



15800 Calvary Rd.  
Kansas City, MO 64147

# Syllabus

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Course: MU337 T TN Music History and Literature I  
Credit: 3 Credit Hours  
Semester: Fall 2026  
Time: MW 1:00-2:20pm  
Location: East ED 107  
Instructor: Staff

## I. DESCRIPTION

A study of the historical development of music from its beginning through Baroque period. Styles, composers, and musical works are studied in their social and cultural contexts, as well as how they impacted the music of the future. Emphasis will be placed on developing a thorough knowledge of music literature.

*\* This is a blended class, meaning that both campus and online students take this class together. **Campus students attend the classes in person, online students attend the classes via the online classroom.** All interaction and assignments for campus and online students are done in the online classroom.*

## II. OBJECTIVES

- A. The objective of Music History is for the student to gain an understanding of the development of western music from the earliest known sources until the present day. The course will include the study of both sacred and secular music in all genres. Upon successful completion of the course, students will be expected to:
1. Demonstrate a basic knowledge of significant composers and works related to Western music through 1750.
    - i. PLO 1 .2. 3
    - ii. A, B, C, D

*Our Mission: "...to prepare Christians to live and serve in the church and in the world according to the Biblical worldview."*

2. Identify the various genres of music and trace their development through the major historical periods.
    - i. PLO 1 .2. 3
    - ii. A, B, C, D
  3. Obtain a deeper understanding of composers and performers in the past and the relevance of their lives to the music we write and perform today.
    - i. PLO 1 .2. 3
    - ii. A, B, C, D
  4. Analyze representative works and evaluate how music was shaped by broad political, cultural, and economic trends and by the values of the society that produced it.
    - i. PLO 1 .2. 3
    - ii. B, C, D
- B. The students will learn and participate by:
1. Listening to lectures.
    - i. PLO 1 .2. 3
    - ii. A, B, C, D
  2. Analyzing musical scores and recordings.
    - i. PLO 1 .2. 3
    - ii. A, B, C, D
  3. Doing readings and listening assignments to prepare for class.
    - i. PLO 1 .2. 3
    - ii. A, B, C, D
  4. Completing a research paper.
    - i. PLO 1 .2. 3
    - ii. A, D

### III. REQUIREMENTS

- A. Complete the required reading assignments.
- B. Complete listening journal assignments
- C. Exams: TBA
- D. Complete research paper: TBA

### IV. METHODS

- A. In-class teaching methods will include lecture, discussion, small group discussion, analyzing scores, and listening to recordings.
- B. Grading:
  - a. A 10-page Research Paper or 15-minute presentation 30%

- b. TWO Exams: Midterm (20%) and Final (20%) 40%
- c. Class Participation, Assignments 30%

V. MATERIALS

- A. The Holy Bible
- B. **“*A History of Western Music*” (8th Edition or later)** by J. Peter Burkholder  
Publisher: W. W. Norton & Company; Eight Edition  
(7<sup>th</sup> or 9<sup>th</sup> editions are also acceptable.)  
ISBN-10: 0393979911  
ISBN-13: 978-0393979916  
Amazon: \$101.55 (New)/from \$3.92 (Used)  
**\*Do NOT confuse this with *The Norton Anthology of Western Music* by the same author!**
- C. Recordings and some scores can be found in the CU Music Library or online.  
**You are expected to listen to the recordings and study the scores! This will largely be done *outside* of class. Failing to do so will often make a noticeable difference on your performance in exams.**

VI. Other important information

- The Bible is a required textbook in every course at Calvary University. To facilitate academic level study, students are required to use for assignments and research an English translation or version of the Bible based on formal equivalence (*meaning that the translation is generally word-for-word from the original languages*), including any of the following: New American Standard (NASB, English Standard Version (ESV), New King James (NKJV), or King James (KJV). Other translations and versions based on dynamic equivalence (*paraphrases, and thought-for-thought translations like NLT and NIV*) may be used as supplemental sources. Please ask the professor if you have questions about a particular translation or version.
- Students with disabilities have the responsibility of informing the Accommodations Support Coordinator ([aso@calvary.edu](mailto:aso@calvary.edu)) of any disabling condition that may require support.
- *“Plagiarism is defined as copying any content without identifying the source. This also includes taking another person’s or AI entity’s ideas or constructs and presenting them as your own. The use of AI generated content in student work is prohibited (even if cited) as it does not represent original work created by the student and is an unreliable aggregate of ideas from other sources. Plagiarism of any kind will not be tolerated.”*
- The Clark Academic Center ([learning@calvary.edu](mailto:learning@calvary.edu)) is dedicated to providing free academic assistance for Calvary University students. Student tutors aid with all facets of the writing process, tutor in various subject areas, prepare students for exams and facilitate tests. Please take advantage of this service.

- All class papers must follow the Turabian style according to A Manual for Writers of Research Papers, Theses, and Dissertations, 8th edition and the Calvary Style Guide, 2019 update.
- **In-class attendance and discussion is mandatory and is part of the student’s overall final grade.**
- Grading Scale: See grading scale in the university catalog.

**Approximate course outline:**

- Week 1: Antiquity-Classic Greece (Chapter 1)
- Week 2: Early Church Music (Chapters 2-3)
- Week 3: The Middle Ages (Chapters 4-5)
- Week 5: The Late Medieval Era (Chapters 5-6)
- Week 6: Early Renaissance (Chapters 7-8)
- Week 7: Mid-Renaissance and secular forms (Chapters 9-10)
- Week 8: Catch-up (if necessary, especially on the Madrigal); Midterms
  
- Week 9: The Reformation and Church Music (Chapter 11)
- Week 10: The Rise of Instrumentation Music and the Baroque (Chapters 12-13)
- Week 11: Opera (Chapter 14)
- Week 12: Lesser-known Baroque music (Chapters 15-16)
- Week 13: No Class—Thanksgiving Break
- Week 14: European Music at the end of the Baroque (Chapters 17-18)
- Week 15: The late German Baroque (Chapter 19)
- Week 16: Finals

**Carnegie Units**

Assignments	Tradition class	
	Hours	Assigned
“Seat Time” in class	42	
Reading (pages)	32	500
Research/Presentation prep	35	
Homework/Journals/Exam Prep	22	
Quiz/Final	4	
Total	135	