The Royal Conservatory®
The finest instrument is the mind.

Detailed Course Outline

Middle Ages

Introduction to the Middle Ages
- Overview of music in the Middle Ages
- Roman Catholic Church and music
- Notation
- Texture
- Modes
- Rhythm
- Melodic range
- Sacred versus secular music, a cappella versus instrumental music

Gregorian
- Introduction
- Learning goals
- Gregorian chant
- Musical vocabulary
- Listening guide:
  - ▶ Haec dies chant
- Genre summary

Organum
- Introduction
- Learning goals
- Organum
- Organum (2)
- Musical vocabulary
- Listening guide:
  - ▶ Haec dies (Organum)
- Genre summary

Motet
- Introduction
- Learning goals
- Motet
- Musical vocabulary
- Listening guide:
  - ▶ O mitissima/Virgo/Haec dies
- Genre summary

Chanson
- Introduction
- Learning goals
- Chanson
- Musical vocabulary

- Composer:
  - ‣ Moniot d'Arras
- Listening guide:
  - ‣ Ce fut en mai
- Genre summary

Dance Music
- Introduction
- Learning goals
- Dance music
- Musical vocabulary
- Listening guide:
  - ‣ "Royal Estampie No. 4" from Chansonnier du Roy
- Genre summary

Mass
- Introduction
- Learning goals
- Mass
- Musical vocabulary
- Listening guide:
  - ‣ Kyrie from Messe de Nostre Dame
- Composer:
  - ‣ Guillaume de Machaut
- Genre summary

Renaissance

Introduction to the Renaissance Era
- Introduction
- Learning goals
- Elements of musical style in the Renaissance (1)
- Elements of musical style in the Renaissance (2)
- Selected Renaissance composers
- Summary

Motet
- Introduction
- Learning goals
- Motet
- Musical vocabulary
- Listening guide:
  - ‣ Ave Maria . . . virgo serena
- Composer:
  - ‣ Josquin des Prez
- Genre summary

Mass
- Introduction
- Learning goals
- Mass (1)
- Mass (2)
- Listening guide:
  - ‣ Gloria from Missa Papae Marcelli

- Composer:
    - ‣ Giovanni Pierluigi da Palestrina
- Genre summary

Madrigal
- Introduction
- Learning goals
- Madrigal
- Musical vocabulary
- Listening guide:
    - ‣ Moro, lasso, al mio duolo
    - ‣ My Bonnie Lass She Smileth
- Composer:
    - ‣ Carlo Gesualdo
    - ‣ Thomas Morley
- Genre summary

Keyboard
- Introduction
- Learning Goals
- Keyboard music
- Musical vocabulary
- Listening guide:
    - ‣ The Carman's Whistle
- Composer:
    - ‣ William Byrd
- Genre summary

Baroque

Introduction to the Baroque Era
- Introduction
- Learning goals
- The "Affections"
- Terraced dynamics
- Figured bass and basso continuo
- Rameau's concept of harmony
- Major-minor system, harmonic backbone of the era
- Fortspinnung
- A note on tempo
- Important treatises
- Concerto and suite
- Opera and monody
- Musical vocabulary
- Summary

Opera
- Introduction
- Learning goals
- Opera
- Musical vocabulary
- About L'Orfeo
- Listening guide:
    - ‣ "Tu se' morta" (Orfeo's recitative)

- ‣ "Ahi, caso acerbo" (chorus)
- About Dido and Aeneas
- Listening guide:
  - ‣ "Thy hand, Belinda" (recitative) from "Dido's Lament"
  - ‣ "When I Am Laid in Earth" (aria) from "Dido's Lament"
  - ‣ "With Drooping Wings" (chorus)
- About Giulio Cesare In Egitto
- Listening guide:
  - ‣ "V'adoro pupille" (Cleopatra's aria)
- Composer:
  - ‣ Claudio Monteverdi
  - ‣ Henry Purcell
  - ‣ George Frideric Handel
- Genre summary

Cantata

- Introduction
- Learning goals
- Cantata
- Musical vocabulary
- Cantata No. 80, Ein feste Burg ist unser Gott
- Listening guide:
  - ‣ Movement I (choral fugue)
  - ‣ Movement II (duet for soprano and bass)
  - ‣ Movement V (chorale for unison chorus)
  - ‣ Movement VIII (harmonized chorale)
- Composer:
  - ‣ Johann Sebastian Bach
- Genre summary

Concerto grosso

- Introduction
- Learning goals
- Concerto grosso
- Musical vocabulary
- About the Brandenburg Concerto No. 2 in F Major, BWV 1047
- Listening guide:
  - ‣ Movement I
- Composer
  - ‣ Johann Sebastian Bach
- Genre summary

Suite

- Introduction
- Suite
- Learning goals
- Musical vocabulary
- About Nouvelle suites de pièces de clavecin
- Listening guide:
  - ‣ La poule
- Composer:
  - ‣ Rameau
- About Water Music
- Listening guide:
  - ‣ Movement II (Hornpipe)

- Composer:
  - ‣ Handel
- Genre summary

Classical

Introduction to the Classical Era
- Introduction
- Learning goals
- Importance of form
- Music of the Classical era
- Musical vocabulary
- Summary

Symphony
- Introduction
- Learning goals
- Symphony
- Musical vocabulary
- Symphony No. 104 in D Major ("London")
- Listening guide:
  - ‣ Movement I
- Genre summary

Oratorio
- Introduction
- Learning goals
- Oratorio
- Musical vocabulary
- The Creation
- Listening guide:
  - ‣ No. 12, "And God said: Let there be light" (Uriel's Recitative)
  - ‣ No. 13, "In splendor bright" (Uriel's Recitative)
  - ‣ No. 14, "The Heavens Are Telling the Glory of God" (Chorus and Trio: Gabriel, Uriel, Raphael)
- Composer:
  - ‣ Haydn
- Genre summary

Concerto
- Introduction
- Learning goals
- Concerto
- Musical vocabulary
- Piano Concerto in G Major, K 453
- Listening guide:
  - ‣ Movement I
- Genre summary

Opera
- Introduction
- Learning goals
- Opera
- Musical vocabulary

- The Marriage of Figaro
- Listening guide:
    - ‣ Overture
    - ‣ "Non so più" (Cherubino's Aria)
    - ‣ "Ah! Son perduto" (Recitativo secco: Susanna, Count, Basilio)
    - ‣ "Cosa sento!" (Terzetto: Count, Basilio, Susanna)
- Composer:
    - ‣ Mozart
- Genre summary

Sonata
- Introduction
- Learning goals
- Sonata
- Musical vocabulary
- Piano Sonata in C Minor, op. 13 ("Pathétique")
- Listening guide:
    - ‣ Movement I
    - ‣ Movement II
    - ‣ Movement III
- Genre summary

Chamber music
- Introduction
- Learning goals
- Chamber music
- Musical vocabulary
- String Quartet in C sharp Minor, op. 131.
- Listening guide:
    - ‣ Movement I
- Composer:
    - ‣ Beethoven
- Genre summary