

HUM100 Ethnomusicology

3rd and 4th quarters, Freshman

Instructor	Wayne Malcolm
Style of Class	Lecture
Number of Credits	2
Day and Period	Tuesday, period 2

Course Description

According to the Society of Ethnomusicologists, “ethnomusicology is the study of music in its cultural context.” This is an introductory course that will involve listening to, writing about and engaging music from other cultures as well as our own in order to explore the above definition. We will use audio recordings, videos, and literature to access music from across the world, as well as share insights about our own. You may be introduced to music you have never heard, or music you are quite familiar with. The main objective is not just to look at WHAT music is for cultures, but also WHY music exists in cultures.

Course Objectives

1. Understanding music in cultural contexts, including our own;
2. Develop a vocabulary for reading, writing, speaking and listening about music;
3. Present your ideas and opinions about a researched topic;
4. Learn and develop academic research skills;
5. Gain, practice and improve presentation skills

Prerequisites

None

Class Materials

1. Thinking Musically: Experiencing Music, Expressing Culture (3rd Edition) by Bonnie C. Wade
2. Other assorted readings and audio samples.

Course Methods

While this class will contain lectures by the instructor it will also be an interactive class where the students are expected to participate. There will be pair work, small group work, and one-on-one time with the instructor. Throughout the course there will be reading, freewriting, journaling, formal papers, presentations, videos, audio samples, etc. Homework will be used to prepare for in-class activities. Because of the nature of this class students will be expected to listen to music or watch videos outside of class. You will need access to the internet. You will also need to use a computer for typing essays, and sending and receiving attachments.

Evaluation/Assessment

Your effort will largely determine your grade. Your grade will comprise of attendance, in-class participation, homework, journaling, formal essays, listening exams, and presentations.

Grading

In-class Participation	20%
Test / Quizzes	20%
Formal Essays	20%
Presentations	20%
Homework (journals, etc.)	20%

Course Schedule

Week 1: Music and culture – the why?

Introduce the course and various topics. Discuss connection between music and culture. Under what ethnomusicology is and how we apply that understanding to this class.

Week 2: Music

Talk about music and what music is – physically and emotionally; culturally.

Week 3: Culture

What is culture, and how does it shape our understanding of music? The answers to this question will be explored.

Week 4: Identity

What makes us us? We will explore how who we are ultimately informs our appreciation for music, and what music says about us.

Week 5: Music as cultural identity

Discuss and come to some kind of understanding of music as culture and the role it plays in who people are as a cultural group.

Week 6: Music and society

Socially, politically, economically, culturally, and polemically what music means in societies across the world is important. We will explore the connections.

Week 7: In-class essay exam.

Week 8 (End of Quarter 3): Presentations

In-class group presentations related to the topics discussed in the first quarter.

Week 9: The WORLD of MUSIC

Will introduce the idea of 'World Music' and what it means for consumers, and the makers.

Week 10: Classifying Instruments

Week 11: Instruments and Spirituality

Week 12: Instruments in Ensembles

Week 13: The Identify of an Instrument

Week 14: Instruments and Cultural Understanding

Week 15: In-class essay exam.

Week 16: (End of Quarter 4): Presentations

In-class group presentations related to the topics discussed in the second quarter.

Preparation and Follow-up

- Preparation: Read the relevant portions of the reference materials (about one hour)
- Follow-up: Review the content of the lecture and note any points you are not sure of (about one hour)