

Yale Institute of Sacred Music Colloquium Guidelines for Student Presentations

For the 2010-2011 academic year (revised December, 2009)

These guidelines govern the joint presentations given by ISM students in their senior year. They reflect the Institute's commitment to enhancing interaction among its students. Note the special guidelines below for MMA or STM students.

Overview

Each student will work collaboratively with a student from another discipline. The goal is for a Music School student in the ISM to partner with a Divinity School student in the ISM. In 2010-2011, the number of graduating YDS students will be slightly smaller than that of Music, so we will allow two groups of 3 (2 Music and 1 Divinity.) If you wish to work with two other students in a group of three, you will need special approval of the faculty. **Given the limited number of these slots, please alert the office as early as possible if you are contemplating forming a group of three. They will be considered on a first-come, first-served basis.**

The faculty will welcome topic proposals related in the broadest possible way to sacred music, worship and the arts. As you think about your partner for this project, think first about who it would be enjoyable to work with, and less about finding someone who wants to work on something you want to work on. The best scenario is that you will choose a topic **together**, to which you can both contribute something equally. It's a good idea to concentrate on some question or theme that can provide a topic of conversation between disciplines. Consider this an opportunity not only to learn from another discipline, but also as a chance to develop teaching skills. The presentation will be advised by two faculty members, one serving as the primary mentor correspondent and taking responsibility for communication with the other faculty member. The presentations will be graded no credit, credit and (in extraordinary cases) credit with distinction.) Students are required to offer a substantial bibliography. Please contact ISM A/V Media Coordinator, Sachin Ramabhadran, if you wish to view videos of past presentations. The faculty will conduct one or two workshops early in the Fall to offer guidelines for the preparation and delivery of your presentations.

How to Find Your Partner

You are encouraged, first, to make your own pairing with one another. Please use the Partner Request Form on the website to indicate your request. Both students in the group must indicate the other as partner. If you have found no partner, please use the Colloquium Questionnaire, also on the website, to indicate your academic interests and ideas for a possible topic. Please be sure to return the questionnaire by March 7. The ISM Student Council usually organizes a mixer in order to facilitate these pairings. Stay tuned for details. A faculty committee will make matches on the basis of this information. The more information you can provide us, the easier the task of pairing will be.

The Presentation

Presentations done by pairs will be 30 minutes long, with a further 10 minutes for discussion.* There will be two presentations per session. The first will begin promptly at 3:30. After a short break, the second presentation and response will commence.

Thus, the colloquium time each week will look like this:

3:30 – 4:00 First presentation

4:00 – 4:10 Discussion

4:10 – 4:20 ISM announcements and set-up change

4:20 – 4:50 Second presentation

4:50 – 5:00 Discussion

The few presentations done by groups of 3 will be 45 minutes followed by 15 minutes of questions.

Advising

Two faculty members will serve as advisers for each student pairing working on a single presentation. Students will submit proposal, bibliography, and an outline of the presentation to both of them at least two months prior to your presentation date. While both faculty members will consult with each other about your presentation, only one of them will serve as your “correspondent” and will give a written response to both you and your partner. If further questions arise, they should be addressed to the correspondent who, depending on the extent of the query, may simply reply or consult with the other faculty adviser before replying.

Grading

Student presentations will be graded by the entire faculty on the system: fail, credit and credit with distinction. All ISM faculty members will grade your presentation and submit one or two remarks. The Director will collate all the information, adjudicate the grade and convey their comments to the students.

Timetable

You will request a partner (or have one selected for you by the faculty) by mid-term of the spring semester before your final year. The faculty will deliberate on these requests and respond shortly after spring break. The students then have very little time to submit a formal proposal for their topic that must include a title, thesis, methodology, and bibliography. (Use the “ISM Colloquium Presentation” form on the web-site.) Dates for presentations will be assigned by June 15 in coordination with the schedules of guest speakers. Either you will request your faculty advisors or they will be assigned to you.

Here is the complete schedule for 2010-2011

March 5: Student pairing forms and questionnaires are due

March 26: Students notified of their presentation partners

April 30: Student proposals due

May 7: Faculty response to student proposals

June 14: Colloquium schedule finalized and distributed

****STM, MMA, or transfer students***

MMA students who are in residence for two years should present in a pair or trio. MAR , M.Div students who transfer in their final year, STM and all other MMA students will present by themselves. These presentations will be 20 minutes in length followed by 10 minutes of questions. The topic and bibliography are approved by the faculty advisor and the Director.