Sounds and Cinema
Syllabus, Summer 5W1
2023

Course Number
MUMH2050.001
5217

Instructor
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Course Description
This course focuses on the appreciation and analysis of film music as a creative work of the human imagination. In so doing, this course develops critical and analytical approaches to the soundtrack, music's role in the soundtrack, and the relation of the soundtrack and imagetrack (especially relating to music) on small-scale and large-scale (narrative) levels. The course develops critical listening and viewing abilities, so that students can effectively communicate interpretive ideas of the music at hand.

This course also offers a particular kind of film-music history survey, one that focuses on the three points in the history of film sound: the introduction of sound, the introduction of stereo, and the introduction of digital sound. The course will explore the thesis that each of these technological advances alters the structural relationships that obtain among the three relatively autonomous components of the soundtrack—dialogue, music and effects. In so doing, this course seeks to explore critical, creative, and innovative ways to analyze film music as a unique work of art.

The course is designed so that students can be successful without a background in music history and theory or a background in film history or theory. Musical performance background (reading music notation) is also not a prerequisite. *The main requirement is a willingness to listen carefully and to articulate what is heard.*

Course Structure
This course takes place 100% online. There are five weeks of content that you will move through. Each module contains one week of content and assignments.

Course Objectives
- Through historical documents, contemporary scholarship, and particular film soundtracks, students will cultivate the critical thinking skills needed to introduce problems and questions; present, interpret, and analyze a variety of source material; consider the context of a variety of source material; develop arguments with a logical progression; and present conclusions and their implications. **(Core LO: Critical Thinking)**
- Students will develop communication skills by writing and speaking about film music and its history with a clear statement of purpose, organization, developed content, and accuracy. **(Core LO: Communication)**
- By exploring the role of the soundtrack and imagetrack in characterizing individuals and groups, students will learn social responsibility by acknowledging and assuming diverse cultural/intercultural perspectives; exploring aspects of civic responsibility; and reflecting personally on the ability to understand, recognize, and even challenge notions of cultural bias. **(Core LO: Social Responsibility)**
- As team members, students will be asked to contribute, prepare, collaborate, foster constructive team climates, and respond to feedback constructively related to the music and sources studied in this course. **(Core LO: Teamwork)**

Required Textbook
- James Buhler, David Neumeyer, and Rob Deemer, *Hearing the Movies: Music and Sound in Film History, 2nd edition* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2015).

Assignments and Grading

* You can find all assignment guidelines and details on Canvas.

Assignment	Total Points for Category
Group Discussion Activities	**250**
Weekly Group Discussion Activities Weeks 1-5 5 @ 50 points each *Individual Posts Due Thursdays* *Replies to Team Members Due Fridays*	
Quiz	**175**
Course Overview Quiz Week 1 1 @ 25 points *Due Wednesday*	25
Unit Quizzes Weeks 1, 3, 5 3 @ 50 points each *Weeks 1-4 Due Sundays* *Week 5 Due Friday (Last day of Class)!*	150
Individual Writing Assignments	**300**
Synopses & Analyses Reports Weeks 1, 2, & 4 3 @ 100 points each	300
Creative Projects	**275**

Scoring Project
Week 3
        Media File/Score @ 75 points
        Rationale and Terminology @ 50 points
Due Sunday
	125

Silent Film Scoring Project
Week 5
        Media File @ 100 points
        Rationale and Terminology @ 50 points
Due Friday (Last Day of Class!)
	150

Course Schedule

Canvas maintains a more detailed schedule that includes assigned readings and specific due dates, but the schedule below provides a general outline for the semester.

Week/Module	Topic & Reading	Assignment
Week 1 Module 1	Course Organization Music and the Sound Track: Basic Terms and Concepts Musicality of the Sound Track Music, Sound, Space, and Time Reading: *HtM*, Preface and General Introduction; Introduction to Part 1; Ch. 1 Reading: *HtM*, Chs. 2 & 3	Course Overview Quiz Group Discussion 1 Synopses & Analyses 1 Unit 1 Quiz Scoring Project: SoundTrap Tutorial Videos
Week 2 Module 2	From 1895-1929: Music and Sound in Early Film From 1926 to 1932: The Transition to Sound Film Reading: *HtM*, Introduction to Part 2; Chs. 4 & 5	Group Discussion 2 Synopses & Analyses 2 Scoring Project: SoundTrap Tutorial Videos

Week 3
Module 3
	From 1932 to 1950: Music and Sound Track in the
	    Classical Studio Era
	From 1950 to 1975: The Stereo Sound Track and the
	    Post-Classical Era
		Group Discussion 3
		Unit 2 Quiz
		
		Scoring Project Due

	Music and Film for in the Post-Classical Era Reading: *HtM*, Chs. 7 Reading: *HtM*, Chs. 9 & 10	
Week 4 Module 4	From 1975 to 2000: The New Hollywood, Dolby Stereo, and the Emergence of Sound Design Music and Film Form in the New Hollywood Reading: *HtM,* Introduction to Part 3; Chs. 11 & 12	Group Discussion 4 Synopses & Analyses 3 Final Scoring Project: ClipChamp Tutorial Videos
Week 5 Module 5	Music and Film Sound Since 2000 Music and Film Form Since 2000 Reading: *HtM,* Chs. 13 & 14	Group Discussion 5 Unit 3 Quiz Final Scoring Project Final Scoring Project Previews (Extra Credit!)

Grade Equivalence

The grade of "A" will be assigned for excellent academic work. A grade of "B" will be assigned for good work. A grade of "C" will be assigned for fair work. A grade of "D" will be assigned for work that minimally passes. A grade of "F" will be assigned for failing work. (http://registrar.unt.edu/grades/understand-your-grade-report) Grades will be calculated according to the following scale:

900-1000 A   800-899 B   700-799 C   600-699 D   0-599 F

Sounds and Cinema
University & Course Policies

Academic Integrity
Students caught cheating or plagiarizing will receive a "0" for that particular assignment or exam [or specify alternative sanction, such as course failure]. Additionally, the incident will be reported to the Dean of Students (Office of Academic Integrity), who may impose further penalty. According to the UNT catalog, the term "cheating" includes, but is not limited to: a. use of any unauthorized assistance in taking quizzes, tests, or examinations; b. dependence upon the aid of sources beyond those authorized by the instructor in writing papers, preparing reports, solving problems, or carrying out other assignments; c. the acquisition, without permission, of tests or other academic material belonging to a faculty or staff member of the university; d. dual submission of a paper or project, or resubmission of a paper or project to a different class without express permission from the instructor(s); or e. any other act designed to give a student an unfair advantage. The term "plagiarism" includes, but is not limited to: a. the knowing or negligent use by paraphrase or direct quotation of the published or unpublished work of another person without full and clear acknowledgment; and b. the knowing or negligent unacknowledged use of materials prepared by another person or agency engaged in the selling of term papers or other academic materials.
See: Academic Integrity
LINK: https://policy.unt.edu/sites/default/files/06.003.AcadIntegrity.Final_.pdf

Student Behavior
Student behavior that interferes with an instructor's ability to conduct a class or other students' opportunity to learn is 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 classrooms, labs, discussion groups, field trips, etc.

See: Student Code of Conduct
Link: https://deanofstudents.unt.edu/conduct

Access to Information – Eagle Connect
Your access point for business and academic services at UNT occurs
at my.unt.edu. All official communication from the university will be delivered to your Eagle Connect account. For more information, please visit the website that explains Eagle Connect.
See: Eagle Connect
LINK: eagleconnect.unt.edu/

ODA Statement
The University of North Texas makes reasonable academic accommodation for students with disabilities. Students seeking accommodation must first register with the Office of Disability Access (ODA) to verify their eligibility. If a disability is verified, the ODA will provide you with an accommodation letter to be delivered to faculty to begin a private discussion regarding your specific needs in a course. You 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 Office of Disability Access.

See: ODA
LINK: disability.unt.edu. (Phone: (940) 565-4323)

UNT Policy Statement on Diversity
UNT values diversity and individuality as part of advancing ideals of human worth, dignity and academic excellence. Diverse viewpoints enrich open discussion, foster the examination of values and exposure of biases, help educate people

in rational conflict resolution and responsive leadership, and prepare us for the complexities of a pluralistic society. As such, UNT is committed to maintaining an open, welcoming atmosphere that attracts qualified students, staff, and faculty from all groups to support their success. UNT does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, age, disability, genetic information, or veteran status in its application and admission process, educational programs and activities, employment policies and use of university facilities.

See: Diversity Statement
Link: https://policy.unt.edu/sites/default/files/04.018_PolicyStateOnDiversity.pub 8_.18.pdf

2023 Summer Semester Academic Schedule (with Add/Drop Dates)
See: Summer Registration Guide
Link: https://registrar.unt.edu/registration/summer-registration-guide

Academic Calendar at a Glance, 2023-24
See: Academic Calendar
Link: http://catalog.unt.edu/content.php?catoid=32&navoid=3596

Final Exam Schedule
See: Final Exam Schedules
Link: https://registrar.unt.edu/exams/final-exam-schedule

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

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 Canvas online system, including grading information and comments, is also stored in a safe electronic environment for one year. You have a right to view your individual record; however, information about your records will not be divulged to other individuals without the proper written consent. You are encouraged to review the Public Information Policy and the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) laws and the university's policy in accordance with those mandates.

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

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

Add/Drop Policy
Please be reminded that dropping classes or failing to complete and pass registered hours may make you ineligible for financial aid. In addition, if you drop below half-time enrollment you may be required to begin paying back your student loans. Information about add/drop may be found at:

See: Add Drop
Link: https://registrar.unt.edu/registration/summer-registration-guide

Student Resources

The University of North Texas has many resources available to students. For a complete list, go to:
See: Student Resources
Link: https://www.unt.edu/sites/default/files/resource_sheet.pdf

Student Perceptions of Teaching (SPOT)
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 short SPOT survey will be made available to provide you with an opportunity to evaluate how this course is taught. For additional information, please visit the spot website at http://www.spot.unt.edu/ or email spot@unt.edu.

Turnitin Statement and Students' Rights
Students might be asked to submit some work for this class to Turnitin, a web-based plagiarism detection service.

Grade of I (Incomplete)
University policy specifies that the grade of I-incomplete is "a non-punitive grade given only during the last one-fourth of a semester and only if a student is (1) passing the course; (2) has justifiable reason why the work cannot be completed on schedule; and (3) arranges with the instructor to finish the course at a later date by completing specific requirements that the instructor must list on the grade sheet. All work in the course must be completed within the specified time (not to exceed one year after taking the course)."

Modifications
Circumstances are apt to change during the semester and the instructor reserves the right to alter or modify this course syllabus. Any and all modifications to the syllabus will be submitted to you in writing and discussed in class.