SYLLABUS

World Musics | MUS 3143 01Z | TR 9:30–10:20 am

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Description

This course provides an introductory survey of traditions and transformations of music in global perspective, exploring music both as a phenomenon of sound and a phenomenon of culture. The focus of the course is not traditional music *per se*, but is rather *musics of tradition*, with tradition understood as a process of transformation whose most remarkable feature is the continuity it nurtures and sustains. Within this framework, we will explore everything from folk and classical genres to contemporary styles of world beat, jazz, popular, and experimental music.

Objectives

- To understand and appreciate music from an ethnomusicological perspective, that is, as a musicultural phenomenon.
- To learn about a diverse range of musics and musicultural traditions from around the world.
- To learn how musics have evolved and developed through the unique conditions of the historical and cultural processes that gave rise to them, as well as to comprehend how they continue to develop and transform in a contemporary world defined by large-scale processes of globalization, mass mediation, and electronic communications.

Blackboard

Blackboard is the ASU student information system. You will access all course materials through Bb. This includes unit overviews, articles, and grades. If you do not yet have access to Bb contact the ASU IT Helpdesk at (325) 942-2911 to get a Bb account. As soon as you have access, go to the homepage for this course and click the Start Here button on the left of the page.

The syllabus, announcements, course calendar, assignments, and other essential materials and resources (including lecture notes) are posted on the course Blackboard site, which you should check regularly. You also need to regularly check your ASU email account (or an account to which you have ASU course e-mails forwarded to you if you have one), as e-mail messages sent to the class will be the primary medium for communication of essential information (regarding assignments, tests, schedule modifications, etc.).
Required text


Grading and Attendance Policy

Your grade for this course will be based principally on two exams (30% each), one self-study assignment (10%), instrument making assignment (10%), a personal ethnomusicological observation journal (20% [=4 journal entries @ 5% each]), and possible additional assignments and/or quizzes. Your attendance will be monitored and can potentially affect your grade (see below). Instructions for completing assignments as well as exam study guides may be found at the Assignments page of Blackboard.

Your grade will be based on the following scale:

A 90-100%  B 80-89%  C 70-79%  D 60-69%  F 0-59%

Attendance is mandatory. Role will be taken every day. There are no excused absences. Every absence lowers your grade by 5% (half a grade level). If you have perfect attendance you will have 5% added to your grade.

Journal and Self-Study Assignments

Instructions on how to prepare your personal ethnomusicological observation journal assignments are found at the Assignments page. The Self-Study assignment options are also available as links from the Assignments page.

Submission of Assignments

Unless otherwise indicated, all assignments must be submitted typed (i.e., word processed) on regular computer/typing paper using a regular font and font size (e.g., 12-point Times or Times Roman). You must have a title page indicating your name, the course number, and the instructor’s name on all assignments. All pages must be stapled!! No paper clips, loose sheets, or “fold-overs.”
COURSE CALENDAR

Preliminary Course Schedule (subject to changes)

Week 1 (Aug. 29 & 31)
T— Course intro, review Syllabus, Calendar, What is music?; Read xxvii-xxx Ch.1 & 2
R— How music lives; rhythm and pitch, discuss Ch. 1 & 2; Read Ch. 3, 4, 5, & 6

Week 2 (Sept. 5 & 7)
T—Dynamics, timbre, and instruments (Ch. 5); texture and form (Ch. 6); Read Ch. 10
R—African music (Ch. 10)
  • Thurs., 9/7: Journal Assignment #1 due (5%)

Week 3 (Sept. 12 & 14)
T— African music (Ch. 10)
R— African music (Ch. 10); Read Ch. 11

Week 4 (Sept. 19 & 21)
T— Latin music (Ch. 11)
R— Latin music (Ch. 11)

Week 5 (Sept. 26 & 28)
T— Latin music (Ch. 11); Read Ch. 9
R— Irish music (Ch. 9)
  • Thurs., 9/28 Journal Assignment #2 due (5%)

Week 6 (Oct. 3 & 5)
T— Irish music (Ch. 9)
R— Irish music (Ch. 9)

Week 7 (Oct. 10 & 12)
T— Unit conclusion and EXAM REVIEW (Chs. 1-6, 9-11)
  Thurs., 10/12—EXAM 1: Chs. 1-6, 9-11 (30%)

Week 8 (October 17 & 19)
T—Indonesian music; Read Ch. 7
R—Indonesian music (Ch. 7), Instrument making assignment.

Week 9 (Oct. 24 & 26)
T—Indonesian music (Ch. 7)
R—Indonesian music (Ch. 7) (Bali: Masterpiece of the Gods)
  • Thurs., 10/26: Journal Assignment #3 due (5%)

Week 10 (Oct. 31 & Nov. 2)
T—Handmade Instrument Show & Tell; Read Ch. 8
R—Indian music (Ch. 8) (Raga: Ravi Shankar)
Week 11 (Nov. 7)
T— Indian music (Ch. 8)
  • Tues., 11/7: Self-Study Assignment on Chapter 12 or on Chapter 14 due. (10%)
R— NO CLASS, Study Day, Mr. Shuey will be at PASIC.

Week 12 (Nov. 14 & 16)
T— Indian music (Ch. 8); Read Ch. 13
R— Indian music/Chinese music (Ch. 13)

Week 13 (Nov. 21)
T— Chinese music (Ch. 13)
R— NO CLASS - Thanksgiving

Week 14 (Nov. 28 & 30)
T— Chinese music (Ch. 13)
  • Tues., 11/28: Journal Assignment #4 due (5%)
R— Handmade Instrument Presentations

Week 15 (Dec. 5 & 7)
T— Course conclusion and EXAM REVIEW (Chs. 7, 8, and 13)
R— EXAM REVIEW

EXAM 2: Chs. 7, 8, and 13 (30%)
Ethno-Musicological Observation Assignment

Grade weight: Four journal entries @ 5% each = 20% of final grade total

Word count: The word count for each of the four entries should be 500-750 words (2-3 pages, double-spaced).

Instructions for completing the assignment:

For this assignment, you will create an ongoing Ethno-Musicological Observation journal chronicling your experiences relative to the role of music and culture in your life. The prospective topical content of your entries is quite open-ended. The format of each entry should be a short, well-written essay or narrative. Proofread carefully to avoid typos, grammatical errors, and other problems relating to writing mechanics. Here are some suggestions for journal entry topics. You can follow a single “theme” throughout all four journal entries or “mix and match” different kinds of entries depending on your interests and perceived needs:

1) Respond to issues and concepts that arise in class or in your reading of the textbook
2) Discuss musical examples from the listening on Blackboard, applying listening skills developed in class
3) Do one or more of the “Applying What You Have Learned” exercises at the ends of textbook chapters
4) Use Discussion Questions or Study Questions found at the ends of chapters as the basis of an entry (or entries)
5) Create essay-style overviews of chapter content that will aid you in organizing study materials as you prepare for exams
6) Report on musical events at which you are in attendance or in which you participate, tying together your experiences of these events with concepts, issues, and listening skills developed in class

Format and submission:

Each entry must be submitted on the date it is due at the beginning of class. Each should be typed (in standard 12-point font—e.g., Times, Times Roman), double-spaced, and stapled together.

Assistance:

If you have questions about this assignment, please contact your instructor. To address any writing problems you may have, you are encouraged to contact the ASU Writing Center, where assistance is available.
Accessibility

Persons with disabilities which may warrant academic accommodations must contact the Student Life office, room 112 University Center, in order to request such accommodations prior to any accommodations being implemented. You are encouraged to make this request early in the semester so that appropriate arrangements can be made.

If you are sight impaired an audio version of the text is available. Please contact the textbook manager at the ASU Bookstore at (325) 942-2335 for more information about an audio text.

For information regarding ASU website accessibility see http://www.angelo.edu/welcome/accessibility.php.

For information about disability accommodations see https://www.angelo.edu/services/student_services/.

Academic Integrity

Angelo State University expects its students to maintain complete honesty and integrity in their academic pursuits. Students are responsible for understanding the Academic Honor Code. The ASU Academic Honor Code can be found at http://www.angelo.edu/content/files/17358-university-honor-code.

Please read the Honor Code to fully understand the importance of academic honesty and the range of sanctions for academic dishonesty.

Religious Holy Day

A student who intends to observe a religious holy day should make that intention known in writing to the instructor prior to the absence. A student who is absent from classes for the observance of a religious holy day shall be allowed to take an examination or complete an assignment scheduled for that day within a reasonable time after the absence.

A student who is excused for a religious holy day may not be penalized for the absence; however, the instructor may respond appropriately if the student fails to complete the assignment satisfactorily. “Religious holy day” means a holy day observed by a religion whose places of worship are exempt from property taxation under Texas Tax Code §11.20.