All music majors will complete a senior project, choosing either the Performance Track or the Research Track. The project will be divided into two parts, each earning 1 hour of credit. Music 487, normally taken during the fall semester of the senior year, will consist of the written senior paper. Music 488, normally taken during the spring semester of the senior year, will consist of the public presentation. The topic for the senior project should be chosen in consultation with the members of the student’s faculty committee, and it should be an extension of subjects or areas of interest pursued in the student’s first three years of study.

Since Music 487 & 488 have no regularly scheduled class meetings, all students in the course are required to use their computer E-mail account in order to receive in a timely and convenient manner grades and other important information pertaining to the course. Professor Diane Clark is Coordinator of Music 487-488. Questions about the course may be directed to her.

All students should own a copy of:
- *Writing About Music: An Introductory Guide* -- Richard J. Wingell

**MUSIC 487. SENIOR PAPER**

All students will prepare a paper of the appropriate length and present a copy to each member of his/her faculty committee just prior to the Thanksgiving recess. In this fall semester, the deadline for submitting the senior paper is **Tuesday, November 20, 2001, at 12:00 noon**. No paper will be accepted after that time, and the student will therefore automatically receive a grade of F in the course.

**NOTE:** The department takes the stated deadlines very seriously. Certainly in the event of serious extenuating circumstances, the schedule, procedures, and other aspects of the courses are subject to change. Please note, however, that problems with printing your paper, problems with finding research materials, other obligations (academic or social), and car problems are NOT considered extenuating circumstances in this context.

The paper should be written according to the MLA style manual, and the length should be:
1. The faculty committee for each student will be appointed by the course coordinator after consultation with the fulltime music faculty. A fulltime faculty member will serve as chair of each committee.

2. At the very beginning of the semester, students will have at least two class sessions with the course coordinator and other appropriate persons to lay out guidelines for the writing of the paper and to provide information concerning music research. The time for these sessions will be announced.

3. The topic, thesis statement, outline and working title of the paper, and the recital program (if applicable) will be approved by the three members of the faculty committee. The deadline for submitting this information in writing (three copies) to the faculty committee is Tuesday, Sept. 11, 2001, at 12:00 noon. If revisions are desired by the faculty, the faculty should give their requests and suggestions to the students by Friday, Sept. 14, 2001, at 12:00 noon. The deadline for the revisions is Tuesday, Sept. 18, 2001, at 12:00 noon. All projects must have final approval by Tuesday, Sept. 25, 2001, at 12:00 noon. When the project is finally approved, the student should submit the title of the project to the course coordinator (Prof. Clark).

4. The faculty committee will aid the student in locating appropriate research materials and will be available to answer questions that arise in the writing of the paper.

5. Twice during the term the student will submit to his/her committee chair one or two chapters (number to be agreed upon between them) for reading. The chair will offer comments and suggestions to improve the student’s writing. The deadlines for these submissions are Wednesday, October 17, 2001 and Tuesday, October 30, 2001 at 12:00 noon.

6. On the Tuesday before Thanksgiving recess the student will present a copy of the complete paper to each member of the faculty committee for grading. (See above for deadline.)

7. Each member of the faculty committee will grade the paper and submit the grade to the committee chair, who will submit all three grades to the course coordinator. The grades will be averaged by the course coordinator to determine the final grade. Grades will be reported to students and faculty via E-mail as soon as grading is completed.
All students will make a public presentation of the appropriate length no later than two weeks prior to the first reading day of the semester. In this spring semester the deadline for completing the senior presentation is **Friday, April 12, 2002**. No presentation will be allowed after that date, and the student will automatically receive a grade of F in the course. All dates for senior presentations must be on the departmental calendar by **Tuesday, May 1, 2001**. No presentation should be scheduled earlier than 5:30 p.m. on a class day (Monday through Friday). No presentation should be scheduled until the student has checked with each member of his/her committee to make certain that the date is appropriate. If the presentation is a recital, the student should also plan the date in collaboration with an accompanist and/or any other performers on the program. The student should reserve not only the presentation date, but also the date for the dress rehearsal or run-through.

The presentation should be:

**Recital Track**: A public solo recital containing 45-50 minutes of music

**Research Track**: A public lecture/demonstration consisting of a 45-50 minute presentation followed by a brief discussion period. (The lecture/demonstration must include musical examples, either performed or recorded.)

1. All students will prepare either recital program notes or a lecture/demonstration handout for distribution at the presentation. The notes/handout must be submitted to the faculty committee chair for approval **no later than three weeks prior to the presentation**. Handouts are due at **12:00 noon**. The faculty committee chair ONLY will grade the notes/handout, and this grade will count 10% of the final course grade. A severe penalty (two letter grades) will be given for late submission.

2. Members of the faculty committee will grade the public presentation and submit the grades to the committee chair. The chair will submit all three grades to the course
coordinator, who will average them to determine the final presentation grade. The presentation grade will count 90% of the final course grade.

3. The department will provide an accompanist for senior degree recitals at no charge to the performer. Students will be responsible for all other expenses connected with the presentation, including the cost of recital programs, program notes/handouts, taping, etc.

Every aspect of these courses will be viewed in light of the Honor Code of Rhodes College.

NOTE: The schedule and procedures in these courses are subject to change in the event of extenuating circumstances.
CRITERIA FOR GRADING

The following criteria will be used for the grading of work in Music 487-488:

WRITTEN WORK

The student should:

1. follow instructions as indicated.
2. demonstrate understanding of the purpose of the assignment.
3. present accurate information in a clear, concise, well organized, and thorough manner.
4. use scholarly writing style and appropriate documentation as outlined in the MLA Handbook.
5. use correct spelling, punctuation, and grammar, and proofread carefully.
6. type assignments and print with dark ribbon.

ORAL PRESENTATION

The student should:

1. present material in a confident, authoritative manner, speaking with a well projected voice and making eye contact with all members of the audience.
2. use language appropriate to the scholarly discipline of music, including accurate technical terminology, and avoid slang expressions and colloquialisms.
3. use correct pronunciation of terms in foreign languages. (Faculty members are available for consultation in this area.)
4. rehearse the presentation and adjust the content to fit the time constraints.
5. have all necessary audio-visual aids ready for use before the presentation begins and be proficient in the operation of all equipment.
6. begin and end the presentation on time.
7. adhere to all pertinent criteria listed above under "Written Work."

SENIOR RECITAL

The student should:

1. demonstrate technical and artistic proficiency appropriate to the senior level.
2. demonstrate appropriate stage etiquette.
3. adhere to all pertinent criteria listed above under "Written Work" and "Oral Presentation."

Shelley Nicole Miller

November 25, 1997

This paper is submitted in fulfillment of the requirements for Music 487.