MUSI 112 Listening to Music Professor Craig Wright

Preparation for First Trimester Test

The test will involve a combination of written work and listening to music.

The first part will ask you to define in a phrase or short sentence ten terms. These ten terms, many of which have been mentioned and discussed in lecture, **will be drawn from the terms put on the board in lecture** and from the "key words" at the ends of chapters 1-5 (which duplicate many of those put on the board). Don't forget that most of these terms are defined in the glossary at the end of your textbook; if you can't find a term in the glossary, try the index and go to the page reference. The purpose of this exercise is not only to learn these important terms, but to give those students worried about the listening part of the test a chance to grab some easy points.

Next, you will be asked to engage music from a non-Western culture in a brief way. You are asked to read and absorb the five "Cultural Context" boxes in your textbook. These can be found beginning on pp. 33, 91, 350, 363, and 427. They are intended to introduce you to a bit of Muslim, Jewish, Chinese, Indian, and African music, for example. They are also intended to sharpen your understanding about the unique and sometimes peculiar qualities of Western rhythm, melody, harmony, texture, and instruments, as discussed in Chapters 1-5. There will be at least one question on the test about non-Western music drawn from these Cultural Context boxes. Please get familiar with names and the sounds of the seven pieces discussed in these five "Cultural Context" boxes. At least one will be played on the test.

There will also be several very short-answer "technical" questions regarding issues **covered in lecture**. Here's an easy example: What are the three triads most frequently found in accompanying harmony in Western musical compositions? Answer: tonic, dominant, subdominant. Please review your lecture notes.

Most of our time will be spent listening to music and responding to questions dealing with: instruments (can you identify them), meters (duple or triple), number of measures in a phrase, texture (how many lines do you hear; is it monophonic, homophonic, or polyphonic) as well as major and minor scales and major and minor triads (can you hear the difference). We will first play the piece on the audio system and then repeat it, once, twice, or even three times as necessary. We will also ask you to do some very simple rhythmic and melodic graphing of the sort done in section—to write out simple rhythms with quarter, half and eight notes, and drawing X's to show the relative position of pitches. By way of preparation for this, use your ThomsonNow (CengageNow) "Elements of Music" program that you have downloaded and stored. All of the material there (rhythm, melody, texture, tone color [instruments of the orchestra], etc.) is very pertinent, except the discussion of form, which we get to after the test. As mentioned, the quizzes there can be taken several times because the audio is continually reshuffled. The website has been specially developed for this textbook and course.

If you are having trouble with identifying instruments, go back to your Intro CD and go over tracks 11-13. Play the CD randomly within these tracks and then check your answers in the Listening

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