

Music 89 / Philosophy 89
Music & Philosophy
Spring 2011

- Lecturers:** Mr. Finson; office: Hill Hall 211; office hours: 9:30-10:30 MW or by appointment; email: jfinson@email.unc.edu; Mr. Lycan; office: Caldwell Hall 215-B; office hours: 2-4 W, or by appointment; email: ujanel@email.unc.edu
- Text:** *Emotion and Meaning in Music* by Leonard Meyer
- Listening:** Selected works available on the website for this course; a matching set of compact discs on reserve at the Music Library, ground floor of Wilson Library
- Description:** We will explore and discuss philosophical questions as they apply to music, such as “What does music mean?”; “Does music narrate?”; “Does music have emotional content?”; “What is a musical work?”; “What is ‘authentic’ performance?”; “How can one tell good music from bad music?”; and so forth.
- Format:** Three seminar meetings per week
- Grades:** Class participation and debate: 10%; this component will include attendance (you have three unexcused absences), 15% for team reports. 3 papers (limit 4 pages) exploring issues raised in class by applying them to music of your choosing (to be approved in advance): 25% each.

Schedule

Jan.	10	Mon.	Introductions
	12	Wed.	What Does Music Mean?: read Meyer, "Introduction" and pp. 1-22; discussion
	14	Fri.	Musical Meaning: Meyer 22-32; discussion; Elements of Music

	17	Mon.	Holiday
	19	Wed.	Musical Meaning: Meyer, 32-43
	21	Fri.	Presentation of Brahms, Academic Festival Overture presented by Team 1 (sonata form)
	24	Mon.	Brahms, Tragic Overture presented by Team 2
	26	Wed.	Can Music Narrate?: read Abbate, chap. 2 on E-reserve
	28	Fri.	Further discussion of Abbate; " The Apprentice in Magic " by Goethe
	31	Mon.	Dukas, The Sorcerer's Apprentice presented by Team 3
Feb.	2	Wed.	Read Berger, " Diegesis and Mimesis "
	4	Fri.	Further discussion of Berger
	7	Mon.	Mendelssohn, Chopin, Ballade in G minor , Op. 23 presented by Team 3
	9	Wed.	Paper 1 due; discussion
	11	Fri.	Paper 1 discussion
	14	Mon.	What Is a Musical Work?: read Lydia Goehr, " Being True to the Work "
	16	Wed.	Further discussion of Goehr
	18	Fri.	Lieber & Stoller, "Hound Dog" as performed by Thornton or Presley presented by Team 4
	21	Mon.	Read Levinson, " What a Musical Work Is "

- 23 Wed. Handel, *Messiah*, "Rejoice Greatly" as performed by the [Gabrielli Consort](#) or [Academy of St. Martin in the Fields](#) presented by Team 5
- 25 Fri. Can One Reasonably Tell Good Music from Bad?: read Meyer, "[Some Remarks on Value and Greatness in Music](#)"
- 28 Mon. Further Discussion of Meyer
- Mar.** 2 Wed. Read Davies, "The Evaluation of Music" on E-reserve
- 4 Fri. Further discussion of Davies
- 7 Mon. Spring Break
- 9 Wed. Spring Break
- 11 Fri. Spring Break
- 14 Mon. Opening of Rodger's and Hammerstein's *South Pacific* presented by Team 1
- 16 Wed. Opening of Bernstein and Sondheim's *West Side Story* presented by Team 2
- 18 Fri. Paper 2 due; discussion
- 21 Mon. Paper 2 discussion
- 23 Wed. "Authentic" Musical Performance: read Godlovitch, "[The Integrity of Musical Performance](#)"
- 25 Fri. Further discussion of Godlovitch
- 28 Mon. Bach, *Ein' feste Burg*, mvt. 1, ([text](#)), performed by [Harnoncourt](#) and [Richter](#) presented by Team 3
- 30 Wed. Read Young, "[The Concept of Authentic Performance](#)"

April	1	Fri.	Further discussion of Young
	4	Mon.	Mahler, Fourth Symphony, mvt. I as performed by Wilhelm Mengleberg or Fritz Reiner presented by Team 4
April	6	Wed.	Can Music Disclose the Supernatural?: Read E. T. A. Hoffmann, "Beethoven's Instrumental Music"
	8	Fri.	Further discussion of Hoffmann
	11	Mon.	A Visit to the Digital Concert Hall
	14	Wed.	Beethoven's Fifth Symphony, mvt. I presented by Finson
	15	Fri.	Beethoven's Fifth Symphony, mvt. II presented by Finson
	18	Mon.	Beethoven's Fifth Symphony, mvt. III-IV presented by Team 5
	20	Wed.	Paper 3 due; discussion
	22	Fri.	Holiday
	25	Mon.	Paper 3 discussion
	27	Wed.	paper 3 discussion