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## Doctoral Core Examination Study Guide

This exam is about Western art music from the medieval period to the 20th century. In preparation for this exam, we recommend that you review any class notes, survey textbooks, reference books, and basic theory textbooks you find useful. Make sure you are acquainted with many works of western art music through the centuries by playing them, listening to recordings, and reading scores. In addition, consult with the faculty in the Music History and Music Theory areas.

### 1. **Genre** (90 minutes)

Two musical genres will be named (e.g., motet, symphony, song, mass sonata, string quartet, opera, character piece, etc.). Choose one. Define and give a sketch of its history from the time of its inception *or* within the time frame specified. Cite specific works (describing the music itself: e.g., form, melody, harmony, texture, and other pertinent features) and composers from different eras by name. You may wish to take a moment before writing to outline your response.

### 2. **Repertory** (1 hour)

Choose 4 of the 5 following examples. A score and/or tape will be given for each example. Give a likely date of composition, name a likely composer, suggest the genre or type of piece, and give the reasons for your answers.

### 3. **Analysis** (2 hours)

You will be given a score and a tape and asked to provide a straightforward description of the form and harmony of the work. Include, where appropriate, discussion of instrumentation, melody, voice-leading, text, phrasing, tempo, dynamics, and any other aspect of the music you see fit.