



Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences
Music

Syllabus

Musical knowledge I, Western classical music

Course Code:	KOGV21
Course Title:	Musical knowledge I, Western classical music <i>Musikkunskap I, västerländsk konstmusik</i>
Credits:	7.5
Degree Level:	Undergraduate level
Progressive Specialisation:	First cycle, has only upper-secondary level entry requirements (G1N)

Major Field of Study:
MUK (Fine Arts/Music)

Course Approval

The syllabus was approved by the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences 2026-02-16, and is valid from the Autumn semester 2026 at Karlstad University.

Prerequisites

Admitted to the Bachelor Programme in Music (HGMSK).

Learning Outcomes

Upon completion of the course, students should be able to:

1. analyse and notate basic harmonies in Western music, specifically Viennese Classical Period, and apply basic principles of voice leading in accordance with the Western functional harmonic tradition,
2. carry out basic instrumentation for various string instruments,
3. reflect upon their own and other persons attitudes towards musical conventions and norms,
4. identify, analyse, and perform rhythm, melody, and harmony in Western tonal music at a basic level, and
5. apply the basics of notational software and recording software (DAW).

Content

Harmonics and harmonic progression in Western music, specifically Viennese Classical Period, are discussed. Presentations of and practical exercises in ear training in Western tonal music are included, as well as instrument knowledge and instrumentation for various string instruments. Potential applications of notation and sequencer software in different musical and artistic contexts are introduced and practised.

Instruction is in the form of group tutorials and seminars.

Reading List

See separate document.

Examination

Learning outcomes 1 and 2 are assessed based on individual written assignments.
Learning outcome 3 is assessed based on individual oral presentations discussed in seminars.
Learning outcome 4 is assessed based on individual musical performance.
Learning outcome 5 is assessed individually based on written and creative hand-in assignments.

Submissions for assessment must clearly indicate individual contributions.

If students have a decision from Karlstad University entitling them to Targeted Study Support due to a documented

disability, the examiner has the right to give such students an adapted examination or to examine them in a different manner.

Grades

One of the grades VG (Pass with Distinction), G (Pass), or U (Fail) is awarded in the examination of the course.

Quality Assurance

Follow-up relating to learning conditions and goal-fulfilment takes place both during and upon completion of the course in order to ensure continuous improvement. Course evaluation is partly based on student views and experiences obtained in accordance with current regulations and partly on other data and documentation. Students will be informed of the result of the evaluation and of any measures to be taken.

Course Certificate

A course certificate will be provided upon request.

Additional information

The local regulations for studies at the Bachelor and Master levels at Karlstad University stipulate the obligations and rights of students and staff.

This course is included in the Bachelor Programme in Music (HGMSK).