Music 100: Understanding Music  
Spring 2001, Monday evenings 7-10 p.m. (0.5 credit)  
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• This section features listening, reading, and assignments on a course website  
  (the textbook and CD set are NOT required)  
• Class time includes introductions to topics, listening, video excerpts, discussion, etc.  
• Listening and thinking (and making connections between things) are paramount

Categories from which the topics are drawn:

- **“classical”** music, such as its periods (Renaissance, Baroque, Romantic, etc.),  
genres (vocal, instrumental, operatic, etc.), styles, and socio-historical contexts  
- **“vernacular”** music, including various types of blues, jazz, film, and popular music  
- **“world”** music (occasional examples, for comparison with the other two categories)

Week 1: May 7  
Explaining the website and course requirements (web & writing assignments and tests)  
Introducing the periods and elements of music (including listening and discussion)  
Medieval music: mass/chant, motets; chansons, troubadours, comparisons w. other music

Week 2: May 14  
Renaissance music: later masses, motets, and chansons; Italian and English madrigals,  
musical instruments, cross-culturalisms  
May 21: no class  
Victoria Day holiday

Week 3: May 28  
Baroque music: opera (Italy/Italian), non-Italian opera, instrumental music, music/religion  
Discussion of recording/concert reviews (newspapers, internet, etc.) and of example papers

Week 4: June 4  
Classicism I: chamber music, symphony, concerto, Enlightenment

Week 5: June 11  
Classicism II: opera; the piano and classical piano music

Week 6: June 18  
Romanticism: small forms, incl. character pieces for piano, art songs, and chamber music

Week 7: June 25  
Romanticism/Modernism: orchestral/programme music, opera, and nationalism/ballet  
July 2: no class  
Canada Day holiday

Week 8: July 9  
Vernacular I: minstrelsy, blues, gospel, ragtime, jazz, music theatre, film music

Week 9: July 16  
Vernacular II: Tin Pan Alley (pop songs), R&B, country, rock ‘n’ roll, rock, later pop,  
soul, singer-songwriters, urban music (funk, dance pop, rap and hip hop, electronica, etc.)

Week 10: July 23  
Contradictions: later jazz & music theatre, folk & art rock, later pop fusions; technology

Requirements

• three web-based assignments: Weeks 3, 6, and 9—10% each
• Test 1: Week 5 (during class)—25%
• Term Paper on a composer, artist, concert, or style (5-6 pages): due Week 8—20%  
  (including a 1-2 page, point form outline, due Week 7)
• Test 2: Week 10 (during class)—25%