

SAMPLE SYLLABUS

NYU Prague

Expressive Culture: Prague Music Field Study

Spring 2022

Course Format: In-Person

Time Zone: CET

Spring 22

You may be taking courses at multiple locations this semester. If you are enrolled in this course 100% **remotely** please make sure that you have completed the online academic orientation via Brightspace so you are aware of site specific support structure, policies and procedures. **Please contact the site Academic Director (vanda.thorne@nyu.edu) if you need more assistance.**

If you are attending **in person**, you will be assigned a seat on the first day and are expected to use that seat for the entire semester due to NYU COVID-19 safety protocol. Please note that you are expected to attend every class meeting in-person; however, this may change at any point during the semester if local COVID-19 regulations require additional physical distancing.

Instructor Information

TBA

Course Information

- Number: CORE-UA9731P01
- Name: Expressive Culture: Prague Music Field Study
- Meets: Wednesdays, 1:30 - 4:20 + 8-9 p.m*., Hrabal Classroom, RD
- [NYU Prague Academic Calendar](#)

(* The evening time and place will vary according to concerts, which are indicated in bold type in the Course Schedule below.)

Course Overview and Goals

This is a chance to immerse yourself in the musical culture of Prague. You will attend five music performances together with the class and one on your own. Each of the concerts will be in a different genre, and performed in a different sort of venue. Each concert will be preceded by a lecture/listening session, sometimes involving the actual performers; you will also be assigned a reading excerpt relevant to the music you will hear. The concerts, scheduled about once every two weeks on Wednesday evenings when possible, will be supplemented by architecture walks and museum visits, which will take place during class time.

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In addition, you will undertake a Personal Connection Project („PCP“), in groups of two or three, in which you will choose a local genre, performer or composer to research. The research will include reading relevant contextual material, attendance at a live concert or rehearsal, and an interview with a performer. You will share your project with the class in an oral presentation, which will take place in the second half of the semester.

You will summarize your experience of Prague through the course in two term papers and a final TED Talk script, in lieu of midterm and final exams.

As a Core Course, this experience may be the first in-depth experience of music for you, but it is also suitable for music majors and those with a long experience of music; we address the relationship of music to the surrounding culture, and ask big questions concerning the role of music in human life.

The course uses diverse formats: lectures, discussions, field trips, interviews, performances, etc.

Course goals:

- to experience Prague in depth through her music and unique spaces
- to widen your range of experience in hearing diverse musical genres
- to draw conclusions about the relationship of the arts to their surrounding culture
- to develop your ability to talk and write about music
- to attain a deeper understanding of the unique power of music in human life

Upon Completion of this Course, students will be able to:

Express their progress in all five of the above goals in written and oral form, with introspection and detail.

Course Requirements

- attendance at all concerts outside of class time (five with class, one on your own)
- weekly short readings and brief responses
- 3 concert reflections (1000 words)
- 2 term papers (2000 words each)
- 1 final TED Talk script (1500 words)
- 1 oral presentation (10-15 min. per person)
- (no midterm or final exams)

Class Participation

Because the class meets only once a week, maintaining the NYU Attendance Policy is crucial. All students are expected to take part in discussion, and are requested to not open laptops or look at cell phones during class.

Assignment 1

Weekly short readings, listening excerpts and brief responses on NYU Classes

Assignment 2

2 Term papers, 2000 words each

Assignment 3

3 concert reflections, 1000 words each

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Assignment 4

Oral presentation in small group, 10-15 minutes/person

Assignment 5

Final TED Talk script, 1500 words

Tests & Quizzes

Occasional brief quizzes and reading checks in class

Assessment Expectations

Assignments will be returned on NYU Brightspace with detailed comments

Grading of Assignments

The grade for this course will be determined according to the following formula:

| Assignments/Activities | % of Final Grade (rough guidelines only) |
|---|---|
| Short reading responses, quizzes | 15% |
| Two midterm papers, 2000 wds. each | 30% |
| Three concert reflections, 1000 wds. each | 20% |
| Oral Presentation | 10% |
| Final TED Talk script (1500 wds.) | 10% |
| Class participation, effort, progress | 15% |

Letter Grades

Letter grades for the entire course will be assigned as follows:

Grade A: Student makes outstanding* progress towards understanding and expressing the course concepts

Grade B: Student makes good progress towards understanding and expressing the course concepts

Grade C: Student makes some progress towards understanding and expressing the course concepts

Grade D: Student makes little progress towards understanding and expressing the course concepts

Grade F: Student makes no progress towards understanding and expressing the course concepts

*Instructor will provide detailed rubrics for graded work to help the student understand the criteria for assessing students' progress: percentages do not apply in this course.

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Course Schedule

Note: All dates and times of concerts and assessments are subject to change, depending mainly on the health situation at the given time.

Topics and Assignments

| Week/Date | Topic | Reading/Listening | Assignment Due |
|--|---|--|---|
| Session 1 Wednesday, January 26 | --Introduction: syllabus, concerts, assignments, grading, questionnaires, etc. --walk through Old Town | — | — |
| Session 2 Wednesday, February 2 | -- discuss reading, Listening Log -- Lecture: <i>Musical Elements #1: Writing About Music</i> Concert #1: Jazz Trio at Agharta Jazz Club 6-7:15 p.m | -- Ivan Klima, <i>The Spirit of Prague</i> -- Paul Wilson, <i>A Prague Chronology</i> | -- <i>Music Listening Log</i> --quiz on <i>Prague Chronology</i> -- discuss reading |
| Session 3 Wednesday, February 9 | --Lecture: <i>Social and Cultural Contexts</i> --Architecture walk #1: Gothic, Renaissance, Baroque | -- Four music reviews online | -- Concert Reflection #1, Jazz Trio: (due Friday Feb.11) |
| Session 4 Wednesday, February 16 | -- Baroque architecture walk with organ demo in Loreta Church | -- Joseph Kerman, "The Late Baroque Period", pp.110- 118 | -- Responses to cultural contexts questions |
| Session 5 Wednesday, February 23 | Lecture: <i>Musical Elements #2: The Baroque Style</i> | -- Joseph Kerman, "The Late Baroque Period", pp.118- 123 | - Arch. walk notes |
| Session 6 Wednesday, March 2 | Lecture: <i>Musical Elements #3: Classic, 19th-Century, Zemlinsky Quartet Preparation</i> | Smetana's <i>The Moldau</i> , guided listening | -- Term paper #1: <i>Organ Walk Letter</i> (due Friday Mar.4) |
| Session 7 Wednesday, March 9 | Concert #2: Zemlinsky String Quartet, RD, 7:30-9:00 p.m. | -- Zemlinsky Quartet excerpts -- Dvorak letter | -- ZQ quiz -- ZQ listening responses |
| Wednesday, March 16 | SPRING BREAK - NO CLASSES | | |
| Session 8 Wednesday, March 23 | Lec/Disc: <i>Music Worlds</i> Concert #3: Moravian Folk Ensemble, RD, 5-6:20 p.m. | -- Milan Kundera, <i>The Joke</i> (excerpt) | -- reading discussion |
| Session 9 | -- Lecture: <i>Dvorak's opera Rusalka</i> | Alex Ross: <i>Listen to This</i> | -- <i>Listen to This</i> notes --Term paper #2 notes |

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|---------------------------------------|---|---|--|
| Wednesday, March 30 | | | |
| Session 10, Wednesday, April 6 | -- Tour of National Theater, 3-4 Concert #4: <i>Rusalka</i>, National Theater, Tuesday Apr.12,7 P.M. | -- Bazant, <i>From National . . . to Cosmopolitanism</i> , 1867-1918 -- K.J. Erben, <i>The Water Sprite</i> | Term paper #2: <i>Music Worlds</i> (due April 8) |
| Session 11, Wednesday, April 13 | -- <u><i>Rusalka</i> discussion</u> -- <u>PCP Group A</u> | <i>Rusalka</i> listening excerpts | <i>Rusalka</i> chart (due Tuesday, May 12, 5 p.m.) |
| Session 12 Wednesday, April 20 | National Gallery Tour (PCP Group B) | Tony Ackerman, <i>The Buchta Theory and Perina Syndrome</i> | <i>Buchta Theory</i> responses |
| Session 13 Wednesday, April 27 | PCP groups C,D Concert #4 TBA | --- | Work on PCP's |
| Session 14 Wednesday, May 4 | --PCP groups E,F,G attend NYU final concerts (TBA) | --- | TED Talk proposal |
| Session 15 Wednesday, May 11 | Closure: Why Make Music? | --- | TED Talk final script due Thurs. May 12 |

Course Materials

- Instructor will distribute or post relevant readings and listening links each week. Below are some of the sources from which short excerpts will be chosen:
 - *The Czech Reader*, Bazant, Bazantova and Stern, eds.
 - *The Spirit of Prague*, by Ivan Klima
 - *Listen*, by Joseph Kerman
 - *The Joke*, by Milan Kundera
 - *Listen to This*, by Alex Ross
 - *The Buchta Theory and the Perina Syndrome*, by Tony Ackerman

Resources:

- **Access your course materials:** [Brightspace](#)
- **Databases, journal articles, and more:** [Bobst Library](#) (library.nyu.edu)
- **Assistance with strengthening your writing:** [NYU Writing Center](#) (nyu.mywconline.com)
- **Obtain 24/7 technology assistance:** [IT Help Desk](#) (nyu.edu/it/servicedesk)
- **NYU Prague library:** [Tritius Catalog](#) (https://nyu.tritius.cz/?lang=EN)

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Course Policies

ECPM Classroom Etiquette

For in-person classes: let us be guided by common courtesy, respect for others, and the will to maintain a focused learning environment. The following guidelines will help:

- Please arrive on time – your active participation is necessary from the beginning.
- The class meets from 1:30 - 4:20. When possible, there will be a break in the middle when you can have a snack, otherwise please ask permission if you need to eat during the class. Water is allowed at all times. You may leave to go to the restroom at any time without asking.
- Please do not open laptops or look at cell phones unless expressly asked to by the professor.
- If deemed necessary by the study away site (ie COVID related need), synchronous class sessions may be recorded and archived for other students to view. This will be announced at the beginning of class time.

Attendance and Tardiness

Studying at Global Academic Centers is an academically intensive and immersive experience, in which students from a wide range of backgrounds exchange ideas in discussion-based seminars. Learning in such an environment depends on the active participation of all students. And since classes typically meet once or twice a week, even a single absence can cause a student to miss a significant portion of a course. To ensure the integrity of this academic experience, class attendance at the centers, or online through NYU Brightspaces if the course is remote synchronous/blended, is expected promptly when class begins. Attendance will be checked at each class meeting. If you have scheduled a remote course immediately preceding/following an in-person class, you may want to write to Academic Director Vanda Thorne (vt21@nyu.edu) to see if you can take your remote class at the Academic Center.

As soon as it becomes clear that you cannot attend a class, you must inform your professor and/or the Academic Director Vanda Thorne (vt21@nyu.edu) by email immediately (i.e. before the start of your class). **Absences are only excused if they are due to illness, Moses Center accommodations, religious observance or emergencies.** Your professor or site staff may ask you to present a doctor's note or an exceptional permission from an NYU Staff member as proof. Emergencies or other exceptional circumstances that you wish to be treated confidentially must be presented to staff. Doctor's notes must be submitted in person or by e-mail to the Academic Director, who will inform your professors.

Unexcused absences may be penalized with a two percent deduction from the student's final course grade for every week's worth of classes missed, and may negatively affect your class participation grade. Four unexcused absences in one course may lead to a Fail in that course.

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Being more than 15 minutes late counts as an unexcused absence. Furthermore, your professor is entitled to deduct points for frequently joining the class late.

Exams, tests and quizzes, deadlines, and oral presentations that are missed due to illness always require a doctor's note as documentation. It is the student's responsibility to produce this doctor's note and submit it to site staff; until this doctor's note is produced the missed assessment is graded with an F and no make-up assessment is scheduled. In content classes, an F in one assignment may lead to failure of the entire class.

Regardless of whether an absence is excused or not, it is the student's responsibility to catch up with the work that was missed.

Late Submission of Work

1. Work submitted late receives a penalty of 2 points on the 100 point scale for each day it is late (including weekends and public holidays), unless an extension has been approved (with a doctor's note or by approval of NYU SITE Staff), in which case the 2 points per day deductions start counting from the day the extended deadline has passed.
2. Without an approved extension, written work submitted more than 5 days (including weekends and public holidays) following the submission date receives an F.
3. Assignments due during finals week that are submitted more than 3 days late (including weekends and public holidays) without previously arranged extensions will not be accepted and will receive a zero. Any exceptions or extensions for work during finals week must be discussed with the Site Director.
4. Students who are late for a written exam have no automatic right to take extra time or to write the exam on another day.
5. Please remember that university computers do not keep your essays - you must save them elsewhere. Having lost parts of your essay on the university computer is no excuse for a late submission.

Final Exams

Final exams must be taken at their designated times. Should there be a conflict between final exams, please bring it to the attention of the site Academic Director as soon as this is known to facilitate alternate arrangements. Final exams may not be taken early, and students should not plan to leave the site before the end of the finals period.

Academic Honesty/Plagiarism

According to the Liberal Studies Program Student Handbook, plagiarism is defined as follows:

Plagiarism is presenting someone else's work as though it were one's own. More specifically plagiarism is to present as one's own a sequence of words quoted without quotation marks from another writer, a paraphrased passage from another writer's work; facts or ideas gathered, organized and reported by someone else, orally and/or in writing. Since plagiarism is a matter of fact, not of the student's intention, it is crucial that acknowledgment of the sources be accurate and complete. Even where there is no

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conscious intention to deceive, the failure to make appropriate acknowledgment constitutes plagiarism.

The College of Arts and Science's Academic Handbook defines plagiarism similarly and also specifies the following:

“presenting an oral report drawn without attribution from other sources (oral or written), writing a paragraph which, despite being in different words, expresses someone else's idea without a reference to the source of the idea, or submitting essentially the same paper in two different courses (unless both teachers have given their permission in advance).

Receiving help on a take-home examination or quiz is also cheating – and so is giving that help – unless expressly permitted by the teacher (as in collaborative projects). While all this looks like a lot to remember, all you need to do is give credit where it is due, take credit only for original ideas, and ask your teacher or advisor when in doubt.”

“Penalties for plagiarism range from failure for a paper, failure for the course or dismissal from the university.” (**Liberal Studies Program Student Handbook**)

Inclusivity Policies and Priorities

NYU's Office of Global Programs and NYU's global sites are committed to equity, diversity, and inclusion. In order to nurture a more inclusive global university, NYU affirms the value of sharing differing perspectives and encourages open dialogue through a variety of pedagogical approaches. Our goal is to make all students feel included and welcome in all aspects of academic life, including our syllabi, classrooms, and educational activities/spaces.

Attendance Rules on Religious Holidays

Members of any religious group may, without penalty, excuse themselves from classes when required in compliance with their religious obligations. Students who anticipate being absent due to religious observance should notify their lecturer AND NYU SITE's Academics Office in writing via email one week in advance. If examinations or assignment deadlines are scheduled on the day the student will be absent, the Academics Office will schedule a make-up examination or extend the deadline for assignments. Please note that an absence is only excused for the holiday but not for any days of travel that may come before and/or after the holiday. See also [University Calendar Policy on Religious Holidays](#)

Pronouns and Name Pronunciation (Albert and Zoom)

Students, staff, and faculty have the opportunity to add their pronouns, as well as the pronunciation of their names, into Albert. Students can have this information displayed to faculty, advisors, and administrators in Albert, Brightspace, the NYU Home internal directory, as well as other NYU systems. Students can also opt out of having their pronouns viewed by their instructors, in case they feel more comfortable sharing their pronouns outside of the classroom. For more information on how to change this information for your Albert account, please see the [Pronouns and Name Pronunciation website](#).

Students, staff, and faculty are also encouraged, though not required, to list their pronouns, and update their names in the name display for Zoom. For more information on how to make this change, please see the [Personalizing Zoom Display Names website](#).

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Moses Accommodations Statement

Academic accommodations are available for students with documented and registered disabilities. Please contact the Moses Center for Student Accessibility (+1 212-998-4980 or mosescsd@nyu.edu) for further information. Students who are requesting academic accommodations are advised to reach out to the Moses Center as early as possible in the semester for assistance. Accommodations for this course are managed through NYU Prague.

Bias Response

The New York University Bias Response Line provides a mechanism through which members of our community can share or report experiences and concerns of bias, discrimination, or harassing behavior that may occur within our community.

Experienced administrators in the Office of Equal Opportunity (OEO) receive and assess reports, and then help facilitate responses, which may include referral to another University school or unit, or investigation if warranted according to the University's existing Non-Discrimination and Anti-Harassment Policy.

The Bias Response Line is designed to enable the University to provide an open forum that helps to ensure that our community is equitable and inclusive.

To report an incident, you may do so in one of three ways:

- Online using the [Web Form \(link\)](#)
- Email: bias.response@nyu.edu
- Phone: 212-998-2277