

Course Content:

The course will examine music by the primary composers of the period.(Schumann, Schubert, Mendelssohn, Chopin, Brahms, Liszt, Wagner, Berlioz, Saint-Saens, Franck, Mahler, Bruckner, Wolf, Tchaikovsky, Grieg, Massenet, Bizet, Verdi, Mussorgsky, Rimsky-Korsakov, Richard Strauss, etc.) Examples of the primary genre of the era will be surveyed in relation to the composers listed above. (Opera, Art Song, Chamber Music combinations, Solo Piano Music, Concerti, Symphony, and Tone Poem.)

I will make in class presentations of selected works from the composers listed above, which will survey the genre of the period. Each of my presentations will concentrate on theoretical analysis which highlights the technical details that are indigenous to “The Romantic Style”. I will also discuss various aesthetic maxims of the era as they relate to each work.

TEXTS:

No required text. I recommend that you augment the in class presentations with your own reading from the large number of books in the library about the Romantic Period, and individual books on the various composers. One of the basic survey books which is very good is: Music In The Romantic Era by Alfred Einstein. It is a Norton Publication.

GRADING:

Final Examination - 66% of the grade. This exam will be given during Finals week, and will include an Essay, and an Analysis of a short work which requires you to discuss the “Romantic Theoretical” aspects of the composition. This will be in the vernacular of my in class presentations.

Course Project- 33% of the grade. The last two class meetings will consist of your presentations for your colleagues of a major Romantic work. The project will be chosen with instructor approval, and should include theoretical and aesthetic observations. Please make the score and written copies of your analysis and insights available for each class member.