

Music Humanities Exemption Exam

Music Humanities Exemption Exam Fall 2025

**Friday, September 5, 10:00 a.m. -11:30 a.m.
Dodge Hall, Room 622**

The Exemption test will take approximately 90 minutes and comprises:

- Part I: Identification of works by composers in the syllabus, based on played excerpts
- Part II: Questions about musical techniques and styles, based on played excerpts from the Middle Ages through the present
- Part III: Short-answer questions on musical terms, concepts, genres, forms, and composers

PLEASE NOTE: The Music Exemption Test may be attempted only ONCE, during a student's FIRST semester at Columbia. It is offered only during the Fall semester of each academic year. Students matriculating for the first time in January may take the test the following Fall semester.

QUESTIONS? E-mail Professor Benjamin Steege, bas39@columbia.edu.

Ways to Obtain an Exemption from the Music Humanities requirement in the Core Curriculum

EXEMPTION FROM MUSIC HUMANITIES **Humanities UN1123**

Exemption may be obtained in either of TWO ways DURING A STUDENT'S FIRST SEMESTER at Columbia:

- 1) by satisfactory performance in an equivalent course at another college or university (transfer students only)
- 2) by passing an exemption test administered by the department (incoming first-year or transfer students; students matriculating for the first time in January may take the test the following Fall semester)

The Exemption test will take 90 minutes and comprises:

Part I: Identification of repertoire, based on played excerpts

Part II: Questions concerning techniques and styles, based on played excerpts from the Middle Ages through the 20th century

Part III: Short Answers or fill in the blanks on musical terms, concepts, genres, and composers

If you wish to request exemption on the basis of a music course passed at another college or university:

1. Please note that exemption is given only for courses substantially equivalent to Music Humanities (not theory courses or performance study); see the Columbia College or General Studies bulletin for course description.
2. Please fill out the online Music Humanities Exemption Request Form from the Center for the Core Curriculum: <https://my.undergrad.columbia.edu/s/core-exemption-request>.

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