
Music Appreciation

OSHER 196-001**Dates:** Thursdays: September 3 – October 8**Time:** 1:30 pm – 3:00 pm**Location:** Online via Zoom**Instructor:** Geraldine Johnson**Course Description:**

Beginning with the origins of musical notation and continuing to the modern symphony hall, we will explore the history and sound of Western classical music. Who were Bach, Mozart, Beethoven, and Brahms? Why do they continue to be household names, and why does their music sound the way it does? This course will enable students to recognize different musical styles and intelligently discuss their opinions and observations on music, based on historical facts and correct vocabulary. Come explore this complex art in a friendly, interactive, and informative environment!

Course Overview:

- Week 1:** Vocabulary
Origins of the musical notation system
Pre-Common Era music
- Week 2:** Baroque music (approx. 1600-1750)
Johann Sebastian Bach
Georg Frederic Handel
Antonio Vivaldi
Uses of secular vs sacred music
- Week 3:** Classical music (approx. 1730-1820)
Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart
Franz Josef Haydn
Support by aristocracy

- Week 4:** Romantic music (approx. 1820-1900)
Ludwig von Beethoven
Franz Schubert
Hector Berlioz
Rise of “middle class music” and “inspired artist”
- Week 5:** Romantic music (approx. 1820-1900)
Johannes Brahms
Richard Wagner
Programmatic vs Traditional form
- Week 6:** 20th Century music
Sergei Prokofiev
Dmitri Shostakovich
John Williams
Relevance of classical tradition? What is classical music at this point?