures and seminars are divided into three sections as follows:

Tuesday – History of Music

The lectures aim to provide a chronological overview of the history of western art music from the Middle Ages to the end of the twentieth century.

Thursday – Approaches to Understanding Music

These lectures provide an insight into some of the different approaches which can be used when studying music.

Friday – Theory and Analysis

These seminars provide the theoretical skills required for analysing and understanding the technical aspects of music.

TUTORIALS

Tutorial topics will mirror the topics covered in the lectures with a particular emphasis on reinforcing the material covered in the Friday lectures. There will be an opportunity for practical work and a chance to develop, practise and polish the analytical skills required in the course assignments. Each week there will also be an optional, extra tutorial for those who have entered the course with little background knowledge of Music. This class will provide the extra support they need to keep up with the work of the class.

ASSIGNMENTS

Students must write two assignments for the module. The assignment questions will be posted on MMS. The deadlines are as follows:

Assignment 1 – 11.59pm, Friday 4th November 2011

Assignment 2 – 11.59pm, Friday 16th December 2011

Assignments should be submitted by the MMS system.

Penalties for late assignments are set out in the Departmental Handbook.

COMMUNICATION

The department uses the MMS system to provide lecture notes, power point presentations, formative assessment quizzes and also for general communication. Please check the MU1003 page regularly in order to keep up with any notices.

EXAMINATION

The end of course assessment consists of a two hour examination. Students will be expected to:

1. Write an essay on material covered in the Music History lectures (50%)
2. Answer 'short questions' on the topics covered in the Thursday lectures (25%)
3. Answer 'short questions' on a musical score provided (25%)

The assessment criteria for the examination essay is based on your ability to:

1. Show detailed knowledge of a relevant body of information
2. Develop and argue in favour of your own hypotheses using your ability to analyse material in order to support your argument.

Your ability to analyse material in an insightful way rather than merely listing events in chronological order is of particular importance. This involves your acquiring a thorough knowledge of the area and careful preparation of arguments. The difference between a good essay and a great essay often relates to areas where there are no right and wrong arguments, but rather to differences in the level of insight and evidence in support of those arguments.

Important Event

Wednesday 19th October (week 4)

Scottish Chamber Orchestra

Younger Hall

Mozart - Symphony No 1 (K16)

Haydn – Cello Concerto in D

Beethoven No 6 ‘Pastoral’

Student tickets £5 – stalls only

Office Hours

Dr Jonathan Kemp – Monday 4pm

Dr Jane Pettegree – Tuesday 11am, Tuesday 12 noon

Dr Sarah J Sneddon – Tuesday 11am, Friday 11am

Mr Tom Wilkinson – Friday 2pm

BOOKLIST

Core Texts

Burkholder, Grout and Palisca: *A History of Western Music*, 8th Edition: New York, London, Norton, 2006

Eds. Sadie with Latham: *The Cambridge Music Guide*: London, Cambridge University Press, 1985

Herbert: *Music in Words: A Guide to Researching and Writing About Music*: New York, Oxford University Press, 2009

Kivy, Peter, *An Introduction to a Philosophy of Music*, Oxford, OUP, 2002

Campbell, Murray and Greated, Clive, *The Musician's Guide to Acoustics*, New York: Oxford University Press, 2002

Taylor: *The AB Guide to Music Part I*, ABRSM Publishing

Taylor: *The AB Guide to Music Part II*, ABRSM Publishing

Supplementary Reading

Adler, S., *The Study of Orchestration* (Third Edition), New York: Norton & Company, Inc., 1989, rev. 2002

Butterworth, Anna, *Harmony in Practice*, London: ABRSM Publishing, 1999

Cole, William, *The Form of Music*, London: ABRSM Publishing, 1997

Cook, Nicholas, *Music: A Very Short Introduction*, Oxford: OUP, 1998

Harper-Scott, J.P.E. and Samson, Jim (ed.), *An Introduction to Music Studies*, Cambridge: CUP, 2009

Johnson, Julian, *Who Needs Classical Music? Cultural Choice and Musical Value*, Oxford: OUP, 2002

Kerman, Joseph, *Musicology*, London: Fontana, 1985

Piston, Walter, rev. Devoto, Mark, *Harmony*, New York: W. W. Norton and Co., 1987

Pratt, George, *The Dynamics of Harmony: Principles and Practice*, New York: OUP, 1996

Roger Scruton, *The Aesthetics of Music*, Clarendon, 1999

There are also many web-based resources available via the University Library. These include: Grove On-line, Naxos and JSTOR.