

## MUH 7938: Musicology Seminar: Alban Berg and Serialism (Class number 21758)

University of Florida, Spring 2020

Wednesday 4:05-7:05 pm (Period 9-11), MUB 146

Dr. Silvio dos Santos

Office: MUB 353 (under renovation, spring 2020)

Office Hours: by appointment

Phone: (352) 273-3151 (not online in spring 2020)

E-mail: [sjdossantos@ufl.edu](mailto:sjdossantos@ufl.edu)

### COURSE DESCRIPTION

This seminar focuses on Alban Berg's serial works from 1925 to 1935, from the compositional process to the finished work. In order to understand the symbolism behind musical structures, we will address the historical and cultural contexts within which this composition was engendered. The goal of this course is twofold: to establish a variety of methodologies, including structural analysis and exploration of primary sources for the understanding of immanent structures in the work; and to explore interdisciplinary approaches for the cultural interpretation of music and its codes. Seminar participants will produce case reports and an extended research paper that elaborates on one of the topics discussed in class. All participants will present their papers to the seminar at the end of the semester. Although knowledge of German is not a pre-requisite, students would benefit from it, as many of the secondary sources are in that language.

### TEXTBOOK

No textbook is required for this seminar. Some of Berg's collected works are on the non-circulating section of the Music Library. I will place scores on reserve, but please do not annotate the Library's books and scores. I will also place related books on reserve. Articles are available in the Library's collection, the various E-storages, or through interlibrary loan.

### REQUIREMENTS AND GRADING

- Attendance and participation in seminar discussion is expected.
- Seminar participants will lead discussion on one or more assigned readings. All participants are required to complete all assigned reading and participate in discussion.
- Case reports will consist of critical responses to articles or analytical problems presented in class. I will distribute handouts with detailed instructions as classes progress.

### Grades will be based on the following

- Class Participation 15%
- Case Reports 40%
- Final Paper and presentation 45%

### Grading scale

A: 94-100	B+: 88-90	C+: 78-80	D+: 68-70	E: 0-60
A-: 91-93	B: 84-87	C: 74-77	D: 64-67	
	B-: 81-83	C-: 71-73	D-: 61-63	

**ACADEMIC HONESTY**

The theft of intellectual property is taken very seriously in this class. All student work must be original. Plagiarism or cheating will be dealt with according to the policies outlined in the university bulletin and student handbook (see [www.dso.ufl.edu/judicial/procedures/studenthonorcode.php](http://www.dso.ufl.edu/judicial/procedures/studenthonorcode.php) for more information). See the *Chicago Manual of Style* if you have any questions regarding proper citations in the humanities. All written work must be submitted through Canvas to be graded.

**ADDITIONAL RESOURCES**

1. If you have a documented disability and require accommodations to obtain equal access in this course, please contact me privately to discuss your specific needs. Please visit the Disability Resources Program office for more information. It is located at P202 Peabody Hall, E-mail [accessuf@dso.ufl.edu](mailto:accessuf@dso.ufl.edu); Phone 392-1261; TDD 392-3008.
2. Students are encouraged to use the Campus Writing Center for extra help with the writing assignments. Students who use the Writing Center must submit all drafts of the paper, including the suggestions and revisions from the center. If you are asked to use the writing center, you will be expected to do so and to submit all drafts of your paper. Information about the center is available at [www.at.ufl.edu/r&w/](http://www.at.ufl.edu/r&w/).
3. Resources are available on campus for students having personal problems that affect academic performance or difficulty defining career and academic goals:
  - Student Mental Health for personal counseling; Student Mental Health Care Center, 392-1171.
  - Center for Sexual Assault/Abuse Recovery Services, Student Health Care Center, 392-1161.
  - Career Resource Center, career development assistance and counseling; Reitz Union, 392-1601.
  - **Counseling Center**, 3190 Radio Rd.; Phone: 352-392-1575; Web: [www.counsel.ufl.edu](http://www.counsel.ufl.edu)
4. Please do not hesitate to come by during office hours or contact me to schedule appointments. I am interested in your success and hope you will feel free to express any questions, ideas, or concerns you might have.

**Planned Units**

Given the nature of this seminar, the schedule of topics will be flexible to accommodate research interests of participants. We will explore topics and bibliographies in the first two weeks, then organize discussions and presentations according to the following:

Week 1. Introduction

Week 2. Topics and Annotated bibliographies

Weeks 3-5. Unit I: Musical Language

Week 6-8. Unit II: Formal Structures

Weeks 9-12. Unit III: Musical Characterization

Weeks 13-14. Unit IV: Socio Cultural Representations

Weeks 15-16. Student Presentations

**Possible Topics Include:**

Large formal subdivisions: Variations, Palindromes	Use of traditional forms, including Variations, Sonata Form, Rondo,
Musical Language:	Row derivations, Tonality and atonality, Appropriation of Jazz
Musical Characterization:	Lulu, Geschwitz, Dr. Schön, Schigolch, Alwa, Painter Prince/Manservant/Marquis
Socio-cultural aspects: Identity	Gender Relations, Sexuality, Marriage, Berg and the Press, Censorship,