

Musical Criticism

Code: 100644
ECTS Credits: 6

Degree	Type	Year	Semester
2500240 Musicology	OT	3	2
2500240 Musicology	OT	4	2

Contact

Name: Francesc Xavier Chavarria Talarn

Email: francescxavier.chavarria@uab.cat

Teaching groups languages

You can check it through this [link](#). To consult the language you will need to enter the CODE of the subject. Please note that this information is provisional until 30 November 2023.

Prerequisites

No prerequisites required, although basic knowledge of technical vocabulary from different musical fields -i.e. classical, urban, contemporary, traditional music- is recommendable.

Objectives and Contextualisation

- Identify the main processes that make up musical communication and learn to describe them appropriately
- Have up-to-date observation and critique tools available to apply to observations of musical situations
- Know the new digital media, social networks and apps, shaped as a tool for dissemination and music criticism
- Enrich the possibilities of oral expression in the analysis of musical situations
- Write short critical writings aimed at various supports (blogs, IG posts, short radio spots, etc.)
- Develop critical thinking about musical facts and Musicology in a way that contributes in the future to improving the field of studies

Competences

Musicology

- Identify and compare the different channels of reception and consumption of music in society and in culture in each period.

- Relate concepts and information from different humanistic, scientific and social disciplines, especially the interactions which are established between music and philosophy, history, art, literature and anthropology.
- Relate musical creations with their different contexts, differentiating between the social functions of music, its roles and that of the musician in society and in relation to other artistic manifestations.
- Students must be capable of applying their knowledge to their work or vocation in a professional way and they should have building arguments and problem resolution skills within their area of study.
- Students must be capable of collecting and interpreting relevant data (usually within their area of study) in order to make statements that reflect social, scientific or ethical relevant issues.
- Students must be capable of communicating information, ideas, problems and solutions to both specialised and non-specialised audiences.
- Students must have and understand knowledge of an area of study built on the basis of general secondary education, and while it relies on some advanced textbooks it also includes some aspects coming from the forefront of its field of study.
- Take sex- or gender-based inequalities into consideration when operating within one's own area of knowledge.

Learning Outcomes

1. Accurately describing the artistic object with the specific language of art criticism.
2. Apply the conceptualisation of philosophy, history, literature and anthropology to musical research.
3. Communicate using language that is not sexist or discriminatory.
4. Develop habits for transfer to the ambit of musical dissemination and information the musical training acquired.
5. Establishing relationships between science, philosophy, art, religion, politics, etc.
6. Evaluate the consumption of music in contemporary society.
7. Identify the complexity of music reception processes.
8. Identify the connections between current musical creation and the sociopolitical and cultural circumstances in which it takes place.
9. Integrate knowledge acquired in the production of clear and concise appropriate to the academic and specialist communication.
10. Produce correct, precise and clear argumental and terminological writing of knowledge acquired, both in the area of musical specialisation and dissemination.
11. Producing a written text that is grammatically and lexically correct.
12. Summarizing the characteristics of a written text in accordance to its communicative purposes.

Content

1. Write about music. Listen, describe, explain
2. Strategies for musical criticism: a diachronic vision
3. Institutions and discourse in music criticism
4. Music criticism and mass media: what media for which kind of music?
5. Writings and audiovisuals for criticism in social and new medias

Methodology

The course encourages an open format of a seminar, with an active learning that involves all the students. The course contents will be achieved mainly from the reading and critical discussion of the course readings and other materials, as well as the analysis and debate on the proposed audiovisual cases. Supervised work in the classroom will be done in person in the classroom.

Throughout the theoretical-practical class sessions, collective work on various audiovisual and written materials will be shared. The work material will be proposed mainly by the teaching staff, although the

contribution of the students will be encouraged. Collaborative work will also be promoted in small groups in the classroom, organized to reflect and discuss the proposed materials, from which written or audiovisual materials will be derived and considered in the final evaluation.

These activities will be complemented, insofar as circumstances permit, with attending live concerts from which the student will have to prepare critical works that will be presented throughout the course.

Annotation: Within the schedule set by the centre or degree programme, 15 minutes of one class will be reserved for students to evaluate their lecturers and their courses or modules through questionnaires.

Activities

Title	Hours	ECTS	Learning Outcomes
Type: Directed			
Attendance to live concerts, which will be the material to prepare the pieces of criticism	10	0.4	
Theoretical and practical classes	50	2	11, 1, 7, 5, 8
Type: Supervised			
Personal or group tutorials (online or offline)	5	0.2	
Support for the personal exercises in writing and audiovisual format	20	0.8	2, 1, 4, 5, 8
Support to prepare the individual composition of written pieces about live concerts	5	0.2	2, 6, 10, 11, 1, 4, 7, 8, 9
Type: Autonomous			
Personal work analysis and study on bibliographic and audiovisual materials proposed for the course	34	1.36	2, 4, 5, 9, 12
Personal work in audiovisual supports related to music criticism	10	0.4	2, 6, 10, 11, 1, 4, 7, 8, 9
Personal work on writing exercises related to music criticism	10	0.4	2, 1, 4, 5, 8, 9

Assessment

CONTINUOUS ASSESSMENT

There will be three assessable activities that will be scheduled and announced in class and on Moodle:

-Written exam corresponding to the first part of the subject (30%).

-Written exam corresponding to the second part of the subject (30%).

-A series of writing assignments, concert review practices, and audiovisuals done in groups (30%).

The remaining 10% will be assessed on the basis of class attendance, participation in class debates, and the proactive attitude towards the case studies presented by the teaching staff.

The subject offers the possibility of assessment. To be able to access assessment, students must have previously been assessed in a set of activities whose weight is equivalent to a minimum of 2/3 parts of the total qualification. To be able to access assessment, you must have obtained a minimum average rating of 3.5.

Students will obtain a Not assessed/Not submitted course grade unless they have submitted more than 1/3 of the assessment items.

On carrying out each evaluation activity, lecturers will inform students of the procedures to be followed for reviewing all grades awarded, and the date on which such a review will take place.

SINGLE ASSESTMENT

-Written exam corresponding to the first part of the subject (35%).

-Written exam corresponding to the second part of the subject (35%).

-A series of writing assignments, concert review practices, and audiovisuals (30%).

The date will be published in the Campus Virtual.

In the event of a student committing any irregularity that may lead to a significant variation in the grade awarded to an assessment activity, the student will be given a zero for this activity, regardless of any disciplinary process that may take place. In the event of several irregularities in assessment activities of the same subject, the student will be given a zero as the final grade for this subject. Assessment acts in which there have been irregularities of this type cannot be recovered.

Assessment Activities

Title	Weighting	Hours	ECTS	Learning Outcomes
Exercises (writing and audiovisual formats) related to music criticism	30%	2	0.08	2, 6, 3, 10, 11, 1, 4, 7, 5, 8, 9, 12
Proactive attitude and participation in class activities	10%	0	0	2, 6, 3, 10, 11, 1, 4, 7, 5, 8, 9, 12
Test (I)	30%	2	0.08	2, 6, 3, 10, 11, 1, 4, 7, 5, 8, 9, 12
Test (II)	30%	2	0.08	2, 6, 3, 10, 11, 1, 4, 7, 5, 8, 9, 12

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Software

No specific software needed