

MUCB 201: Music History I—Early Music

Fall 2017

Class Times and Locations:

Sec 004: MWF, 10:00-10:50am, Bishop Hall C309

Sec 006: MWF, 11:00-11:50am, Bishop Hall C309

Sec 007: MWF, 12:00-12:50pm, Bishop Hall, C309

Instructor

Dr. Erin Brooks

Email: brooksem@potsgdam.edu

Phone number: x2759

Office: Schuette Hall A102

Office hours:

Wed 1:30 - 3:30 p.m.

Thu 9:30 - 11:30 a.m.

I am also happy to make office hours by appointment

Course Description and Objectives:

MUCB 201 is a survey of Western musical styles from antiquity through the mid-Baroque. Students will engage with primary sources, current scholarship, and reference materials to gain knowledge of music history and understanding about how such knowledge is created and revised. This course provides opportunities to hone intellectual skills such as close listening, score analysis, interpretation of original historical documents, critical thinking, and writing that requires synthesis.

Students who successfully complete MUCB 201 should be able to:

- Recognize vocabulary, styles, genres, forms, and individual works from the Medieval, Renaissance, and Baroque eras
- Analyze notated scores and apply listening skills to recordings in order to trace historical change in composition and performance practice
- Discuss the impact of individual composers, patrons, teachers, scholars, and musicians of the past
- Establish methods for the use of primary sources as evidence for constructing historical narratives about music
- Locate, evaluate, and use authoritative reference tools for basic research of music history
- Enhance critical thinking through writing and presentation skills

- Think creatively about how history influences your twenty-first-century relationships with music

Additional resource:

<https://www.potsdam.edu/academics/Crane/MusicTheory/Music-History-Page>

Course Requirements

Note: Students enrolled in this course should have successfully completed MUCB 103 (Theory I) and MUCB 104 (Aural Skills I).

Any reading or listening assignment listed for a specific day should be completed **prior** to coming to class—please come to class prepared and ready to ask and answer questions. You are responsible for checking Moodle every day for listening/reading assignments, discussion questions, announced quizzes, and any possible updates/changes. Given the pace of this course, keeping up on all assigned reading and listening **in advance** of every class is essential. SUNY guidelines assume **at least** 2 hours of study time per hour of class time or credit. For this 3-credit class, which meets 3 hours/week, expect to spend at least 6 additional hours a week outside of class (studying, listening, reading). Please feel free to come to my office hours for guidance on how to organize your studying and reading time most effectively.

Reading/Listening Assignments

There are **two** required texts for this course—they are available in the bookstore as a bundle or individually.

1. J. Peter Burkholder, Donald J. Grout, Claude V. Palisca. *A History of Western Music*, 9th edition. W.W. Norton & Co, 2014. ISBN: 978-0-393-91829-8.
 - **Access to the textbook's streaming audio ("Total Access") is required for this course. The code for this streaming audio should be included with your textbook, but if your code does not work, you may need to exchange your copy for a different book.**
2. J. Peter Burkholder and Claude V. Palisca, editors. *Norton Anthology of Western Music Volume One: Ancient to Baroque*, 7th edition. W.W. Norton & Co, 2014. ISBN: 978-0-393-92161-8.

All additional readings and recordings for this course will be available to you through Moodle. Visit <https://moodle.potsdam.edu> for your course resources.

Readings and listening assignments are required, and should be completed prior to each class. For each class, log on to Moodle—each day's module on Moodle will contain the exact assignment page numbers, and (if applicable) PDFs and links for each class.

It is your responsibility to make sure that you can access the class materials; please let me know as soon as possible if you are having any problems. I cannot troubleshoot issues involving your personal computer. Please understand that if you cannot access course materials through your own computer, you must work with computers on campus. The number to the Computing & Technology Services (CTS) helpdesk is 315-267-4444 or helpdesk@potsdam.edu

For additional help with your assignments, the Crane Music library has a vast variety of resources. The url <http://www.libraries.potsdam.edu/resources-subject/music.html> will take you to a page with several resources that will be useful, such as audio/visual resources and reference databases.

Course Evaluation

Grading will be based on a number of quizzes, attendance & participation, writing assignments, and four exams.

In-class Quizzes – 15%

Course lectures, discussion, and activities will expand on material presented in required readings, offering additional perspectives and musical examples. We will also work through musical examples in class to build listening skills. Due to these factors, attendance and participation is essential. To help emphasize this fact, brief quizzes covering course material (generally material covered in the textbook, listening, and/or lecture) will be given **in class**. The **averaged** quiz scores will be worth a total of 15% of the course grade.

- The quizzes will be one of **two** types:
 1. A quiz reviewing/drilling concepts from the textbook and/or listening. These types of quizzes will be **announced** at least 1 class period in advance, and the questions will be provided on Moodle.
 2. A quiz based on content presented/discussed **during** a given class period. These quizzes will **NOT** be announced in advance.
- Format: The quiz questions may be fill-in-the-blank, multiple choice, or occasionally, a 5-minute freewrite on a question from the course material.
- Due to the logistical challenges of a large number of students, **no make-up quizzes will be given**.
- There will be absolutely no exceptions to this rule.
- **However, the three lowest quiz grades will be dropped.**

Attendance/Participation – 5%

This class will be most successful if it becomes an active learning community. In an effort to work towards that goal, you are required to become active participants in course activities and discussion. In order to stimulate participation, you may periodically be asked to prepare short activities before coming to class.

- Each week, I will track attendance and participation. For participatory activities, you are expected (at minimum) to contribute fruitfully to the discussion once per session. **Simply being present is not enough.**
- You can miss **two** classes for whatever reason with **no** penalty.
- If you miss more than two, your participation grade will be docked by 1/2 a letter grade for **each** additional absence.
- Only required university-sponsored events count as “excused absences;” if you think this applies to you, you must have a conversation with the instructor prior to the absence in question (at least one week). In most cases, these events require written verification from the Dean. For any such absences, you must still do the relevant course readings for that class date, and I reserve the right to assign you alternate assignments.
- If you have a religious observance during the semester, any missed coursework during that particular class will not count against you. However, you must inform me before the relevant absence (at least one week ahead of time), you must still do the relevant course readings for that class date, and I reserve the right to assign you alternate assignments.
- If you have a medical condition or emergency, you are encouraged to discuss it with the instructor; be aware, however, that only under **extraordinary** circumstances will this result in your absence being excused.

Writing / Research Projects – 20%

There will be several writing assignments during the semester. The combination of these assignments will be worth 20% of your course grade.

- Early in the semester, you will have several short guided listening/writing assignments expanding upon assigned class material.
- In the latter part of the semester, you will have several scaffolded assignments linked to the production of a longer essay (although this will not be a full-length research paper).
- Guidelines and directions for assignments/due date will be provided on Moodle.
- You will receive a guide/breakdown to these assignments in the second week of the course.

Exams - 60% (15% + 15% + 15% + 15%)

Exam #1, worth 15% of your overall grade, will be administered in class on **Monday, October 2**.

Exam #2, worth 15% of your overall grade, will be administered in class on **Wednesday, November 1**.

Exam #3, worth 15% of your overall grade, will be administered in class **Monday, December 4**.

Exam #4 (Cumulative final exam), worth 15% of your grade, will be administered during exam week. Please note the cumulative final exam time varies by class.

Sec 004: 10:00-10:50am class: Wed, Dec. 13, 8:00-10:00 am

Sec 006: 11:00-11:50am class: Wed, Dec. 13, 10:15am-12:15pm

Sec 007: 12:00-12:50pm class: Fri, Dec. 15, 8:00-10:00am

You will receive a targeted review sheet for each of the exams, with study goals. All exams will comprise several major sections. In the initial listening section, you will be presented with short musical extracts and asked to answer specific questions about them. In order to succeed on this section on the test, it is essential for you to stay on top of your listening assignments. In the second section of the test, you will define terms related to listening and course readings, respond to multiple choice questions and/or short answer questions (including score ID and music theory concepts) based on class material. **Each exam will also contain an essay question—for Exams 1, 2, and 3, the essay questions will be take-home. For the final exam, you will write the essay question during the exam time.**

For your writing assignments (particularly the research project), you are **strongly** encouraged to make an appointment with the Writing Center. If I identify significant problems with your writing style, I may request that you use the Writing Center resources to help improve your style. I am happy to meet with you to read drafts or help improve your writing.

Course Policies

Office Hours / Emails

I will respond to emails in a timely manner (generally within 24 hours of receipt). I do not always have time to respond to emails over the weekend, so weekend emails may potentially only be answered on Monday morning. Please feel free to come to office hours to discuss papers and questions, or to talk through general problems or concerns. During the busy periods at midterm/end of semester, I suggest you schedule an appointment to maximize the use of your time. Please make sure to check your campus email regularly—I often send updates or class comments via email.

Course Materials/Slides

A few friendly note-taking suggestions: during class, I use slides and audio examples to illustrate examples from the readings/listening and to introduce new concepts and material. Tests will cover material from the book, anthology, *and* in-class content, so it's essential to do the readings **and** attend class.

Everyone assimilates information differently, but I **strongly encourage** that you take notes during class. In particular, it will help you the most to focus on ways of jotting

down important **verbal** content from lecture (i.e. material beyond just copying down any information directly from a slide).

If I use slides in lecture, I will post slides on Moodle, usually by the end of the week. Please do not email me to ask when slides will be posted—I will always post them, but emails will not speed up the process.

Classroom Conduct

In lecture and discussion sections, it is inevitable and important that we will disagree with points in the readings, critical approaches, and with each other. Critical engagement is essential to the central questions of this class, and is often the way we all learn the most. It is important to be considerate in the ways we conduct these discussions, and this class thus necessitates an open mind, respect for different viewpoints, and the ability to listen thoughtfully and compassionately to each other.

I am happy for you to use technology in the classroom (particularly to jot down notes, use online resources, and revisit specific selections in the readings). This will not work, however, if you are using your devices inappropriately or for non-class purposes. This particularly applies to **texting** during class, which is completely outside of acceptable classroom resources, as are Facebook and other social media sites. **Anyone abusing use of technology will lose participation points** or may be asked to speak with the instructor about revising their personal technology access.

Grading

All grades will be determined on the following scale:

4.0: 95-100	2.7: 82-84	1.3: 68-71
3.7: 92-94	2.3: 78-81	1.0: 65-67
3.3: 88-91	2.0: 75-77	0.0: 0-64
3.0: 85-87	1.7: 72-74	

Please note that passing grade (in order to move on to the next class in the history sequence) is 75% or above.

Grade Appeals

If you have questions about a grade, please speak with me (in person) first. Please note that the Undergraduate Catalog, p. 45, includes the specific criteria upon which you are allowed to appeal a course grade. If we cannot come to an informal resolution, you would then complete a formal Grade Appeal Form and we would consider if additional resolution is necessary. Details about the specific steps and timelines for this process are located on pp. 45-46 of the Undergraduate Catalog.

Notes About Timeliness

Late Written Work

No late work will be accepted without penalty. **Late written assignments will lose 5% for each day they are late. Assignments will not accepted more than three days late.** If you believe you will have difficulty meeting a particular deadline, you must talk with me at least *three days in advance of the due date*.

Make-Up Quizzes and Exams

For in-class quizzes, no makeups will be given—this includes lateness, absence, or illness. If you are absent due to an officially excused Crane absence with proper advance written notification from the Dean's office, you will be excused from the quiz (but you will not 'make it up'). In those cases **only**, after your absence I will provide you with the quiz content for study purposes, but the missed quiz will be dropped from your grade.

Important: Your lowest **three** quiz scores each semester will be **dropped**. Use these wisely—you can strategize to use them for unavoidable sick days or to drop your low scores.

Please note that make-up **exams** will **only** be given as a result of medical emergency or extraordinary hardship. This would include an official written note from a doctor. If you know that you cannot make one of the exams at the time scheduled, please see the instructor as soon as possible.

Per New York State Law, any student with a conflict between an academic requirement and any religious observance should be given an alternative for meeting the academic requirement. If you have a conflict with a class meeting or exam date due to a religious observance, please let me know well in advance (at least one week). You will not be penalized for missing class material, but you will have to make up your class material or take the exam at an alternate time. I will not reschedule **any** exams after the exam date has passed.

Accessibility

In order to fully include all students in this course, it is essential to provide reasonable accommodations or program modifications for anyone with a disability. Please let me know **during the first week of classes** if you need any accommodations in curriculum, instruction, or evaluation. For most test-taking accommodations, you should have a registration on file with Accommodative Services (<http://potsdam.edu/support/oas>), located in Sisson Hall Room 111. If you're already working with Accommodative Services, or have worked with them in previous semesters, please inform me immediately. Any test-taking accommodations or modifications require advance notice, so make sure to work out these details with me well in advance.

School-Sponsored Absences

If you know that you will be missing class for a school-sponsored activity (such as an off-campus performance), you should inform me as soon as possible. While I may also receive a memo about your absence from the Dean's Office, it is ultimately your

responsibility to check in with me about your absence before the scheduled event. You are always expected to make up work missed due to travel, but you and I will need to find specific accommodations for each absence (depending upon activities missed).

Academic Honesty

This class will strictly follow SUNY Potsdam's policies on academic integrity. Please consult the Student Conduct & Community Standards Academic Honor Code website (<http://www.potsdam.edu/studentlife/studentconduct/honorcode>) or pp. 35 & 36 of the Undergraduate Catalogue for more information regarding your responsibilities as a student. In general, academic misconduct includes acts in which a student seeks to claim credit for the work or efforts of another without authorization or citation. Examples include (but are not limited to):

1. Cutting and pasting text from the web without quotation marks or proper citation.
2. Paraphrasing from the web or written texts without crediting the source.
3. Using notes in an exam when such use is not allowed.
4. Using another person's ideas, words, or research and presenting it as one's own.

I encourage you to study together for exams, and to discuss class readings and listening with each other inside and outside of class. For tests or writing assignments, however, no consultation with other students is permitted. Using classmates' responses during the exam, consulting notes without permission, or disguising words written by others as your own undermines the academic community here at SUNY Potsdam. If you have any questions about this, please don't hesitate to ask me. For specific questions on intellectual property and proper citation techniques, advice is available both at SCCS and the Writing Center.

Cheating, plagiarism, fabrication, falsification and other academic honor code violations are taken very seriously. Any suspicious situations will be dealt with through proper judicial channels and may result in serious consequences. For more information about academic misconduct procedures, see the processes and procedures at <http://www.potsdam.edu/studentlife/studentconduct/codeofconduct>