

The Hebrew University of Jerusalem

Syllabus

Post-tonal Theories (Theory III) - 23603

Last update 07-08-2023

HU Credits: 2

Degree/Cycle: 1st degree (Bachelor)

Responsible Department: Musicology

Academic year: 0

Semester: 1st Semester

Teaching Languages: Hebrew

Campus: Mt. Scopus

Course/Module Coordinator: Dr. Assaf Shelleg

Coordinator Email: shelleg.assaf@mail.huji.ac.il

Coordinator Office Hours: Tuesdays (by appointment)

Teaching Staff:

Dr. Talia Amar

Course/Module description:

“Post-Tonal Theories” aims at exposing students to modern and contemporary repertoire. The class explores the current musicological discourses surrounding this repertoire while equipping students with new analytical tools; at the same time, the class situates the various compositions under discussion (see full syllabus) in the cultural networks that saw their emergence. Beyond evident stylistic changes, “Post-Tonal Theories” will focus on the proliferation of serialism in modern music and its impact on the decentering of pitch in contemporary music—especially its impact on timbre, which has become a constituent variable in the compositional practice of the last sixty years. Musical literacy, too, has registered these changes, giving birth to graphic and textual formations that either supplement or replace traditional notation. These developments are recorded in works by Arnold Schoenberg, Aaron Copland, Anton Webern, Ruth Crawford-Seeger, Luigi Nono, Luciano Brio, Sofia Gubaidulina, György Ligeti, Helmut Lachenmann, and Rebecca Saunders. Through this wide stylistic gamut (from early serialism through “musique concrète instrumentale” to contemporary music) we would also discuss the aesthetic infrastructure of these works, and at least in two case studies, the political choices that had shaped them.

Course/Module aims:

see syllabus

Learning outcomes - On successful completion of this module, students should be able to:

see syllabus

Attendance requirements(%):

90%

Teaching arrangement and method of instruction:

Course/Module Content:

See syllabus

Required Reading:

See syllabus

Additional Reading Material:

Grading Scheme:

Written / Oral / Practical Exam 90 %

Active Participation / Team Assignment 10 %

Additional information: