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Capstone Seminar
in Music History, Theory, and Performance

MUSM 449.01 – 1 credit hour
Friday 9:00-9:50
Spring 2013

ACU Mission Statement: To educate students for Christian service and leadership throughout the world.

Music Department Objective: To develop and inspire students artistically as comprehensive musicians.

Course Description and Objectives

Students will perfect and implement an approach to musical analysis that synthesizes theoretical and historical perspectives and apply this approach to the study of representative repertoire. Terms, genres, composers, and musical styles appropriate to the discussion will be reviewed and studied. Readings and discussions will help guide students to their own assessment of music, and their own musical pursuits, from a Christian perspective. Additionally, students will:

- Recognize and identify terms, genres, and composers of music in the major historical time periods.
- Refine and synthesize skills from the advanced music theory and history courses.
- Formulate and articulate an approach to music (a "philosophy of music").
- Evaluate music from its theoretical, historical, and aesthetic contexts.
- Synthesizing this musical knowledge into practical application in your performance area.
- Develop skills in creating a skills inventory, CV/résumé, taking job interviews, etc.

Course Policies

CLASS AUDIENCE: All music majors in their final year of study will take MUSM 449.
Pre- or Co-requisites: MUST 332 (Forms and Analysis) and MUSM 432 (Music History II: Common Practice Era).

CLASS FORMAT:

The Capstone Seminar will meet in regular classroom sessions to present new ideas, discuss readings, take style identification quizzes, present in-class analyses, etc.

Since this class only meets once a week, it is critical that you check the blog for updates on class projects, and other information. This should be done at least once a day (Monday-Friday) and once over the weekend. Emails will sometimes direct you to the check the blog for important information.

- Wold, Milo, et al. An Outline of Western Music, 9th ed. Boston: McGraw-Hill, 1998.
- Various readings throughout the semester.

ATTENDANCE: Regular attendance is expected and will be taken daily. The standard "20% rule" will be enforced: the student will either be dropped (before the deadline) or given an F in the course (after the deadline to drop) on the 4th absence. After one unexcused absence, each subsequent unexcused absence will result in the loss of one letter grade for the semester.

GRADING: (NOTE: Course weights are tentative and subject to change. I will inform you of any changes immediately.)

The course grade will be made up of the following components:

Participation and In-Class Quizzes 20%
Weekly Assignments (all) 30 %
Research Project 25%
Final Exam (take-home and in-class) 25%
Total: 100 %

Grade Breakdown:

A=100-90% B=89-80% C=79-70% D=69-60% F= < 60%

Cell Phone/Mobile Device Policy: Cell phones and smart devices can be incredibly useful in a review course such as this. Use such devices in a way that moves the class forward. Please be respectful in your uses of technology at all times.

Statement on Academic Integrity: Doing your own work is crucial to your future. Cheating in this class is unacceptable and will result in a failing grade. If you are in a situation where you must ask yourself if it constitutes cheating, it probably does... just don't do it. It's hard to exhibit your own Christian Worldview in someone else's work.

ASSIGNMENTS: There will be an assignment/s on most weeks. Most assignments will be due on the next Friday, but some shorter assignments will be due earlier in the week. Some assignments will take place on the blog and may result in longer participation times. There will be some in-class quizzes, as well. Examples of assignments include:

- Score identification, and other analytical exercises
- Part-writing and analysis assignments
- Reading assignments on overviews of various historical/style periods
- Readings with response papers covering various philosophical and religious views of music
- Writing assignments, including a Philosophy of Music (or Music Education)
- A comprehensive inventory of your achievements providing an easy resource for job or graduate school applications.

RESEARCH PROJECT:

One of our main objectives in the Capstone Seminar is to develop skills in holistic thinking about music and your role in it. The research project is designed to help you apply your knowledge of historical, theoretical (harmonic and formal), and aesthetic considerations to music from a range of style periods. The project will consist of several individual assignments all connected to your senior recital or to another cumulative performance project selected in consultation with your studio teacher and me.

- 1) You will complete a musico-historical, and theoretical analysis of your repertoire.
- 2) A discussion of a theological approach to the artistic process and your implementation of these concepts. (Refer to *The Liberated Imagination* by Ryken, which you read in Music History I)
- 3) A summative reflection (2000 words) of your performance in the artistic process. This section should occur in two stages, one immediately following the recital and a subsequent evaluation after sometime has past and you review the recording. This should include a short analysis by your major professor and your response to his/her analysis referencing any differences or similarities in your own evaluation.
- 4) A final reflection detailing your plans for future artistic ventures and plans for application of changes to your artistic process.