

Department.: Music Department

Course number: MUSI 258W

Course title: Form and Analysis II

Credits: 3

Contact Person: Glenn Stanley

Catalog Copy: 258W. Form and Analysis II (fall semester) 3 credits

Prerequisite: MUSI 257; ENGL 105 or 110 or 111 or 250.

Structural analysis of and writing about complex musical genres and ideas, including opera, late 19 th -century and early 20 th -century music, and related readings. Continuation of MUSI 257. Emphasis on the larger works of the 19 th century and 20 th -century styles.

W Criteria: 1. There generally are 3 major papers for the class, working from shortest and most constrained with respect to topic, to a final project entailing a formal presentation on a topic of the student's choice. At least fifteen pages of revised, edited writing will be required. With respect to the all-important skill of constructing and researching a topic, students progress from, e.g., writing up an analysis of an individual work, to constructing a topic based on intensive study of a selected opera (for which they also attend a performance), to choosing music and topic for the final project. The 3 papers count for approximately 75% of the grade, with approximately 1/2 of that devoted to the “W” component (the other 1/2 to quality of content). (Exams and smaller assignments count for the remaining 25%.) Students cannot pass the course without passing the writing component.

2. Written commentary and individual conferences provide the primary modes of writing instruction. As noted above, critical reading of selected essays and articles also provides models for scholarly writing. Generally for at least one of the papers, students also pair off and read each other's papers, i.e., peer editing in addition to instructor's remarks. The idea here is to foster the connection between critical reading and developing critical awareness as a writer. There is some formal instruction to the class at the start of the term as well; but the “primary modes” carry over throughout the term.

3. Students turn in first drafts for all three papers. They receive a preliminary score based on a rubric taking into account technical and stylistic aspects, as well as content assessment, as well as detailed comments. Each student then meets with the instructor in individual conference. The total number of revised written pages for this course is a minimum of 15 multiple-draft pages. They have sufficient time (at least a week) to make revisions and turn in a revised draft, at which point they receive a final grade and revised score based on the rubric.

Role of Grad Students: N/A

