



SYLLABUS

FROM HANDEL TO HENDRIX: A MUSICAL EXPLORATION IN LONDON

Instructor: Sharon J. Paul

Language of Instruction: English

UO Credits: 6

Contact Hours: 60

Total Hours of Student Engagement (THSE) in all course activities: 180

LONDON, ENGLAND

COURSE DESCRIPTION

London's vibrant cultural life and history provide the setting for an immersive three-week course exploring music performed throughout this world capital. From the serenity of Evensong to the raucousness of a West End musical, students will engage with a wide variety of musical genres throughout the course. Students will learn to listen critically and analytically to music originating from a wide variety of historical eras and born from diverse circumstances. An interdisciplinary approach will encourage students to consider music in relation to the art and culture surrounding its creation. Designed to challenge music majors and non-majors, students will attend concerts, visit historically significant venues, and participate in highly interactive class sessions.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

Students who successfully complete this course will:

- Be able to listen analytically and critically to a wide variety of music genres
- Be able to evaluate the context around which musical works were created
- Have gained a deeper appreciation for music from less familiar times or traditions
- Understand the important role music has played in London's cultural history
- Be able to compare and contrast musical styles from varied historical periods
- Have increased familiarity with significant musical repertoire from the 16th century to the current day

INSTRUCTIONAL METHODOLOGY

- Lecture
- Discussions
- Student presentations
- Concert Reports
- Journal Writing
- Sample Readings
 - Burrow, Donald. *Handel*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2012.

- Cross, Charles R. *Room Full of Mirrors: A Biography of Jimi Hendrix*. New York: Hyperion, 2005
- Greenberg, Robert. *How to Listen to Great Music: A Guide to Its History, Culture, and Heart*. New York: Penguin Group, 2011.
- Long, David. *A History of London in 100 Places*. London: Oneworld Publications, 2014.
- McCarthy, Kerry. *Byrd*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2013.
- Morehen, John, ed. *English Choral Practice, 1400-1650*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2003.
- Schenbeck, Lawrence. *Joseph Haydn and the Classical Choral Tradition*. Chapel Hill, NC: Hinshaw Music, 1996.
- Spitz, Bob. *The Beatles: The Biography*. New York: Little, Brown and Company, 2006.
- BBC Sacred Music Video Series
- Excursions will include daytrips to Cambridge, Lincoln, Greenwich, and Liverpool. The class will also visit the British Library, St. George's Church, Westminster Abbey, Burrough Market, attend concerts in Royal Albert Hall and St. Martin-in-the-Fields, and take a backstage tour of the Royal Opera House. In order to respond to journal prompts, students will visit numerous other cultural venues and events throughout London. A list of possible sites is included at the end of this syllabus.

METHOD OF EVALUATION (GRADING)

Students will be assessed in the following manner:

Class Participation: 20%

Students are expected to attend all classes and class excursions, and to actively participate in discussions and in-class exercises.

Concert Reports: 20% (10% each)

Students will write two, 2- 4-page concert reports after attending concerts of their choice.

Class Presentation: 20%

Each student will make a 15-minute presentation to the class that consists of two parts. In the first part, share with the class a piece of art and a piece of music that were contemporaneous and complement each other. (This could be in terms of style, theme, narrative, composition, etc.) In the second part, share an art piece and musical composition that complement each other, but were created at least 100 years apart.

Journal: 20%

Students will be keeping a daily journal recording their analyses, critiques, and reflections while interacting with formal and informal music-making throughout London. In addition, each week will feature two journal prompts related to course subject matter or excursions that they will respond to in their journal.

Final Exam: 20%

COURSE OUTLINE

Pre-Departure Class Session

The class will meet for one three-hour session during the Spring 2017 term. At this session, course content and expectations will be discussed. Sample journal entries will be analyzed to make expectations clear regarding the required journal. The first journal entry will be assigned, with the response due before departure, so that students may receive feedback on their writing and approach to the topic before arriving in London.

WEEK 1 in London: The Components of Music

Inside the Classroom

- Listening to Music: Form, Analysis, and Affect
- Classical Music History Through a British Lens
- Overview of World, Pop, Folk, Jazz, and Musical Theatre in London

Outside of the Classroom

- Visit to the British Library Music Collection
- Tour Westminster Abbey
- Music in the Streets: Covent Garden, Leicester Square, South Bank, & Trafalgar
- Attend the Proms at Royal Albert Hall
- Attend a West End Musical Theatre production

Sample Readings from Course Reading Packet:

- Greenberg, Robert. *How to Listen to Great Music: A Guide to Its History, Culture, and Heart*. New York: Penguin Group, 2011.
- Long, David. *A History of London in 100 Places*. London: Oneworld Publications, 2014.

WEEK 2 in London: The Importance of Place

Inside the Classroom

- Hearing music in the acoustic for which it was originally composed
 - Choral music for the Evensong Service
 - William Byrd (Politics and Music)
 - Symphony, Opera, Ballet
 - Singing together (Catches, Gleees, Madrigals, Part-Songs, and Chants)

Outside the Classroom

- Evensong Service at King's College, Cambridge
- Daytrip to Lincoln (Cathedral and Castle)
- Concert at St. Martin-in-the-fields
- St. George's Church (Handel's church)
- BBC Proms at Royal Albert Hall

- Backstage Tour of the Royal Opera House

Sample Readings from Course Reading Packet:

- McCarthy, Kerry. *Byrd*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2013.
- Morehen, John, ed. *English Choral Practice, 1400-1650*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2003.
- BBC Sacred Music Video Series

WEEK 3 in London: Time Travel

Inside the Classroom

- The 18th Century
 - Handel's Music in London
 - Haydn's Music in London
- The 1960s
 - Jimi Hendrix in London
 - The Beatles in Liverpool and London

Outside the Classroom

- Visit Handel and Hendrix in London Museum
- Sir John Soane Museum
- Burrough Market
- Day Trip to Liverpool
- Visit Beatles venues in London
- Take a boat to Greenwich (National Maritime Museum, Royal Naval Observatory, Cutty Sark, Old Royal Naval College and Chapel, the Queen's House, Royal Observatory Greenwich, Painted Hall)

Sample Readings from Course Reading Packet:

- Burrow, Donald. *Handel*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2012.
- Cross, Charles R. *Room Full of Mirrors: A Biography of Jimi Hendrix*. New York: Hyperion, 2005
- Schenbeck, Lawrence. *Joseph Haydn and the Classical Choral Tradition*. Chapel Hill, NC: Hinshaw Music, 1996.
- Spitz, Bob. *The Beatles: The Biography*. New York: Little, Brown and Company, 2006.

Post-London Journal Assignment

- Students must complete one final journal assignment upon their return to the U.S. This prompt will be assigned on the last day of class in London.

COURSE READINGS

Excerpts from the following books will be used throughout the class. Additional material will be provided at site visits.

- Burrow, Donald. *Handel*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2012.
- Cross, Charles R. *Room Full of Mirrors: A Biography of Jimi Hendrix*. New York: Hyperion, 2005
- Greenberg, Robert. *How to Listen to Great Music: A Guide to Its History, Culture, and Heart*. New York: Penguin Group, 2011.
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- Spitz, Bob. *The Beatles: The Biography*. New York: Little, Brown and Company, 2006.
- BBC Sacred Music Video Series

BIBLIOGRAPHY

- Alwes, Chester L. *A History of Western Choral Music*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2015
- De Quadros, André, ed. *The Cambridge Companion to Choral Music*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2012.
- Taruskin, Richard. *The Oxford History of Western Music*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2010.

Select Sites of Interest in London

Churches

St. George's, Hanover Square
 St. Martin in the Fields (including Crypt)
 St. Paul's (including Crypt)
 Southwark Cathedral
 Old Royal Naval College Chapel at Greenwich
 Temple Church
 Westminster Abbey
 Westminster Cathedral

Museums & Collections

British Library
 British Museum
 Churchill War Rooms
 Courtauld Gallery
 Dulwich Picture Gallery
 Foundling Museum
 Geffrye Museum (Period rooms), Shoreditch
 Greenwich Observatory
 Handel and Hendrix in London

Horniman Museum and Gardens
Imperial War Museum
Maritime Museum (Greenwich)
Museum of London
National Gallery
Natural History Museum
National Portrait Gallery
Queens Gallery Buckingham Palace
Queen's House (Greenwich)
Royal Academy of Arts
Royal Academy of Music Instrument Museum
Royal Mews at Buckingham Palace
Saatchi Gallery
Science Museum
Serpentine Gallery (Hyde Park)
Sir John Soane's Museum (Lincoln's Inn Fields)
Somerset House
Tate Britain
Tate Modern
Tower of London
Transportation Museum
Victoria and Albert Museum
Wallace Collection

Outdoor Spaces

St. James Park
Serpentine at Hyde Park
Kensington Palace Green
Ferry to Greenwich or Thames Barrier
Kew Gardens
Battersea Park
Regent Park (Primrose Hill)
Richmond Park
Hampstead Heath

Points of Geographical and/or Historical Interest

Abbey Road Studios
Alexandra Palace
BBC Studio Tour
Buckingham Palace
Changing of the Guard (Buckingham Palace or Horse Guards Parade)
Hamley's Toy Store
Houses of Parliament (Palace of Westminster)
London Eye
London Zoo
Old Royal Naval College Painted Hall at Greenwich
One New Change (rooftop terrace)
Royal Courts of Justice

St. Pancras Train Station
Sky Garden at 20 Fenchurch Street (Free but need appointment)
Top of the Shard
Tower Bridge (Bridge lift is worth seeing – check their calendar)
Trafalgar Square
Yamaha Music (Wardour St. in Soho – visit the upstairs piano room)
Ye Olde Cheshire Cheese (Pub)

Street Life

Brick Lane
Burrough Market
Camden Town (up to Camden Stables; Camden Market)
Carnaby Street
Covent Garden
Denmark Street (London's Tin Pan Alley)
Leadenhall Market
Leicester Square down to Piccadilly
Old Spitalfield's Market
Portabello Road (Nottinghill)
Regent's Canal
Seven Dials (near Covent Garden)
Soho
Southbank (Jubilee Trail)

Theatres and Concert Venues

Barbican Theatre
Cadogan Hall
King's Place
National Theatre
Queen Elizabeth Hall
Ronnie Scott's (Soho on Frith St.)
Roundhouse
Royal Albert Hall (BBC Proms)
Royal Opera House
St. John's Smith Square
West End Theatres
Wigmore Hall