



FACULTY OF ARTS AND SOCIAL SCIENCES
MUSIC

Musical knowledge II, Western classical music

Musikkunskap II, västerländsk konstmusik

Course code: KOGV22

Credits: 7.5

Education level: First cycle

Progressive specialisation: First cycle, has less than 60 credits in first-cycle course/s as entry requirements (G1F)

Main field of study: MUK (Music)

Approved by

Faculty Board of Arts and Social Sciences, 20 August 2026

Effective from

Spring semester 2027

Entry requirements

Registered for KOGV00 Main instrument I, Western classical music (15 credits), KOGV02 Ensemble I, Western classical music (7.5 credits), and KOGV21 Musical knowledge I, Western classical music (7.5 credits). An equivalence assessment can be made.

Learning outcomes

Upon completion of the course, students should be able to

1. give an account of and apply basic principles for the sonata form and advanced principles of voice leading in Viennese classicism,
2. identify, transcribe into notes and symbols, analyse, and demonstrate the rhythm, melody and harmony of Western tonal music,
3. give an account of the Western music tradition from antiquity to the Baroque era and demonstrate how societal and cultural contexts have determined the conditions for musicmaking in different epochs,
4. provide examples of the music repertoire in Western music from the Middle Ages to the Baroque era,
5. identify and analyse music from the Middle Ages to the Baroque era from musical and stylistic perspectives,
6. reflect critically upon the writing of music history and canon formation in the Western music tradition from antiquity to the Baroque era, and
7. play simple solo pieces and scales and cadences on the piano.

Content

The course examines form, harmony and compositional technique in Western Viennese classical music in depth. The course also includes lectures and practical exercises in ear training within Western tonal music and notation. Elementary solo pieces, scales and cadences are played on the piano. The course covers Western music history from antiquity to the Baroque era. The aesthetics and function of music in society are discussed, as well as different approaches to music conventions and norms from a historical perspective.

Instruction is in the form of group lessons, individual tutorials and seminars.

Reading list

See separate document.

Examination

Learning outcome 1 is assessed based on individual written assignments.

Learning outcome 2 is assessed based on an on-campus examination and individual music performance.

Learning outcomes 3-5 are assessed based on an on-campus examination.

Learning outcome 6 is assessed based on an individual written assignment.

Learning outcome 7 is assessed based on individual music performance.

If a student has been granted study support by Karlstad University due to a documented disability, the examiner has the right to offer an adapted examination or allow the student to complete the examination through alternative means.

Grades

One of the grades Pass with distinction (VG), Pass (G) or Fail (U) 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 course is included in the Bachelor Programme in Music (HGMSK).

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