

## 2nd Semester Final Exam Study Guide

### MUSICAL TERMS

**A tempo** - Back to original tempo. Used to restore the normal tempo of a piece after it has been interrupted.

**Accelerando ( accel. )** - "Quickening (the time). "Getting faster."

**Agitato** - "Agitated" Restless and wild.

**Allargando** - "Getting broader."

**Allargando molto** - Much broader. Slower.

**Allegro** - Lively tempo.

**Andante** - Walking speed.

**Cantabile** - Singing style.

**Con** - "With."

**Con sordino** - "With mute."

**Cresc poco a poco** - Louder little by little.

**Crescendo ( cresc. )** - Get louder

**Detache** - Separate bow/separated.

**Diminuendo ( dim. )** - Get softer.

**Dolce** - Sweet. Gentle

**Espressivo (espresso)** - Expressively.

**Fermata** - To hold.

**Forte ( f )** - Loud.

**Forzando ( fz )** - "Forcing." Strong accenting . Giving a strong accent on a single note or chord. It is sometimes abbreviated to **sfz** or **sf**.

**Grazioso** - graceful.

**Marcato** - Marked, emphatic.

**Meno** - Less.

**Mezzo forte ( mf )** - Medium loud.

**Mezzo piano ( mp )** - Medium soft.

**Molto** - Much.

**Piano ( p )** - Soft.

**Piu presto** - More fast.

**Pizzicato** ( *pizz.* ) - Pluck.

**Portato** - Sometimes called the *mezzo-staccato*, indicated by a combination of slur and dots, the notes are to be slightly detached.

**Presto** - Fast. Brisk.

**Sempre** - "Always." "Still."

**Senza Sordino** - Without mute.

**Simile** ( *sim.* ) - "Like, similar." Continue in same way.

**Slur** - A curved line over or under a group of notes which indicates that they are to be played or sung smoothly.

**Sostenuto** - "Sustained." A direction to sustain the tone, which is usually equivalent to slowing the tempo.

**Spiccato** - "Clearly articulated. The term is used in string playing for a light staccato played with the middle or closer to the frog and a loose wrist.

**Staccato** - "Detached."

**Stringendo** - "Tightening." Increase in tension and (usually) accelerating the tempo.

**Tenuto** ( *ten.* ) - Indication that a single note or chord should be held for its full value (or even longer) in a context in which the performer might be inclined to play it.

**Tranquillo** - "Calm"

**Tutti** - "all" Term used, most often in concertos, to indicate an entrance of the full orchestra, as distinct from passages for the soloist.

**Trill** ( *tr* ) - An ornament consisting of the rapid alternation of a note with the note a second above.