

THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA AT GREENSBORO

SCHOOL OF MUSIC

**GRADUATE DIAGNOSTIC EXAM STUDY GUIDE
MUSIC HISTORY**

The music history portion of the Graduate Diagnostic Exam is limited to the Western art music tradition from the Baroque through the present time. World music is excluded as are the vernacular and ethnic traditions in the United States. The exam concentrates on the *understanding* of music history as opposed to knowledge of facts; therefore, it includes scores and listening. In preparation for the exam, it would be helpful for you to review relevant portions of a standard music history text that includes a listening anthology: Grout, Stolba, or Bonds are suggested. Pay particular attention to the commentary about the music.

Knowledge of the following is important:

1. Vocal and instrumental styles, genres, formal structures, compositional techniques, and dance types
2. Performance practice
3. Instrumentation of the orchestra typical of the works of major composers
4. Nationalism in music
5. Aesthetic and stylistic trends in music
6. The relationship of society to music
7. Major composers and landmark compositions