

Project Year

2003

Project Team

Faculty: Susan Weiss, Conservatory Instruction, Peabody Institute

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Project Title

Medieval and Renaissance Music: A New Approach

Audience

Students in the *History of Music I* course and related courses at Peabody

Pedagogical Issue

Standard textbooks in music history are organized chronologically, and students in *History of Music I* have expressed dissatisfaction with their ability to comprehend complex musical concepts in this rigid linear format.

Solution

Professor Weiss concludes, from student feedback, that a theme-based structure of course content would provide a more useful context within which to introduce the history of music. The Technology Fellowship team proposes to develop a course website that will function as a precursor to a new online textbook that Professor Weiss will create for the field of medieval and renaissance music. Content will be developed and organized through musical genres – sacred and secular – e.g., the motet, the mass, the chanson, and the madrigal. The website will also introduce the beginnings of solo and ensemble instrumental music. An anthology of recorded work will be published, using the best recorded examples along with new, live recordings by the Peabody Renaissance Ensemble. The course website will also include a variety of student tools – a course syllabus, a calendar, quizzes, etc.

Technologies Used

Courseware (WebCT development), Digital Audio, Digital Video