## Project Year
2005

## Project Team
Sean Greenberg, Faculty, Philosophy Department, Krieger School of Arts & Sciences; Kevin Clark, Student, Philosophy Department, Krieger School of Arts & Sciences

## Project Title
Music in Early Modern Europe

## Audience
Students enrolled in courses on the history of early modern philosophy

## Pedagogical Issue
The early modern period (1517-1789) was a time of great political and intellectual ferment. However, due to the pressures of academic specialization, students in typical courses on the history of early modern philosophy, which focus on philosophical texts themselves, cannot get a broad sense of the relationship between the texts and the broader social and political movements to which those texts respond and with which those texts engage. To counter this tendency, over the past two years, Professor Sean Greenberg has been developing a timeline that sets texts from the history of early modern philosophy in the context of concurrent political, religious, scientific, and artistic developments, and thus fosters a greater awareness of the richness and interpenetration of these areas of human activity.

## Solution
The goal of this Technology Fellowship Project is to deepen and expand the existing timeline by developing a band dedicated to early modern music. The early modern period was profoundly influential for Western music, embracing Palestrina, Bach, and Haydn, and was a time in which musicians themselves responded to political and social movements of their day. Moreover, several philosophers, including Descartes, Leibniz, Diderot, and Rousseau, directly engaged music theory or musical styles in their own writing. The creation of this timeline band would, therefore, be a great addition to an already existing project serving multiple courses.

## Technologies Used
Digital Audio, Macromedia Flash, JAVA

## Project Abstract
This Technology Fellowship Project grows out of work done under an AVD grant to create a timeline of early modern thought in order to locate texts in the history of early modern philosophy in the context of political, religious, scientific, and artistic developments. Although various similar timelines can be found in books that contain some of this material, none is organized like this timeline, around the focal point of the history of early modern philosophy. The goal of this project is the addition to the existing timeline

of a detailed band tracking developments in the history of music. This project will use the electronic resources of the Timeline Creator program to add entries on music. In order to avoid copyright restrictions, instead of using recordings, we will create original MIDI files of the music that we wish to excerpt. These small files will be playable on nearly any computer, and will enable students to hear pieces that would otherwise be inaccessible due to copyright constraints.  The Technology Fellow, Kevin Clark, a dual-degree candidate in the Philosophy Department and in the Peabody Conservatory, has knowledge both of the history of early modern philosophy and of music, and will work with Professor Greenberg to identify moments of significance that can be added to the timeline. Kevin also has experience in producing electronic sound files of music, which we intend to embed within the timeline itself. Professor Greenberg's role in the project will be to advise Kevin on which musical and philosophical works to examine, and reviewing entries. Kevin will be responsible for writing the entries on the timeline and producing the music files to be appended to those timeline entries. Given that the timeline covers roughly two hundred and fifty years (1517-1789), Kevin can be expected to complete eighty years in each month of the summer project. (For budget purposes, each eighty-year section of the summer project will cost $1344.) This project will be measured by the CER surveys conducted in conjunction with the use of the timeline resource when the material is next used in an undergraduate course. Professor Katz will be using it in the courses that he teaches on the history of early modern philosophy, and Susan Weiss of the Peabody Conservatory has expressed interest in the project as well.

A video of Sean and Kevin's presentation (time=3:26) is available here:
http://mfile.akamai.com/7111/mov/streams1.nts.jhu.edu/~jhumedia/cer/tfvideos/12_europe_full.mov