

## **MUSIC 662, Introduction to Research in Music (Fall 2009)**

**Prof. Steve Gerber**

### **Guidelines for Final Projects**

#### **#11**, SEMINAR PRESENTATION (12 points)

You will formally present to our seminar group either an abbreviated version of your research paper or a pointed discussion of some noteworthy aspect of the related research, wherein a claim or claims is/are made and persuasively supported. The time-limit is **25 minutes maximum** (20 minutes is OK), with 5 additional minutes allowed for any questions, observations, or discussions from the floor. Due either **December 3 (Group A)** or **December 10 (Group B)**; make-up of groups and exact location TBA.

Your presentation must have a **title** and must include:

- (1) a short preparatory **reading** (no more than 1200 words) related to your topic,
- (2) a one- to three-page **handout** of some kind, printed in copies sufficient for everyone, that assists your audience in some way (be sure to **label this** with your name, presentation title, and date; definitely include an **abstract** of your talk), and
- (3) the incorporation of some kind of **multimedia** use into the presentation (such as live performance, playing short audio or video excerpts, use of PowerPoint slides or overhead transparencies, using the blackboard (whiteboard?), leading class in an exercise or drill; etc.). In other words, do more than merely to read a paper as a “talking head.”

The reading assignment is to provide a bit of background or context for your presentation and can be a **short** article or article-extract from an available online journal, or a **short** *Grove Music Online* encyclopedia entry (or excerpt thereof), **short** section(s) of a credible and informative website, etc.; please **email the exact citation to instructor** by 8 pm on the Saturday before your presentation, and I will compile and forward all of them to the class email list the next day. All seminar participants are expected to read these before the presentations (that’s why they must be short!). Conduct yourself professionally, as if at a scholarly conference—jeans, t-shirts, hoodies, sweats, flip-flops, sneakers and the like are inappropriate. A suit or blazer with dress shirt and tie are appropriate for men, and equivalent business/professional apparel is expected for women (military personnel can be in dress uniform if desired; a “costume” is OK if essential to a presentation). Be sure to rehearse your presentation for fluency in speaking and smoothness in

media usage, and be “engaging” (smile, speak with animation, make eye-contact, etc.). LET ME KNOW if you need to play a CD or DVD, or if you need to use a PIANO. Most students in the past have used PowerPoint slides, often from a flash drive; let me know if you plan to do this. Once everyone’s equipment needs are clear, the schedule and room can be finalized.

***Scoring of seminar presentation:***

Content, organization, articulateness, 3 points	Preparedness and fluency, 1 point
Handout, 2 points	Interaction with audience, 1 point
Pacing of 25-minute frame, 2 points	Media usage, 1 point
Appearance and poise, 1 point	Reading assignment, 1 point

**#11, RESEARCH PAPER (20 points)**

This scholarly paper incorporates the findings of your personal research on the topic of your choice into a concise, carefully-documented essay that makes a **claim** and persuasively concludes with some **original insight** into the material investigated, such as an evaluation, an interpretation, a recommendation, a definition/redefinition, an analysis, a discovery, etc. The essay proper must be preceded by a declarative **Abstract** (ca. 50-125 words), and followed by a **Bibliography** of all sources cited; essay length should be from 10 to 15 pages double-spaced (not counting the bibliography and any other back-matter). Formatting of footnotes and bibliographic references, as well as any illustrations, tables, musical examples, or appendixes must conform to Turabian (or to instructor’s guidelines). Please use **section-headings** in this paper. You will be evaluated both on form/mechanics and on content/organization. Due on **December 3 (Group B) or December 10 (Group A)**. All papers will be available for pickup in my mailbox in the school of music office by 2 pm on Monday, December 14, OR you may clip to your paper a large, self-addressed envelope, stamped with correct postage, for return by mail.

***Scoring of research paper:***

<b>Content, 8 points</b> (clarity, accuracy, and originality of thesis and contextual description of topic; strength of supporting details, examples, documentation, and argumentation; ease of navigation and effectiveness of transitions; persuasiveness; significance of conclusion).	spelling and punctuation; comprehensibility of sentence and paragraph structures).
<b>Mechanics, 6 points</b> (accuracy of grammar; appropriateness of style; correctness of	<b>Format, 4 points</b> (length, sectioning, numeration, and conformity of layout to specifications; proper formatting of footnotes, references, illustrative materials).
	<b>Vocabulary, 2 points</b> (clarity, variety, sophistication).