

PERF 1023 WESTERN ART MUSIC HISTORY

Credit Points 10

Legacy Code 102546

Coordinator Jacob Leonard ([https://directory.westernsydney.edu.au/search/name/Jacob Leonard/](https://directory.westernsydney.edu.au/search/name/Jacob%20Leonard/))

Description This subject explores a range of musical works, styles, genres and composers from the Middle Ages to the twenty-first century. It shows how music evolved through the centuries, suggesting that stylistic changes are linked to innovative musical thinking on the one hand and conformity to established practices on the other. The subject asks how and why different genres and styles in different periods in western art music history come to the foreground while others recede into the background. Within a socio-historical context, the subject investigates the practices that produce musical innovation and considers how the various historical epochs have shaped our understanding of music. The subject includes some rudimentary music analysis and key terminologies and music vocabularies.

School Humanities & Comm Arts

Discipline Music

Student Contribution Band HECS Band 2 10cp

Check your fees via the Fees (https://www.westernsydney.edu.au/currentstudents/current_students/fees/) page.

Level Undergraduate Level 1 subject

Equivalent Subjects CART 1005 - Music History 1 PERF 1021 - Western Art Music 1

Learning Outcomes

On successful completion of this subject, students should be able to:

1. name significant composers, works and musical genres associated with western art music
2. aurally recognise music composed in the historical epochs of the western art music
3. define key terms associated with western art music
4. analyse the structural elements of music composed in different epochs of the western art music tradition
5. evaluate the extent to which music composed in the different historical epochs conforms to or deviates from established practices
6. explain what the terms 'modernism' and 'postmodernism' mean and how they are applied to more recent western art music.
7. Those attending Art of Sound will be able to participate meaningfully in Art of Sound activities and projects, working with students across the Music program to develop collaborative, technical and performance skills. Involvement in Art of Sound will culminate in attending the Creativity Unlimited Music Festival.

Subject Content

Styles and genres

Historical epochs from the Middle Ages to the present day

Significant composers

Technological and musical innovations

The ways in which musical styles and practices become established

Popular and folk music in different periods

The relationship of folk music to nationalism

Assessment

The following table summarises the standard assessment tasks for this subject. Please note this is a guide only. Assessment tasks are regularly updated, where there is a difference your Learning Guide takes precedence.

| Type | Length | Percent | Threshold | Individual/ Group Task | Mandatory |
|---------------|---|---------|-----------|------------------------|-----------|
| Presentation | (a) 15 minutes (20%); (b) 2,000 words (15%) | 35 | N | Individual | Y |
| Quiz | (a) Two Listening Tests (15 mins each) (20%); (b) Six online quizzes (10 mins each) (15%) | 35 | N | Individual | Y |
| Essay | 2,000 words | 30 | N | Individual | Y |
| Participation | Minimum 2 hours per fortnight | S/U | Y | Individual | Y |

Teaching Periods

Autumn (2025)

Penrith (Kingswood)

On-site

Subject Contact Jacob Leonard ([https://directory.westernsydney.edu.au/search/name/Jacob Leonard/](https://directory.westernsydney.edu.au/search/name/Jacob%20Leonard/))

View timetable (https://classregistration.westernsydney.edu.au/odd/timetable/?subject_code=PERF1023_25-AUT_KW_1#subjects)