The Graduate Placement Examination in Music History is designed to determine if the entering graduate student has a basic grasp of music history—a mastery of the material covered in a good undergraduate survey of music history.

The Placement Examination (4 hours and 10 minutes) has four major sections:

SECTION I (1 hour and 35 minutes) contains the names of nineteen prominent composers drawn from the entire span of Western art music, the Medieval period to the present. For each of these composers, the student is to provide the following information: (1) Time during which the composer was active. Date as closely as possible. (2) Types of works that the composer is famous for writing. (3) Salient musical features of the composer's most characteristic works. (Comment briefly here on the most pertinent of the following: the composer’s use of melody, harmony, rhythm, tone color, texture, form, and/or setting of text.) (4) The composer's major contribution(s) to Western music.

SECTION II (50 minutes) contains ten important terms (symphonic poem and sprechstimme, for example) drawn from the entire span of Western art music. For each of these terms, the student is to provide the following information: (1) A definition (including years associated with the item) (2) The repertoire involved (composers and types of compositions. Name specific compositions wherever possible.) (3) Importance in the development of Western music.

SECTION III (45 minutes) is a short essay prepared by the student before the examination, but written at the examination. Skill in English composition as well as the content of the essay will be evaluated here. Notes on the subject designated cannot be used during the examination. The essay question for the Placement Exam is on page 2 of this description.

SECTION IV (60 minutes) contains six scores to be identified. The student will be given scores drawn from the entire span of Western art music. He/she will also hear a recording of each one of these scores. The student is then to provide the following information about each one of the scores: (1) Type of composition (2) Possible composer (3) Approximate date of composition (4) Three to five significant reasons for the choice of possible composer and/or type of composition. (Here the student might comment on the use of melody, harmony, rhythm, tone color, texture, form, and/or setting of text.)
ESSAY QUESTION FOR THE M.M./M.A. PLACEMENT EXAMINATION IN MUSIC HISTORY

(To be prepared by the student before the examination. Notes may not be used to write the essay at the time of exam, however.)

Ludwig van Beethoven has been depicted as the colossus who strode the "boundary" between the Classic and Romantic periods.

1. In what ways was Beethoven dependent on Classical traditions?

2. In what ways did Beethoven influence the composers of the Romantic era?

Refer to specific compositions wherever possible!

MATERIALS HELPFUL FOR A REVIEW OF UNDERGRADUATE MUSIC HISTORY

The textbooks suggested are:


A two-volume set of CDs accompanies the 2006 edition, and a three-volume set of CDs accompanies the 2009 version. The 2006 edition of CDs is available at the Marriott Library, and a streamed version of the 2009 edition of CDs is available in the School of Music’s McKay Library. Ask at the desk about this streamed version.

The 2009 edition of textbook, three anthologies, and three sets of CDs is probably available at the University of Utah's Campus Store, for it is used in the School of Music's undergraduate music history courses. If you live in Salt Lake City, you might find it there.

Otherwise, you could order whatever textbooks/CD set you feel you need at these websites:

1. www.norton.com

2. www.amazon.com

3. Earlier editions (1996 & 2001) of this same textbook, anthology, and CD set will also serve you well for reviewing music history.

4. Students who have taken their undergraduate courses in music history at the University of Utah may use their textbooks for those classes for their review. Newer editions are not necessary. A streamed version of the listening for Music History 3630 and 3640 (pre-2005/2006 academic year) is available. Note the instructions below for this streamed listening.

If you have any questions, please telephone Dr. Margaret Rorke at 801-581-4824.
Music for Dr. Rorke’s classes is available online from the following URL:

http://rorke.music.utah.edu/streaming/

From this page you can select the course and CD you wish to access. After you have made this selection, you will be prompted for a user name (mhstudent) and password (dytm4!G). Once you have entered the user name and password, you will be sent to the webpage you chose.

All pages with music for Dr. Rorke have a link to the FAQ (Frequently Asked Questions) for listening to the music. While the below is the current FAQ, we recommend that you view the online FAQ for the latest information we have posted.

**FAQ for listening to Dr. Rorke’s online music**

**Note:** These files are streamed from a QuickTime streaming server. You need the free QuickTime Plug-in (QuickTime version 4 or later) for the files to be streamed to you. We have also noted better consistency when using the latest version of QuickTime (QuickTime 7).

Apple, the developer of QuickTime, currently lists the following system requirements for QuickTime 7:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Mac OSX 10.5</th>
<th>Windows</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>An Intel, PowerPC G5 or PowerPC G4 (867 MHz or faster) processor Macintosh computer.</td>
<td>233-MHz Pentium-class processor or better</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>512MB of RAM or more</td>
<td>At least 128MB of RAM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mac OS v10.5 or later</td>
<td>Windows XP (Service Pack 2 or later), Windows Vista or Windows 7</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Apple also has a basic troubleshooting test for Quicktime on its website. Please keep in mind that they are troubleshooting for http streaming, not rtsp, which is how Dr. Rorke's music is streamed; just because their troubleshooting sequence is successful for you, does not rule out the possibility that your firewall (a type of protective gate to block unwanted internet activity and traffic), if you have one, is blocking rtsp streaming.
If you are on a Windows machine, Apple also recommends that you check the following:
1. Make sure that you have the latest drivers for your sound and video cards.
2. Make sure you have a recent version of DirectX installed. DirectX downloads are available from Microsoft’s web site.

**Some common errors we have seen and their solutions are as follows:**

**The page loads, but I get a broken plug-in symbol where the play bar should be.**
» You need to install the QuickTime Player plug-in for your web browser. This is available as part of the QuickTime player installation download on Apple’s web site.

**The QuickTime plug-in is installed, but my system tries to play these files with a different application.**
» Check the settings (preferences and/or configuration options) for QuickTime AND the application that is attempting to play these files. The files are .mov files. Make sure that QuickTime is set to open .mov files and that other applications are not set to play them.

**The stream starts, but it crackles in and out after a few seconds.**
» Make sure that the connection speed in your QuickTime settings really reflects what your connection speed actually is, e.g. if you dial in to your ISP (Internet Service Provider) over a 56K modem, your QuickTime connection speed should be set to 56K.
» For those using a dial-up connection, some improvement has also been seen when QuickTime is updated.

**I press the "play" button, and the play indicator immediately jumps to the end of the bar, but no sound came out.**
» This problem is seen with QuickTime 7 where the connection speed is set to “automatic.” Change the connection speed to reflect your actual connection.

**I press the "play" button, but it doesn't play.**
» This could be a variety of things, but often it is that there is a "404 - file not found" error due to the transport configuration. In this case we recommend running the "Auto Configure..." option under "Streaming Transport" in your QuickTime settings.

» This can also be a result of your computer’s firewall being active. This is rarely a problem anymore, as we are now streaming through port 80. If port 80 is not open on your firewall, you will not be able to access most web sites, not just this streamed content. However, if you need to check your firewall settings, you can follow the steps here:
In **Mac OS X**, you can allow access to the correct ports for streaming as follows:

- Open System Preferences, then click on Sharing.
- Click on the “firewall” tab, if your firewall is enabled, it will be indicated here.
- Click on “new…”
- If rtsp is not one of the preconfigured services allowed, select “other” from the list and type XXX in the field “Port number, Range, or series” and “RTSP” in the field titled “description.”
- Save.

In **Windows XP**, you will need to do the following:

- Open the network connections control panel.
- Right-click on your active network connection and select "properties."
- In the "properties" panel, select the "advanced" tab and then click on "settings..."
- Click on "add..."
- Then add an internal/external TCP entry for rtsp, port 554, and internal/external UDP port entries for udp ports 6970 through 6999 (inclusive). The server name for these entries is [www.music.utah.edu](http://www.music.utah.edu)

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**I have done all that, and it is still not working.**

» Email us at techsupport@finearts.utah.edu with a detailed description of the problem, and we may be able to figure it out.

Please include the following:

The course number for the CDs to which you were trying to listen

Which CD you are trying to listen to. If only a few selections are not playing, also include the names of the selections.

If you are trying to listen to it on- or off-campus

If you are connecting from off-campus, please include the name of your ISP (Internet Service Provider) and your connection type, e.g. cable, DSL, DSL using WiFi.

What your connection speed is set at in your QuickTime settings

What version of QuickTime you are using

What operating system you are using and the version of the operating system, e.g. Windows 7, MacOS 10.5.8

What browser you are using and its version, e.g. Internet Explorer 8, Safari 5.0.5

The day, date, and time you experienced problems.