



FACULTY OF ARTS AND SOCIAL SCIENCES
MUSIC

Musical knowledge IV, Western classical music

Musikkunskap IV, västerländsk konstmusik

Course code: KOGV24

Credits: 7.5

Education level: First cycle

Progressive specialisation: First cycle, has at least 60 credits in first-cycle course/s as entry requirements (G2F)

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

Completed courses: KOGV03 Main instrument II, Western classical music (15 credits), KOGV04 Ensemble II, Western classical music (7.5 credits), and KOGV22 Musical knowledge II, Western classical music (7.5 credits).

Registered for KOGV06 Main instrument III, Western classical music (15 credits), KOGV07 Ensemble III, Western classical music (7.5 credits), and KOGV23 Musical knowledge III, 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 the harmony, phrase techniques, style and form in Western music from the beginning of the 1900s to the early 2000s,
2. analyse 20th-century phrase techniques in different forms of notation examples and music scores,
3. arrange for various instruments and instrument combinations from the brass family based on principles of harmonic progression according to Western functional harmonic tradition,
4. analyse and translate their knowledge of 20th-century rhythm, melody and harmony into musical play,
5. give an account of the Western classical music tradition from the beginning of the 1900s to the early 2000s, including how societal and cultural contexts have determined the conditions for music-making in different epochs,
6. provide examples of the music repertoire in the Western music tradition from the beginning of the 1900s to the early 2000s, and
7. identify and analyse music from the Western classical music tradition from the beginning of the 1900s to the early 2000s.

Content

The course examines the history of Western classical music from the beginning of the 1900s to the early 2000s. It also includes presentations and analysis of melody, sounds, modality, poly-rhythm, harmony, changing and complex time signatures in free tonal music of the 20th century, and phrase techniques in different music scores from the same period. The role of music in society is discussed and problematised, as are the conditions in terms of gender equality for professional musicians.

Instruction is in the form of group tutorials and seminars.

Reading list

See separate document.

Examination

Learning outcomes 1-3 are assessed based on individual written assignments.

Learning outcome 4 is assessed based on an on-campus written examination and individual music performance.

Learning outcomes 5-7 are assessed based on an on-campus written examination.

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.