Objectives: Cutting edge theory in music and sound studies! In this seminar we will explore how philosophical theory and forms of what is sometimes (erroneously) called “critical theory” or (correctly) called continental and social/political/literary theory have begun to inform or could inform cutting edge work in music and sound studies. In various 1–2 week units, we will explore topics of power, race, gender and sexuality, posthumanism and materialism, affect, the music-language metaphor, performativity, affect, coloniality, musical violence, neoliberalism, and interdisciplinarity. Our objective is not necessarily to become experts in any of these areas, but to develop a broader theoretical consciousness that can inform the projects of music theory, musical analysis, and thinking the thought that takes place in musical sound, as well as the project of interfacing and dialoguing at a high level with our colleagues in other areas of the humanities. Many of these texts implicitly or explicitly speak to/with each other, and we will attend to how the interaction of disciplinary and terminological formulations applies pressure to their articulations.

COVID-19 and Attendance: I will be providing reusable face shields for everyone, as well as disposable gloves and face masks and sanitizing solution at every in person meeting, although of course you are encouraged to obtain your own personal protective equipment (PPE) as well. [More TBA here]. For now, we are required to meet in person in room 324 with assigned seats, but please bring a laptop or tablet to each class meeting in case we need to use zoom for people who may need to join us remotely.

While attendance is expected as outlined above, it is important for all of us to be mindful of the health and safety of everyone in our community, especially given concerns about COVID-19. Please contact me if you are unable to attend class because you are ill, or unable to attend class due to a related issue regarding COVID-19. It is important that you communicate with me prior to being absent as to what may be preventing you from coming to class so I may make a decision about accommodating your request to be excused from class.
If you are experiencing cough, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, fever, or any of the other possible symptoms of COVID-19 (https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/symptomstesting/symptoms.html) please seek medical attention from the Student Health and Wellness Center (940-565-2333 or askSHWC@unt.edu) or your health care provider. While attendance is an important part of succeeding in this class, your own health, and those of others in the community, is more important.

**Academic Integrity Policies:**
See: Academic Integrity
LINK: https://policy.unt.edu/sites/default/files/06.003.AcadIntegrity.Final_.pdf

**Student Behavior and Conduct Policies:**
See: Student Code of Conduct
Link: https://deanofstudents.unt.edu/conduct

**Access to Information:**
See: Eagle Connect
LINK: https://it.unt.edu/eagleconnect

**Office of Disability Access Policies:**
See: ODA
LINK: https://disability.unt.edu (Phone: (940) 565-4323)

**UNT Diversity Statement:**
See: Diversity Statement

**2020-2021 Semester Academic Schedule (with Add/Drop Dates):**
See: Fall Registration Guide
Link: https://registrar.unt.edu/registration/fall-registration-guide

**Academic Calendar at a Glance, 2020-2021:**
See: Academic Calendar
Link: https://www.unt.edu/catalogs/2020-21/calendar

**Financial Aid and Satisfactory Academic Progress:**
See: Financial Aid
LINK: http://financialaid.unt.edu/sap

**Retention of Student Records:**
See: FERPA
Link: http://ferpa.unt.edu/
COUNSELING AND TESTING:
UNT’s Center for Counseling and Testing has an available counselor whose position includes 16 hours per week of dedicated service to students in the College of Music and the College of Visual Arts and Design. Please visit the Center’s website for further information:
See: Counseling and Testing
Link: http://studentaffairs.unt.edu/counseling-and-testing-services

For more information on mental health issues, please visit:
See: Mental Health Issues
Link: https://speakout.unt.edu.

The counselor for music students is:
Myriam Reynolds
Chestnut Hall, Suite 311
(940) 565-2741
Myriam.reynolds@unt.edu

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The last day for a student to drop a class in Spring, 2020 is March 30th. Information about add/drop may be found at:
See: Add Drop
Link: https://registrar.unt.edu/registration/fall-add-drop

STUDENT RESOURCES:
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See: Student Resources
Link: https://www.unt.edu/sites/default/files/resource_sheet.pdf

GRADING:
40% Final Paper (A final seminar paper, somewhere in the ballpark of 14-22 pages or so. We will have individual consultations when the time comes to develop paper topics and research)

40% Attendance and Participation (I expect regular and attendance and efforts at participation from all seminar members. Many of our texts have difficult or confusing aspects, please don’t think of participation in discussions as a forum for demonstration of mastery, but as a space to bring questions)
20% Two small assignments (such as an article review, bibliography assignment, TBA)

Required Texts:
Nina Eidsheim, *Sensing Sound: Singing and Listening as Vibrational Practice* (Duke University Press, 2014) **SHOULD BE AVAILABLE ONLINE THROUGH UNT LIBRARY RESOURCES**

**SCHEDULE OF TOPICS/READINGS**

Week 1: Introduction—Theory, Sound, Power

August 25
Devonya Havis “Blackness Beyond Witness”
Jonathan Sterne, *The Audible Past*, (excerpt)

August 27
Wendy Brown, “How Neoliberalism Threatens Democracy” (YouTube: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZMMJ9HqzRcE](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZMMJ9HqzRcE))
“What the Theory?” episode on Foucault and Power (YouTube [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=90451_p45XU](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=90451_p45XU))
Robin James, *Sonic Episteme*, intro

Optional: Veit Erlmann, *Reason and Resonance*

Week 2—Race and Theories of Blackness

September 1
Ashon Crawley, *Blackpentecostal Breath*, intro and Coda
Katherine McKittrick, “Rebellion/Intervention/Groove”

September 3
Jennifer Stover, *The Sonic Color Line*, intro
Christina Sharpe, *In the Wake*, intro

Optional: William Cheng, “Black Noise, White Ears;” Fred Moten, *In the Break*; Frantz Fanon *Black Skin White Masks*; Fanon, *The Wretched of the Earth*, Achille Mbembe *Necropolitics*

Week 3—Gender and Sexuality

September 8
Imani Perry, *Vexy Thing: On Gender and Liberation* (TBD)
Cusick “Feminist Theory, Music Theory”
Maeve Sterbenz, “Movement, Music, Feminism: An Analysis of Movement-Music Interactions and the Articulation of Masculinity in Tyler, the Creator’s ‘Yonkers’ Music Video”

September 10
Sara Ahmed, *Queer Phenomenology* (TBD)
Gavin Lee, “Queer Music Theory,” *Spectrum*

Week 4—Materiality, Vibration, Posthumanism Part I

September 15
Jane Bennett, *Vibrant Matter*, preface and Chapter I
Nina Eidsheim, *Sensing Sound*, intro and Ch. 5

September 17
Diana Coole and Samantha Frost, *New Materialisms* Intro [or Barbara Bolt and Estelle Barrett, *Carnal Knowledges*]
Nina Eidsheim, *The Race of Sound* “Widening Rings of Being”
Week 5—Materiality, Vibration, Posthumanism Part II

September 22
Donna Haraway, “A Cyborg Manifesto”
Robin James, *Sonic Episteme*, Chapter 3
Sonic Episteme Podcast, Ch. 3

September 24
Marie Thompson, “Whiteness and the Ontological Turn in Sound Studies”
Chung, “Vibration, Difference, and Solidarity in the Anthropocene” (unpublished ms.)

Week 6—Affect Theory

September 28
Gregory Seigworth and Melissa Gregg, *Affect Theory Reader*, intro
Roger Grant, *Peculiar Attunements*, intro

October 1
Brian Kane, “Sound Studies without Auditory Culture”
Claire Hemmings, “Invoking Affect: Cultural Theory and the Ontological Turn”

Week 7—Dis/ability

October 6
Alison Kafer, *Feminist, Queer, Crip* (TBD)
Joseph Straus, “Normalizing the Abnormal”

October 8
Blake Howe et al. eds., “On the Disability Aesthetics of Music,” *JAMS*
Week 8—Language and Performativity, Part I

October 13
Abbate, “Music—Drastic or Gnostic?”
Michael Gallope _Deep Refrains_ (TBD)

October 15
J. L. Austin, _How to Do Things_ (TBD)
Tia DeNora, “How is Extramusical Meaning Possible?”
Chung “What is Musical Meaning,” excerpts

Optional: Judith Butler, _Gender Trouble_, and _Bodies that Matter_, and “The Social Magic of Performativity,” Phillip Rupprecht on Speech Acts in Britten’s Operas, Judith Kubicki on Taize Liturgical Illocutions, Deborah Wong on Thai Court Performance and linguistic Performativity, Jim Sykes on Performativity in Sri Lankan music,

OTHER THINGS GOING ON: Society for Ethnomusicology Online Conference (October 18–31, 2020)

Week 9—Language and Performativity, Part II

October 20
Michelle Duncan, “Operatic Scandal of the Performing Body”
Clemens Risi, “Opera in Performance,” [or “The Diva’s Fans”]

October 22
Elizabeth LeGuin _Boccherini’s Body_
Alejandro Madrid “Music and Performance Studies”

Week 10—Decoloniality, Postcoloniality Part I
October 27
Maldonado Torres, “On the Coloniality of Being”
Dylan Robinson, Hungry Listening, intro

October 29
Eve Tuck and Wayne C. Yang, “Decolonization Is Not a Metaphor”
Margaret Walker, “Towards a Decolonized Music History Curriculum”

Optional: Celia T. Bardwell-Jones and Margaret A McLaren, “Introduction to Indigenizing and Decolonizing Feminist Philosophy,” Anibal Quijano

Week I — Decoloniality, Postcoloniality Part II

November 3
Gayathri Chakravorty-Spivak “Can the Subaltern Speak?”
Robin James, Sonic Episteme Chapter 2

November 5
Brigid Cohen et al. eds., “Roundtable on Edward Said,” JRMA
Wouter Capitain “Edward Said on Popular Music”
W. Anthony Sheppard, “Pop Orientalism” (YouTube: https://www.youtube.com/watch?time_continue=16&v=QSWvkDGsFd0&feature=emb_title)

OTHER THINGS GOING ON: American Musicological Society/Society for Music Theory Online Conference November 7–8 and November 14-15

Week 12 — Music and/as Violence

November 10
Suzanne Cusick, “Music as Torture/Music as Weapon”
Steve Goodman, Sonic Warfare excerpts

November 12
Lawrence Abu-Hamdan in The Guardian
Jim Sykes, Sound Studies Article
Chung, Sound Studies article

OTHER THINGS GOING ON: American Musicological Society/Society for Music Theory Online Conference November 7–8 and November 14-15

Week 13—Climate and the Anthropocene

November 17
Dipesh Chakrabarty, “Planetary Crises and the Difficulty of Being Modern”
J. Martin Daughtry, “Did Music Cause the End of the World?”
François Ribac, Paul Harkins, “Popular Music and the Anthropocene”

November 19
Arun Saldhana, “A Date with Destiny: Racial Capitalism and the Origins of the Anthropocene”

Week 14—Final Session Together

November 24
Stephen Amico, “We Are All Musicologists Now”
Naomi Waltham-Smith “For Transdisciplinarity”
Kimberlé Crenshaw, “On Intersectionality,” (YouTube: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=--DW4HLgYPtA)
NO MEETING (THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY)

Rest of Semester

Individual Meetings about final paper topics

Mini-conference with lightning talks from your papers?

Zoom Happy Hour?

Getting Help

Technical Assistance

Part of working in the online environment involves dealing with the inconveniences and frustration that can arise when technology breaks down or does not perform as expected. Here at UNT we have a Student Help Desk that you can contact for help with Canvas or other technology issues.

UIT Help Desk: [UIT Student Help Desk site](http://www.unt.edu/helpdesk/index.htm)

Email: helpdesk@unt.edu

Phone: 940-565-2324

In Person: Sage Hall, Room 130

Walk-In Availability: 8am-9pm

Telephone Availability:

- Sunday: noon-midnight
- Monday-Thursday: 8am-midnight
- Friday: 8am-8pm
- Saturday: 9am-5pm

Laptop Checkout: 8am-7pm

For additional support, visit [Canvas Technical Help](https://community.canvaslms.com/docs/DOC-10554-4212710328)

Student Support Services

UNT provides mental health resources to students to help ensure there are numerous outlets to turn to that wholeheartedly care for and are there for students in need, regardless of the nature of an issue or its severity. Listed below are several resources on campus that can support your academic success and mental well-being:

- [Student Health and Wellness Center](https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/student-health-and-wellness-center)
- [Counseling and Testing Services](https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/counseling-and-testing-services)
- [UNT Care Team](https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/care)
- [UNT Psychiatric Services](https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/student-health-and-wellness-center/services/psychiatry)
- **Individual Counseling** ([https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/counseling-and-testing-services/services/individual-counseling](https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/counseling-and-testing-services/services/individual-counseling))

Other student support services offered by UNT include:

- **Registrar** ([https://registrar.unt.edu/registration](https://registrar.unt.edu/registration))
- **Financial Aid** ([https://financialaid.unt.edu/](https://financialaid.unt.edu/))
- **Student Legal Services** ([https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/student-legal-services](https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/student-legal-services))
- **Career Center** ([https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/career-center](https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/career-center))
- **Multicultural Center** ([https://edo.unt.edu/multicultural-center](https://edo.unt.edu/multicultural-center))
- **Counseling and Testing Services** ([https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/counseling-and-testing-services](https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/counseling-and-testing-services))
- **Pride Alliance** ([https://edo.unt.edu/pridealliance](https://edo.unt.edu/pridealliance))
- **UNT Food Pantry** ([https://deanofstudents.unt.edu/resources/food-pantry](https://deanofstudents.unt.edu/resources/food-pantry))

**Academic Support Services**

- **Academic Resource Center** ([https://clear.unt.edu/canvas/student-resources](https://clear.unt.edu/canvas/student-resources))
- **Academic Success Center** ([https://success.unt.edu/asc](https://success.unt.edu/asc))
- **UNT Libraries** ([https://library.unt.edu/](https://library.unt.edu/))
- **Writing Lab** ([http://writingcenter.unt.edu/](http://writingcenter.unt.edu/))
- **MathLab** ([https://math.unt.edu/mathlab](https://math.unt.edu/mathlab))

**UNT Policies**

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LINK: [http://financialaid.unt.edu/sap](http://financialaid.unt.edu/sap)
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Myriam Reynolds
Chestnut Hall, Suite 311
(940) 565-2741
Myriam.reynolds@unt.edu

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The last day for a student to add a class for Fall 2020 is August 28th. The last day for a student to drop a class in Fall 2020 is September 6th. Information about add/drop may be found at:
See: Add Drop
Link: https://registrar.unt.edu/registration/fall-add-drop

Academic Integrity Policy
Academic Integrity Standards and Consequences. According to UNT Policy 06.003, Student Academic Integrity, academic dishonesty occurs when students engage in behaviors including, but not limited to cheating, fabrication, facilitating academic dishonesty, forgery, plagiarism, and sabotage. A finding of academic dishonesty may result in a range of academic penalties or sanctions ranging from admonition to expulsion from the University.
LINK: https://policy.unt.edu/sites/default/files/06.003.AcadIntegrity.Final_.pdf

ADA Policy
UNT makes reasonable academic accommodation for students with disabilities. Students seeking accommodation must first register with the Office of Disability Accommodation (ODA) to verify their eligibility. If a disability is verified, the ODA will provide a student with an accommodation letter to be delivered to faculty to begin a private discussion regarding one’s specific course needs. Students may request accommodations at any time, however, ODA notices of accommodation should be
provided as early as possible in the semester to avoid any delay in implementation. Note that students must obtain a new letter of accommodation for every semester and must meet with each faculty member prior to implementation in each class. For additional information see the ODA website https://disability.unt.edu/ (Phone: (940) 565-4323)

Emergency Notification & Procedures
UNT uses a system called Eagle Alert to quickly notify students with critical information in the event of an emergency (i.e., severe weather, campus closing, and health and public safety emergencies like chemical spills, fires, or violence). In the event of a university closure, please refer to Blackboard for contingency plans for covering course materials.

Retention of Student Records
Student records pertaining to this course are maintained in a secure location by the instructor of record. All records such as exams, answer sheets (with keys), and written papers submitted during the duration of the course are kept for at least one calendar year after course completion. Course work completed via the Blackboard online system, including grading information and comments, is also stored in a safe electronic environment for one year. Students have the right to view their individual record; however, information about student’s records will not be divulged to other individuals without proper written consent. Students are encouraged to review the Public Information Policy and the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) laws and the University’s policy. See UNT Policy 10.10, Records Management and Retention for additional information.

Acceptable Student Behavior
Student behavior that interferes with an instructor’s ability to conduct a class or other students' opportunity to learn is unacceptable and disruptive and will not be tolerated in any instructional forum at UNT. Students engaging in unacceptable behavior will be directed to leave the classroom and the instructor may refer the student to the Dean of Students to consider whether the student's conduct violated the Code of Student Conduct. The University's expectations for student conduct apply to all instructional forums, including University and electronic classroom, labs, discussion groups, field trips, etc. Visit UNT’s Code of Student Conduct (https://deanofstudents.unt.edu/conduct) to learn more.

Access to Information - Eagle Connect
Students’ access point for business and academic services at UNT is located at: my.unt.edu. All official communication from the University will be delivered to a student’s Eagle Connect account. For more information, please visit the website that explains Eagle Connect and how to forward e-mail Eagle Connect (https://it.unt.edu/eagleconnect).
Student Evaluation Administration Dates
Student feedback is important and an essential part of participation in this course. The student evaluation of instruction is a requirement for all organized classes at UNT. The survey will be made available during weeks 13, 14 and 15 (November 16–December 3, 2020) to provide students with an opportunity to evaluate how this course is taught. Students will receive an email from "UNT SPOT Course Evaluations via IASystem Notification" (no-reply@iasystem.org) with the survey link. Students should look for the email in their UNT email inbox. Simply click on the link and complete the survey. Once students complete the survey they will receive a confirmation email that the survey has been submitted. For additional information, please visit the SPOT website (http://spot.unt.edu/) or email spot@unt.edu.

Sexual Assault Prevention
UNT is committed to providing a safe learning environment free of all forms of sexual misconduct, including sexual harassment sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking. Federal laws (Title IX and the Violence Against Women Act) and UNT policies prohibit discrimination on the basis of sex, and therefore prohibit sexual misconduct. If you or someone you know is experiencing sexual harassment, relationship violence, stalking, and/or sexual assault, there are campus resources available to provide support and assistance. UNT’s Survivor Advocates can assist a student who has been impacted by violence by filing protective orders, completing crime victim’s compensation applications, contacting professors for absences related to an assault, working with housing to facilitate a room change where appropriate, and connecting students to other resources available both on and off campus. The Survivor Advocates can be reached at SurvivorAdvocate@unt.edu or by calling the Dean of Students Office at 940-565-2648. Additionally, alleged sexual misconduct can be non-confidentially reported to the Title IX Coordinator at oeo@unt.edu or at (940) 565 2759.

Important Notice for F-1 Students taking Distance Education Courses

Federal Regulation
To read detailed Immigration and Customs Enforcement regulations for F-1 students taking online courses, please go to the Electronic Code of Federal Regulations website (http://www.ecfr.gov/). The specific portion concerning distance education courses is located at Title 8 CFR 214.2 Paragraph (f)(6)(i)(G).

The paragraph reads:

(G) For F-1 students enrolled in classes for credit or classroom hours, no more than the equivalent of one class or three credits per session, term, semester, trimester, or quarter may be counted toward the full course of study requirement if the class is taken on-line or through distance education and does not require the student's physical attendance for classes, examination or other purposes integral to completion of the class. An on-line or distance education course is a course that is offered principally through the use of television, audio, or computer transmission including open broadcast, closed circuit,
cable, microwave, or satellite, audio conferencing, or computer conferencing. If the F-1 student's course of study is in a language study program, no on-line or distance education classes may be considered to count toward a student's full course of study requirement.

University of North Texas Compliance

To comply with immigration regulations, an F-1 visa holder within the United States may need to engage in an on-campus experiential component for this course. This component (which must be approved in advance by the instructor) can include activities such as taking an on-campus exam, participating in an on-campus lecture or lab activity, or other on-campus experience integral to the completion of this course.

If such an on-campus activity is required, it is the student’s responsibility to do the following:

(1) Submit a written request to the instructor for an on-campus experiential component within one week of the start of the course.

(2) Ensure that the activity on campus takes place and the instructor documents it in writing with a notice sent to the International Student and Scholar Services Office. ISSS has a form available that you may use for this purpose.

Because the decision may have serious immigration consequences, if an F-1 student is unsure about his or her need to participate in an on-campus experiential component for this course, s/he should contact the UNT International Student and Scholar Services Office (telephone 940-565-2195 or email internationaladvising@unt.edu) to get clarification before the one-week deadline.

Student Verification

UNT takes measures to protect the integrity of educational credentials awarded to students enrolled in distance education courses by verifying student identity, protecting student privacy, and notifying students of any special meeting times/locations or additional charges associated with student identity verification in distance education courses.

See UNT Policy 07-002 Student Identity Verification, Privacy, and Notification and Distance Education Courses (https://policy.unt.edu/policy/07-002).

Use of Student Work

A student owns the copyright for all work (e.g. software, photographs, reports, presentations, and email postings) he or she creates within a class and the University is not entitled to use any student work without the student’s permission unless all of the following criteria are met:

- The work is used only once.
- The work is not used in its entirety.
- Use of the work does not affect any potential profits from the work.
- The student is not identified.
The work is identified as student work.

If the use of the work does not meet all of the above criteria, then the University office or department using the work must obtain the student’s written permission.

**Retention of Student Records:**

See: FERPA
Link: [http://ferpa.unt.edu/](http://ferpa.unt.edu/)