

Music 305 Library Assignment Score Comparisons and Thematic Catalogs

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Assignments are due in class one week following your library training session.

Assignment Objectives:

1. Understand the differences, uses, and relative merits of performance editions, scholarly editions, rare editions, and original manuscripts.
2. Understand the purposes, content, and organization of composer thematic catalogs.
3. Learn how to locate scholarly editions.

Assignment Steps:

1. Attend one of two training sessions offered in the Harold B. Lee Library. Dr. Howard will designate which students attend each session and explain where the session is located.
2. Following the training session, set aside time to come to the library and examine one of several sets of scores for selected works by Bach and Handel (one facsimile of the autograph manuscript, one scholarly edition, and one modern performance edition) held at the Reading Room of Music Special Collections (4437 HBLL). **DO NOT LEAVE THE ASSIGNMENT UNTIL THE LAST MINUTE.** Whoever has checked out the scores first has priority. If you come at the last minute, just before the library closes, and all of the scores are in use, you are out of luck! The sets of scores are available **ONLY** Monday through Friday 9 am to 6 pm.
3. Once you have the three scores for the assignment in hand, examine and compare each for variants (in notes, accidentals, dynamics, slurs, notation, instrumentation, etc., any musical variants you can identify). Pay special attention to the realization of the figured bass. Focus on just one movement or number. Conduct this evaluation and comparison in the Reading Room (4437 HBLL). Please do not mark or annotate the scores in any manner. You must also work with pencils rather than pens.
4. Write a one-page essay (*double spaced, Times font, size 12*) that describes the variants you discovered among your three scores. Use common sense in organizing your essay. Present your findings in coherent, well-organized prose. Use specific and detailed examples of variants.
5. Locate the thematic catalog for the composer of your assigned work (the Bach and Handel thematic catalogs will be kept with the scores). Use the thematic catalog to determine the first published edition for the assigned work. At the bottom of your essay, cite the city of publication, publisher, and year of publication for the first edition. If this full information is not provided, then cite whatever information is given for the first edition (erste Ausgabe, Drucke) and autograph.
6. Use Oxford Music Online to locate a reference to the scholarly edition that corresponds with your set of scores. Print out the page, circle the relevant information and attach the printout to your essay. Please note: reference the Neue Bach-Ausgabe or Hallische Händel-Ausgabe.
7. Turn in your completed essay, first edition citation, and the printout of your scholarly edition reference to Dr. Howard in class one week after your training session.

Please do your own work for this assignment. Do not consult with classmates. In normal circumstances it is perfectly appropriate to seek assistance from library staff; but in this case, do the assignment on your own.

(Feb. 2011)