

Date: March 2006

I. Course Name: Master Composers II
Prefix and Number: MUS 117
Credit Hours and Contact Hours: 3 credit hours – 3 contact hours
Catalog Description:

In Master Composers II, students will continue to study particular examples of mainstream music literature from the 17th century to the present. The course aims to create a foundation for the broad perception of historic style across genres by developing a repertory of specific representative pieces which the student has had the opportunity to examine closely.

Prerequisite: MUS 111, recommended MUS 105 or the equivalent skill level, as this course deals with music scores and notation.

II. Course Outcomes and Objectives:

Learning Outcomes:

The learning outcomes for Master Composers II are an extension and deepening of those same outcomes for Master Composers I; see MUS 111.

Relationship to Academic programs and curriculum:

This course is required for the AS in Music Degree and is of potential interest to any student with interest and modest background and the prerequisite of MUS 111.

College competencies addressed by the course:

Writing; Reading; Problem Solving & Critical Thinking; Ethics and Values;
Professional Competency; Oral Communication

III. Methods of Instruction

Course Materials:

Supplied by instructor; some purchase of recorded examples required; music may vary from semester to semester.

Methods of Instruction:

Lecture, discussion, demonstrations, listening, papers, presentation

Assessment and Evaluation:

Activities will emphasize comprehension of and familiarity with the music, and relevant context. Students will demonstrate familiarity and technical understanding in written exams. Students will demonstrate appreciation of and engagement with issues of aesthetics, quality, historic context and influence in several short papers and a final presentation in which they discuss a piece of music new to the group (along the lines we use all semester.)

IV. General Outline of Topics Covered:

In MUS 117 we proceed by composer (as opposed to genre), investigating influential and characteristic pieces by canonic composers, chosen from various genres. We will look at pieces from the point of form and characteristic style features. We will again investigate select topics in aesthetics and criticism through two or three short papers. These issues and approaches will be consolidated through a final project, where they will be extended to a new piece, chosen by the student, and these findings will be presented to the group.