

UCB OLLI  
SYMPHONIES OF GUSTAV MAHLER: A SPIRITUAL AND  
EMOTIONAL JOURNEY  
STEPHEN SCHULTZ  
JANUARY 28 – MARCH 4, 2025  
TUESDAYS: 1:00 – 3:00PM

**OVERVIEW:** This class will be an in-depth historical survey of the Eleven Symphonies of Gustav Mahler. It will trace the composer's stylistic evolution during all stages of his creative life and will clarify the main characteristics of his music. The focus of our analysis will be on the programmatic, spiritual, and emotional content of the symphonies.

#### COURSE CALENDAR

##### **Week I: January 28**

Introduction and Symphony #1

##### **Week II: February 4**

Symphonies #2 and #3

##### **Week III: February 11**

Symphonies #4 and #5

##### **Week IV: February 18**

Symphonies #6 and #7

##### **Week V: February 25**

Symphony #8 and Das Lied von der Erde

## **Week VI: March 4**

Symphonies #9 and #10

### READINGS:

The best biography of Mahler is by Jens Malte Fischer:

[https://www.amazon.com/Gustav-Mahler-Jens-Malte-Fischer/dp/0300194110/ref=sr\\_1\\_1?keywords=Mahler+Fischer+book&qid=1582941220&sr=8-1](https://www.amazon.com/Gustav-Mahler-Jens-Malte-Fischer/dp/0300194110/ref=sr_1_1?keywords=Mahler+Fischer+book&qid=1582941220&sr=8-1)

Also, read the following articles for background information:  
Wikipedia Articles:

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gustav\\_Mahler](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gustav_Mahler)

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Romantic\\_music](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Romantic_music)

<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Romanticism>

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List\\_of\\_Romantic-era\\_composers](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_Romantic-era_composers)

<http://www.musicweb-international.com/comp-idx/mahler.htm>

### LISTENING:

Please watch the following performances on YouTube for each week's lecture:

Symphonies:

1 [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ya3\\_QRMWvJ8](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ya3_QRMWvJ8)

2 <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sHsFIv8VA7w>

3 <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=W5JW5MjrXYw>

4 [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ividyw\\_WPv4](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ividyw_WPv4)

5 <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vOvXhyldUko>

6 [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YUj\\_GAKWziE](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YUj_GAKWziE)

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8U6nY9i-u\\_s](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8U6nY9i-u_s)

7 <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QdxvC7NNSLQ>

8 <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sgEvcoo7TWw>

Das Lied <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=95suCIIAmus>

9 <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RjYs99atLUI>

10 [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YMN\\_DWY9RX8](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YMN_DWY9RX8)