Basic Elements of Music

Prof. Enrico Girardi

***COURSE AIMS AND INTENDED LEARNING OUTCOMES***

The course is designed for students with insufficient knowledge of the elements of music to undertake detailed musical studies and aims to provide an overview of the main genres and forms of music. It also complements the musical studies on the interfaculty two-year specialised course. The intended learning outcomes are mainly availability and ability to learn the musical “language”; secondly, students’ aptitude to discover how music forms and genres, current and past ones, directly depend on the nature of this language.

***COURSE CONTENT***

1. The elements of music.

2. Musical forms and genres.

3. Types and geography of Italian musical institutions.

***READING LIST***

1. Girardi, *Elementi di grammatica e sintassi della musica,* CUSL, Milan 1997.

2. Woodstra-Brennan-Schrott, *All Music Guide to Classical Music.* *The Definitive Guide to Classical Music,* Backbeat Books, Milwaukee 2005 (in particular, the essays and sections on forms and genres in opera); or,

3. Rattalino, *Il linguaggio della musica,* Garzanti, Milan 1997.

Audio/video/digital material will also be available on Blackboard.

***TEACHING METHOD***

Lectures heavily integrated with audio/video/digital material. Direct involvement of students in practical activities during the seminar part of the course.

***ASSESSMENT METHOD AND CRITERIA***

The exam will be conducted orally. As well as their knowledge of course contents, students will also be assessed on their mastery of subject-specific terminology. Following the analysis of a short music fragment, students will have to answer a series of questions on the music forms and genres covered in the course. Assessment will be equally based on students’ ability in the analytical part and on their knowledge of the theoretical part.

***NOTES AND PREREQUISITES***

The exam for attending students will be based on the contents addressed in class.

There are no prerequisites for students who intend to attend this course.

Further information can be found on the lecturer's webpage at http://docenti.unicatt.it/web/searchByName.do?language=ENG or on the Faculty notice board.