Course Title: Enjoying and Understanding Classical Music  
Course Code: MUS 156  
Instructor: Dr. Nurit Jugend

Course Summary:

How can we better listen to and enjoy classical music? Learning the fundamental elements of music enables us to listen more intelligently, hear the sound more clearly, enrich our experience, and increase our overall enjoyment. Understanding music on intellectual, emotional, and sensuous levels contributes to a more complete experience. In this course, we will learn the basic elements of music such as melody, harmony, orchestration, rhythm, and texture in order to gain a more effective set of listening tools and guidelines. We will listen to a large variety of musical examples from the main classical periods (e.g., Baroque, Classical, Romantic, and 21st century), and take a closer look at music by leading composers such as Bach, Haydn, Brahms, Berlioz, Tchaikovsky, and Stravinsky. By the end of the course, students will know how to identify basic musical elements such as melody, tempo, orchestration, and harmony and will have a better understanding of the overall form of a musical piece. They will come away with a more nuanced and complete understanding of classical music.

Grade Options and Requirements:

- No Grade Requested (NGR)  
  o This is the default option. No work will be required; no credit shall be received; no proof of attendance can be provided.
- Credit/No Credit (CR/NC)  
  o Students must attend at least 80% of class sessions.
- Letter Grade (A, B, C, D, No Pass)  
  o Students must attend at least 90% of class sessions, and complete the reading of Understanding Music by Jeremy Yudkin, ISBN 0-13-150548-3 (Not required to purchase CDs)

*Please Note: If you require proof that you completed a Continuing Studies course for any reason (for example, employer reimbursement), you must choose either the Letter Grade or Credit/No Credit option. Courses taken for NGR will not appear on official transcripts or grade reports.
Tentative Weekly Outline:

Class 1  The Fundamental & Basic Elements of Music - Introduction
Class 2  *Melody* (Motive, Phrases, Harmony, Key & Tonality, Scales, Cadences)
Class 3  Rhythm (Beat, Meter, Tempo)
Class 4  Instrumentation/ Orchestration & Dynamics
Class 5  Types of Texture; Monophony, Song texture, Chordal harmony, Polyphony, Imitation (fugue)
Class 6  The Musical Form I; Repetition, Binary Form, Ternary Form, Theme & Variations
Class 7  The Musical Form II; Rondo, Sonata Form
Class 8  Program Music, The Leitmotiv
Class 9  Music in the 20th Century & Program Music I
Class 10 Music in the 20th Century & Program Music II