

## 21M.220 (EARLY MUSIC): OUTLINE

1. Welcome—Scope of Early Music
2. Chant: What is it and why study it?
3. Today (= September 9, 2010)'s perspective: around *ca.* 800–1000
4. The Office of Sext for *TUESDAY* [*sic*], September 9, 2010
5. Move to Music Library...
6. Pause: Syllabus, Info Sheet, and Course Description
7. Cycles of the Year
  - a. Fixed and Mobile Cycles
  - b. Proper of the Time
    - i. Two anchor points: Christmas and Easter
    - ii. Each governs periods of the year:
      1. Christmas: Advent, Christmas→Epiphany, Sundays after Epiphany
      2. Easter: Septuagesima, Lent, Passiontide (2 Sundays before Easter), Pascal time, Sundays after Pentecost (50 days after Easter)
    - iii. Where are we? Implications?
  - c. Proper of the Saints
    - i. Fixed days of the year
    - ii. Ranked in solemnity to solve conflicts with Proper of the Time
    - iii. Differ according to local tradition
  - d. Why do these matter?
    - i. Determine the prayers to be used
    - ii. Determine the chants to be sung
    - iii. Determine the solemnity of the melodies to be sung
8. Mass, Office, and the Cycles of the Day
  - a. Mass vs. Office
    - i. Celebrated in cathedrals, churches, and monasteries on either a daily or, in small places, weekly basis
    - ii. Office is observed throughout the day at monasteries and also in larger secular churches (secular churches? what?)
    - iii. Office revolves around the singing of the Psalms, a tradition inherited from Jewish rites. In one week, all 150 Psalms are sung.
  - b. Mass (next class)
  - c. Office
    - i. Originally involved keeping watch (Vigil) all night, so the night hours are the traditionally most important.
    - ii. Eight in all (major hours in bold)

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|----|----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1. | <b>Matins</b> <sup>1</sup> | <b>After midnight</b>       |
| 2. | <b>Lauds</b>               | <b>At daybreak</b>          |
| 3. | Prime                      | 6 or 7 a.m.                 |
| 4. | Terce                      | 9 a.m.                      |
| 5. | Sext                       | noon                        |
| 6. | None                       | 3 p.m.                      |
| 7. | <b>Vespers</b>             | <b>Early evening (6pm?)</b> |
| 8. | <b>Compline</b>            | <b>Before bed (8pm?)</b>    |

iii. Times vary over course of the year because of length of days.

9. Reading Modern Chant notation: Defining C
10. Types of chants: Melismatic, Neumatic, and Syllabic
11. Recitation and Chant

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<sup>1</sup> not at the morning, as any French training you might have would suggest.

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