# **HUMA 1102: Enjoyment of Classical Music**

Division of Humanities, HKUST — Fall 2022

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Office hours: Mon 1:00–3:00 PM, and by appointment

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Lectures: Mon/Wed 10:30–11:50 Location: Shaw Auditorium Rm. 103

# **Course description**

HUMA 1102 is an introduction to the history of Western art music, from the medieval era to the present day, with an emphasis on the period between Late Middle Ages (14th century) and Romanticism (19th century). Using the last half a millennium of repertoire as its primary point of reference, the course aims to change the way the student hears and understands music. We will explore the foundations of music cognition and acoustics, look at works in their historical and political context, inspect the relationship of music to other art forms, learn analytical listening skills, and try to understand the creative operations and craftsmanship behind music-making. Prior knowledge of music or music theory is not required and some basics of notation are covered in class.

# **Intended Learning Outcomes (ILOs)**

On successful completion of the course, the student will have

- developed a deeper appreciation and understanding of Western classical music and its different historical phases;
- learned to listen to music more analytically, with an awareness of aspects such as style, genre, form, time period, and instrumentation;
- learned to listen to different types music in general with the same sensitivity, regardless of style or tradition; and
- acquired the ability to apply the knowledge and sensitivity assimilated in this class to other disciplines.

#### **Required materials**

Reading assignments will come mostly from *Listen* (7th Edition) by Kerman & Tomlinson, available at the campus bookstore, library, and online. I will assign additional reading and listening from other sources. You will also have access to my PowerPoint slides on Canvas after each lecture, as well as video recordings of the lectures via HKUST's Remote Video Capture service.

# Reading and listening assignments, quizzes

It is crucial that you complete all the reading and listening assignments; the lectures can only serve as *preparation* for your most important work, which is to spend time with the material, listening to music with your full attention. Reading quizzes constitute 25% of your final grade, and are aimed at making sure everyone is on track with the assigned texts and musical examples. In lieu of midterms and final examination, we will have two extended, cumulative quizzes: one mid-semester, and one at the end of the term, which together constitute another 25% of your final grade.

# Cosmopolis Festival at HKUST

This semester will have the second season of HKUST's new cross-cultural music and arts initiative, the Cosmopolis Festival. Attending at least three events (two concerts, one educational event) is mandatory, and your term paper will be based on what you hear at the festival (more below). For HUMA 2104, students need to choose two from the below list of concerts that are relevant to this class, and one workshop/talk of their own choosing. Some dates and details may still change; updated information will be made available regularly.

#### Concerts:

- (1) The Hong Kong Philharmonic: A Chamber Orchestra Concert Sunday, September 25, 3:00 PM
- (2) The Art of the Harpsichord: Mahan Esfahani in Concert Wednesday, September 28, 8:00 PM
- (3) Synesthesia: An Electroacoustic Music and Multimedia Concert Thursday, October 6, 7:30 PM
- (4) Italian and French Masterpieces for Violin and Piano: With Gian Paolo Peloso and Rachel Cheung Wednesday, November 9, 7:30 PM

The festival will also feature Balinese Gamelan, traditional Cantonese music, jazz, and more. You can find the full season at:

https://cosmopolisfestival.hkust.edu.hk/upcoming\_event

# Talks, masterclasses, workshops:

- (1) The Modern Harpsichord: Talk by Mahan Esfahani Tuesday, September 27, 1:00 PM (Institute for Advanced Study)
- (2) JUNK!VR: Virtual Reality Music Performance Workshop Wednesday, October 10, 7:00 PM
- (3) Balinese Gamelan Workshop with I Wayan Sudirana Monday, October 6, 7:30 PM (Online Event)
- (4) Meet the Artist: String Instrument Workshop with Gian Paolo Peloso Thursday, November 10, 2:00 PM (Online Event)

There will also be a roundtable and Q&A with some of the composers featured at this year's festival, schedule to be determined later. Dates and times are still subject to change; check for the latest information at the website above.

# Term paper

Your term paper will be an analytic, comparative writing assignment, based on two compositions of your choice from the Cosmopolis Festival (see above). The length is a minimum 700 words, which works out to ca. two pages in Times New Roman 12-point font, double spaced.

It is still possible, though not likely, that the festival gets postponed or restricted due to the current pandemic situation. This might mean that all or part of the concerts and educational events will be presented online. In the event that the festival is cancelled, the assignment will be adapted accordingly and based on recordings.

# Attendance and participation

Attendance at lectures, Cosmopolis Festival events, and participating in the class by answering and asking questions are an important part of the course. As per University policy, have your webcam on throughout the class to be counted as being present. Log in a few minutes before class time so we can begin the lecture promptly. *Twice late will count as once absent.* 

# Grading

Quizzes on reading assignments Cumulative mid- and end-of-semester quiz 25%

25% (12.5% each)

Term paper (concert report) 35% Attendance & participation 15%

# **HUMA 1102: Enjoyment of Classical Music**

Class schedule — Spring 2022

LECTURE:	<b>TOPIC:</b>
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Week 1

Mon, Sep 5 – Lec 1 Introduction to the Course

Wed, Sep 7 – Lec 2 Fundamentals of Listening

Week 2 Mid-Autum Festival: No class on Monday, September 12.

Wed, Sep 14 – Lec 3 Overview of Western Music History, I

Week 3

Mon, Sep 19 – Lec 4 Overview of Western Music History, II

Wed, Sep 21 – Lec 5 Rhythm and Rhythmic Notation

HKUST's Cosmopolis Festival begins

Week 4

Mon, Sep 26 – Lec 6 Chronological topic I

Ars Nova (14th Century)

Wed, Sep 28 – Lec 7 Melody, Harmony, and Pitch Notation

Week 5

Mon, Oct 3 – Lec 8 Chronological topic II

The Renaissance

Wed, Oct 5 – Lec 9 Counterpoint

Week 6

Mon, Oct 10 – Lec 10 Chronological topic III

Early Baroque

Wed, Oct 12 – Lec 11 Evolution of Instruments

Week 7

Mon, Oct 17 – Lec 12 Chronological topic IV

Late Baroque

Wed, Oct 19 – Lec 13 Formal Structure

Week 8

Mon, Oct 24 – Lec 14 Term Paper Guidelines

Wed, Oct 26 – Lec 15 Chronological topic V

Classicism

Week 9

Mon, Oct 31– Lec 16 Extended Mid-Semester Cumulative Quiz

Wed, Nov 27 – Lec 17 Revolutions and Music

Week 10

Mon, Nov – Lec 18 Chronological topic VI

Romanticism, 1

Wed, Nov 9 – Lec 19 Song Throughout the Ages

Week 11

Mon, Nov 14 – Lec 20 Chronological topic VI

Romanticism, 2

Wed, Nov 16 – Lec 21 Chronological topic VI

Romanticism, 3

Week 12

Mon, Nov 21 – Lec 22 Early 20th Century

Wed, Nov 23 – Lec 23 20th and 21st Centuries

Week 13

Mon, Nov 28 – Lec 24 Music and Humor

Wed, Nov 30 – Lec 25 Extended End-of-Semester Cumulative Quiz;

More on Term Paper