Foundations of Sacred Music
(MUSM 5284 and MUAG 4740)

Instructors: Dr. Michael Conrady (professor of record) and Dr. Joshua Taylor
Email: Michael.Conrady@unt.edu and Joshua.Taylor@unt.edu

Course Description
This course is an introduction to the historical, theological, and biblical foundations of sacred music. The class will also explore the use of the lectionary and church year in planning along with suggested repertoire and resources. The goal of this class is to help students explore, analyze, and engage sacred music through the chronicling of historical developments and engagement with historical voices and narratives.

Course Structure and Calendar
This course is designed to be a combination of asynchronous and synchronous learning. Our class meets Thursdays from 2:25 to 5:15 p.m. In addition to our weekly class meetings, you will be able to access reading assignments, video lectures, and podcasts via Canvas at any time throughout the week. You will also be able to participate in Canvas group chat discussions regarding the material. There are 14 modules of course content, in addition to our final examination. I will open up a new module each week.

Aug 20
1. Course Introduction

Aug 27
2. Music Making in the Hebrew Context

Sep 3
3. Psalmody

Sep 10
4. The Hellenistic Influence

Sep 17
5. The Apostolic and Post-Apostolic Period

Sep 24
6. Patristics and the Developing Church

Oct 1
7. Chant and The Carolingian Renaissance

Oct 8
8. Medieval Christianity and Organum

MIDTERM EXAM (Time and Date TBA)

Oct 15
9. Polyphony!

Oct 22
10. Luther and the Reformation

Oct 29
11. Sacred Music in the Baroque Era

Nov 5
12. Classical and Romantic Eras

Nov 12
13. Quires and Organs: The Anglican Tradition

Nov 19
14. A Rich Tapestry: Our American Tradition

Dec 1
FINAL EXAM

Attendance

Because this course only meets once a week, your attendance at each session is critical. Each unexcused absence will lower your final grade by 5 percentage points.

Communication

- Instructors: Dr. Michael Conrady (professor of record) and Dr. Joshua Taylor
- Office Hours: By appointment (zoom or phone).
- Phone: (214) 228-6413
- Email: Michael.Conrady@unt.edu and Joshua.Taylor@unt.edu

If you have a private question, please contact me via email and I will respond within 24 hours (usually sooner). Weekends may take a little longer. Please use my phone number as a last resort - but, also, please use it if you need- emergencies happen!

Required Texts

Dowley, Tim (2018). Christian Music: A Global History. Augsburg Fortress. ISBN: 978-0800698416

Eicher, David, ed. (2013). Glory to God: The Presbyterian Hymnal (Purple Pew Edition). Westminster John Knox Press. ISBN: 978-0664503130

Witviliet, John D, et al. Psalms for All Seasons: A Complete Psalter for Worship. Brazos Press. ISBN: 978-1587433160

Other selected text excerpts will be made available to you as the course progresses.

Course Reading List

The reading list for this course is posted in a table below. The primary textbook is Christian Music: A Global History by Tim Dowley. We will read through the text in a mostly chronological fashion.There will be additional readings interspersed with our primary text that will allow us to dialogue in depth with three influential figures: Plato, Augustine, and Luther. These readings will be provided for you in the course of the semester. Optional readings are purely elective, but are available to students who wish to deepen their understanding of the topics at hand.

Due Date - Module	**Assigned Readings**
Aug 27- Music Making in the Hebrew Context	Dowley: Chapter 1
Sep 3- Psalmody	Dowley: Chapter 2
Sep 10- The Hellenistic Influence	"Music in Ancient Greece" by Quentin Faulkner Optional: "The Survival of Greek Music Theory" by Egon Wellesz, Pg. 46-52.
Sep 17- The Apostolic and Post-Apostolic Period	Optional: "Exaltation of the Rational: Treatment of Music by Plato and St. Augustine" by Ariana Phillips, Pg. 1-5
Sep 24- Patristics and the Developing Church	Dowley, Chapter 3 "Augustine and the Art of Music" by Carol Harrison, pg. 27-36
Oct 1- Chant and The Carolingian Renaissance	Dowley, Chapter 4 "Augustine and the Art of Music" by Carol Harrison, pg. 26-45
Oct 8- Medieval Christianity and Organum	Dowley, Chapter 5
Oct 15- Polyphony!	Dowley, Chapter 6
Oct 22- Luther and the Reformation	Dowley, Chapter 7 "Why Do Lutherans Sing? Lutherans, Music, and the Gospel in the First Century of the Reformation" by J. Andreas Loewe. Pg. 69-77 Optional: "'*Musica est optimum*': Martin Luther's Theory of Music" by J. Andreas Loewe, Pg. 575-578, 581-593

Oct 29- Sacred Music in the Baroque Era	Dowley Chapters 10 and 11
Nov 5- Classical and Romantic Eras	Dowley, Chapters 12-13
Nov 12- Quires and Organs: The Anglican Tradition	Dowley Chapters 8 and 14
Nov 19- A Rich Tapestry: Our American Tradition	Dowley, Chapter 15

Course Activities & Assessments (100 points total)

Activities

- Canvas discussion forums (10 points)
- Class discussions/attendance (10 points)
- Liturgical Planning Assignment (20 points)

Assessments

- Quizzes (4 @ 2.5 points, 10 points total)
- Midterm Exam (25 points)
- Final Exam (25 points)

Grading

- A: 90-100% (Outstanding, excellent work. The student performs well above the minimum criteria.)
- B: 80-89% (Good, impressive work. The student performs above the minimum criteria.)
- C: 70-79% (Solid, college-level work. The student meets the criteria of the assignment.)
- D: 60-69% (Below average work. The student fails to meet the minimum criteria.)
- F: 59 and below (Sub-par work. The student fails to complete the assignment.)

Grade-related Policies

Late Work

We will not accept late work in this course. All work turned in after the deadline will receive a grade of zero unless the student has an university-excused absence and provides documentation with 48 hours of the missed deadline.

Turnaround Time

We aim to return graded work to you within two weeks of the due date. When this is not possible, we will send an announcement to the class.

Grade Disputes

Please wait 24 hours before contacting me to dispute a grade. Within that time, we expect that you will review the assignment details and reflect on the quality of the work you turned in. If you would still like to meet, email us to set up a meeting (We cannot discuss grades over email). You should come to our scheduled meeting with specific examples that demonstrate that you earned a higher grade than you received. If you miss your scheduled meeting, you forfeit your right to a grade dispute. If you do not contact us to schedule a meeting within seven days of receiving your grade, you also forfeit your right to a grade dispute.