

TWU Music History Placement Examination for Incoming Graduate Students

This examination is designed to evaluate your general knowledge of Western music history from Antiquity to the present day. The recommended media for study are:

- 1.) Burkholder, Peter, Donald J. Grout, and Claude V. Palisca. *A History of Western Music*, 9th edition (Norton, 2014)
- 2.) Hanning, Barbara Russano. *Concise History of Western Music*, 5th ed. (Norton, 2014).
- 3.) *Norton Anthology of Western Music*, 7th edition (Norton, 2014) (score anthology and audio excerpts)

The exam is divided into four sections:

I. Multiple choice/Fill-in-the-blank: 35 items in a mixed format of multiple choice questions and fill-in-the-blank solutions.

II. Matching. Match 10 significant works of music with their composer.

III. Terminology ID. You will be provided a list of terms. Select 10 and define briefly. See the terminology study guide below for a list of terms that will be selected for the exam.

IV. Listening ID. 5 musical excerpts will be played. You will identify the date, stylistic era, composer, and genre of the selection.

Students must score at least 75% on each section to pass the exam. If a passing score is not earned on any one section of the exam, you may be required to take remedial coursework.

The exam is given prior to the beginning of both the Fall and Spring Semesters. Please check the TWU music website (www.twu.edu/music) for the exact date and time.

For more information, contact Dr. Cory Gavito, Assistant Professor of Musicology: cgavito@twu.edu

EXAM SAMPLE ITEMS

SECTION 1: MULTIPLE CHOICE

EXAMPLE. The "galant" style features:

- a. thematic transformation and elongated phrases
- b. modal counterpoint with occasional moments of homophony
- c. atonality and irregular rhythms
- d. regular, periodic phrasing and simple harmonic accompaniment**

SECTION 2: MATCHING

EXAMPLE.

B. Stravinsky

A. Mozart

[etc.]

A. *Don Giovanni*

B. The Rite of Spring

[etc.]

SECTION 3: TERMINOLOGY ID

EXAMPLE. **Cavatina:** *In opera, a character's first entrance aria. Commonly associated with 19th c. Italian opera, such as those by Rossini, Donizetti, Bellini, and Verdi.*

SECTION 4: LISTENING ID

EXAMPLE: Corelli, Trio sonata da chiesa, Op. 3, No. 2, movement 1

Date:

1st century B.C.E.

c. 500

c. 1200

c. 1400

c. 1550

c. 1700

Stylistic era:

Middle Ages

Renaissance

Baroque

Classical

Romantic

Modern

Composer:

Dufay

Palestrina

Bach

Anonymous

Landini

Corelli

Genre:

Motet

Opera

Sequence

Cantata

Trio sonata

TERMINOLOGY STUDY GUIDE

In addition to identifying representative composers and works from all stylistic periods, you should be familiar with the following terms and concepts. The terms on Part 3 of the exam will be taken from this list.

Tetrachord	<i>Concerto delle donne</i>	Absolute music
Greater Perfect System	<i>Ricercare</i>	Program music
Gregorian chant	<i>Cori spezzati</i>	Character piece
Mass Proper	<i>Le nuove musiche</i>	<i>Idée fixe</i>
Mass Ordinary	<i>Basso continuo</i>	<i>Bel canto</i>
The Divine Office	<i>Basso ostinato</i>	<i>Cabaletta</i>
Church modes	Monody	<i>Cavatina</i>
Solmization	<i>Seconda prattica</i>	<i>Tempo di mezzo</i>
Antiphon	<i>Cantata</i>	<i>Melodrama</i>
Sequence	<i>Oratorio</i>	Grand opera
<i>Troubador</i>	<i>Sonata da camera</i>	<i>Gesamtkunstwerk</i>
<i>Trobairitz</i>	<i>Sonata da chiesa</i>	<i>Leitmotiv</i>
<i>Minnesinger</i>	<i>Concerto</i>	Mighty Handful
Organum	<i>Concerto grosso</i>	Symphonic poem
<i>Magnus liber organi</i>	<i>Ritornello</i>	<i>Verismo</i>
Motet	<i>Tragédie en musique</i>	Minstrelsy
Rhythmic modes	French <i>ouverture</i>	Blues
<i>Ars nova</i>	Suite	Ragtime
Isorhythm	<i>Style brisé</i>	Jazz
<i>Ars subtilior</i>	<i>Agréments</i>	Orchestral song
<i>Trecento</i>	<i>Aria da capo</i>	Operetta
<i>Formes fixes</i>	Doctrine of Affections	Impressionism
<i>Squarcialupi codex</i>	<i>Opera seria</i>	Pentatonicism
<i>Hocket</i>	<i>Zarzuela</i>	Octatonicism
<i>Contenance angloise</i>	<i>Empfindsam</i>	Expressionism
<i>Fauxbourdon</i>	<i>Galant</i>	Atonality
Cantus firmus mass	<i>Opera buffa</i>	2nd Viennese School
Imitation mass	<i>Intermezzo</i>	12-tone serialism
Paraphrase mass	<i>Alberti bass</i>	<i>Sprechstimme</i>
<i>Musica ficta</i>	Symphony	<i>Klangfarbenmelodie</i>
<i>Dodekachordon</i>	<i>Opéra comique</i>	<i>Ballet Russes</i>
Chorale	Sonata-Allegro Form	Neoclassicism
Metrical psalm	Rondo	Polytonality
Anthem	Mannheim school	Socialist realism
<i>chanson</i>	<i>Sturm und Drang</i>	<i>Les Six</i>
Council of Trent	Piano sonata	<i>Gebrauchsmusik</i>
<i>Frottola</i>	<i>Heiligenstadt testament</i>	Darmstadt School
Madrigal (16th c.)	Song cycle	<i>Musique concrète</i>
	Romanticism	Indeterminacy
	<i>Lieder</i>	Minimalism