

HV 619: Nationalism and Exoticism in Western MusicInstructor: Dr. Martin Nedbal (mnedbal@ku.edu)

Class Meetings: Thursdays 2–4 PM

Grading

The final grade will be based on a Final Essay and an Oral Exam.

The ESSAY (in English or Czech) of at least 2000 words including footnotes (Chicago Style) and bibliography. It will be due on Monday, December 21, at noon. For the essay students will chose a musical work that involves national and exotic sentiments. Students write a reflective essay about how that work expresses/enhances/undermines these sentiments.

In January 2022, students will also schedule an ORAL EXAM with the instructor. Students will be asked to discuss their final project and the topics covered in the course throughout the semester.

Class Schedule

September 23

Introduction to Exoticism, Nationalism, and Post-Colonialism in Music

Suggested Reading: John McLeod, “Reading Colonial Discourses,” in *Beginning**Postcolonialism*, 2nd ed., 44–79 (Manchester: Manchester University Press, 2010).Ralph P. Locke, *Musical Exoticism: Images and Reflections* (New York: Cambridge University Press, 2009), chapter 3.

September 30

Baroque Exoticism: Handel and Rameau

Watch: Handel’s *Giulio Cesare* (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=R6DMV8MNwMk>)READ: *New Grove’s* article on *Giulio Cesare*Suggested Reading: Ellen T. Harris, “With Eyes on the East and Ears in the West: Handel’s Orientalist Operas,” *The Journal of Interdisciplinary History* 36, no. 3 (Winter 2006): 419–443.Ralph Locke, *Musical Exoticism: Images and Reflections*, chapter 5.

October 7

Mozart, Exoticism, Nationalism: *The Abduction from the Seraglio* and *Die Zauberflöte*Watch: Mozart’s *Die Entführung aus dem Serail*(<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iYOTeHL14uQ>)READ: *New Grove’s* article on *Die Entführung aus dem Serail*Suggested Reading: Mary Hunter, “The *Alla Turca* Style in the Late Eighteenth Century: Race and Gender in the Symphony and the Seraglio,” in *The Exotic in Western Music*, ed. Jonathan Bellman, 43–73 (Boston: Northeastern University Press, 1998).Ralph Locke, *Musical Exoticism: Images and Reflections*, chapter 6.Martin Nedbal, *Morality and Viennese Opera in the Age of Mozart and Beethoven* (New York: Routledge, 2017), chapter 2.

October 14

Wagner, Weber, and German Nationalism

Watch: Weber's *Der Freischütz* (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=G8GFvzxLq4Y&t=2030s>)

READ: *New Grove's* article on *Der Freischütz*

Suggested Reading: Richard Wagner, "Der Freischütz: To the Paris Public," an essay Wagner originally published in French in the *Gazette Musicale* in 1841.

Stephen Meyer, *Carl Maria von Weber and the Search for a German Opera* (Bloomington: Indiana University Press, 2003), 87-91.

Richard Wagner, *Judaism in Music*, trans. William Ashton Ellis, online.

Richard Wagner's Beethoven (1870), trans. Roger Allen.

October 21

Verdi's *Aida* and European Imperialism

Watch: Verdi's *Aida* (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aU2TlpHhozo>)

READ: *New Grove's* article on *Aida*

Suggested Reading: Paul Robinson, "Is *Aida* an Orientalist Opera?" *Cambridge Opera Journal* 5, no. 2 (July 1993): 133-140.

Ralph P. Locke, "Beyond the Exotic: How 'Eastern' Is *Aida*?" *Cambridge Opera Journal* 17, no. 2 (July 2005): 105-139.

Christopher R. Gauthier and Jennifer McFarlane-Harris, "Nationalism, Racial Difference, and 'Egyptian' Meaning in Verdi's *Aida*," in *Blackness in Opera*, ed. Naomi André, Karen M. Bryan, and Eric Saylor, 55-77 (Chicago: University of Illinois Press, 2012).

October 28

NO CLASS

November 4

French Exoticism

Watch: Saint-Saëns's *Samson et Dalilah*

(<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nGLZZz61aOM&t=3995s>)

READ: *New Grove's* article on *Samson et Dalilah*

Suggested Reading: Ralph Locke, "Constructing the Oriental 'Other': Saint-Saëns's *Samson et Dalila*," *Cambridge Opera Journal* 3, no. 3 (November 1991): 261-302.

November 11

Smetana and Czech National Opera

Watch: Smetana's *The Brandenburgers in Bohemia*

READ: *New Grove's* article on *The Brandenburgers in Bohemia*

Suggested Reading: David Brodbeck, "Hanslick's Smetana and Hanslick's Prague," *Journal of the Royal Musical Association* 134, no. 1 (2009): 1-36.

Kelly St. Pierre, "Vyšehrad and Mythologies of Czechness in Scholarship," *19th-Century Music* 37, no. 2 (Fall 2013): 91-112.

Martin Nedbal, "Smetana's *The Brandenburgers in Bohemia* and Czech Nationalism: A Historical Reevaluation," *Music & Politics* 14, no. 1 (Winter 2020),

<https://quod.lib.umich.edu/m/mp/9460447.0014.102/--smetana-s-the-brandenburgers-in-bohemia-and-czech?rgn=main;view=fulltext>.

November 18

Russian Nationalism and Exoticism

Watch: Borodin's *Prince Igor* (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9TxRDYUEcOY&t=801s>)

READ: *New Grove's* article on *Prince Igor* + Richard Taruskin's *New Grove's* article on Nationalism

Suggested Reading: Richard Taruskin, "Entoiling the Falconet: Russian Musical Orientalism in Context," in *The Exotic in Western Music*, ed. Jonathan Bellman, 194–217 (Boston: Northeastern University Press, 1998).

November 25

Exoticism in Vienna (*Land of Smiles* and *West Side Story*)

Watch: Lehár's *Das Land des Lächelns* (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HoK9aFz-fP8>)

READ: *New Grove's* article on *Das Land des Lächelns* and *West Side Story*

Watch: Lehár's *Das Land des Lächelns*

Suggested Reading: Cornelia Szabò-Knotik, "Calafati, Sou-Chong, Land Land, and Li Wei: Two Hundred Years of "the Chinese" in Austrian Music, Drama, and Film," in *China and the West: Music, Representation, and Reception*, ed. Yang Hon-Lun and Michael Saffle (Ann Arbor: University of Michigan Press, 2017), 65–84.

Martin Nedbal, "Exoticism, Race, and the Broadway Musical in the 'City of Waltzes': Marcel Prawy's 1968 *West Side Story* Production at the Vienna Volksoper," *The Cambridge Companion to West Side Story*, ed. Paul Laird and Elizabeth Wells (New York: Cambridge University Press, forthcoming).

December 2

Exoticism, Gender, and Sexuality (Bizet and Britten)

Watch: Bizet's *Carmen* (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lsJbyeKZmhA>)

New Grove's article on *Carmen*

Suggested Reading: Ralph, *Musical Exoticism*, Chapter 7 (on *Il trovatore* and *Carmen*)

Martin Nedbal, "*Carmen* for the Czechs and Germans 1880–1945," in *Carmen Abroad: Bizet's Opera on the Global Stage*, ed. Richard Langham Smith and Clair Rowden (New York: Cambridge University Press, 2020), 215–229.

December 9

Nationalism and Exoticism in America

Listen: Dvořák *New World* Symphony

Suggested Reading: Michael Beckerman, *New Worlds of Dvořák: Searching in America for the Composer's Inner Life* (New York: Norton, 2003), chapters 1–4.

Douglas W. Shadle, *Antonín Dvořák's New World Symphony* (New York: Oxford University Press, 2021).

December 16

Discussion of Final Projects