Department of History
The Chinese University of Hong Kong
HIS 3510A Topic Studies in Cultural History:
Western Music in 20th Century China
(2005-2006 International Summer Term)
Term Period: 19 June to 28 July 2006

Course Lecturer
Prof. CHOU Kwong Chung Oliver
Associate Director, Hong Kong Institute for the Humanities and Social Sciences
University of Hong Kong

Class Period
Every Tuesday and Thursday, 2pm to 5pm

Venue
Room 333 Pi-Ch’iu Building (HCA)

Medium of Instruction
English

Course Description
By looking into the dissemination of western music in China's drive to modernize, this course examines the intricate relationship between music and politics in 20th Century China. Special focus will be placed on the European symphonic genre. Controversial issues concerning western music in various periods in China are discussed.

Course Outline
This is an inter-disciplinary course to survey the intricate relationship between music and politics in 20th Century China by looking into the state of western symphonic music in the Middle Kingdom in the modern era. A major theme is the subtle change of the function of western music corresponding to the political climate throughout the century. Western music being a major component in China's quest for a new culture will also be highlighted.

This course will be issue-based, taking changing views of both the Chinese officials and intellectuals on western music as points for discussion. Aside from a special session devoted to the

Course Assessment
1. Attendance: 10%
2. Two short papers (one of which may be a book report: 50% (25% each)
3. Term paper: 40%

References
A list of books and topics will be provided for students to choose from for the short papers/book reports, or students may pick their own choice with prior approval from the lecturer