

## Sounds and Cinema

MUMH2050.001 (18154)

### Instructor Contact

Name: April L. Prince  
Pronouns: she/her  
Office Location: MU319  
Office Hours: MWF 11-12; by appointment  
Email: [april.prince@unt.edu](mailto:april.prince@unt.edu)

### Teaching Assistant Contacts

Name: Sarah Addison  
Pronouns: she/her  
Email: [sarahaddison@my.unt.edu](mailto:sarahaddison@my.unt.edu)

Name: Robert Anderson  
Pronouns: he/him  
Email: [robertanderson3@my.unt.edu](mailto:robertanderson3@my.unt.edu)

Name: Jacob Bissell  
Pronouns: he/him  
Email: [jacobbissell@my.unt.edu](mailto:jacobbissell@my.unt.edu)

Name: Myles McLean  
Pronouns: he/him/they/them  
Email: [MylesMcLean@my.unt.edu](mailto:MylesMcLean@my.unt.edu)

### Communication Expectations:

If you have a private question, please contact me via email, and I will respond within 24 hours on weekdays (usually sooner) and around 48 hours on weekends. I'm very quick with email, and that is my preferred method of contact. If you email a TA, please copy me on the email!

### Welcome to UNT!

As members of the UNT community, we have all made a commitment to be part of an institution that respects and values the identities of the students and employees with whom we interact. UNT does not tolerate identity-based discrimination, harassment, and retaliation. UNT's full Non-Discrimination Policy can be found in the UNT Policies section of the syllabus.

### 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 imagertrack (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 entirely asynchronous and online.

## Course Prerequisites or Other Restrictions

There are no prerequisites for this course.

## Course Objectives

By the end of this course:

1. 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)**
2. 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)**
3. By exploring the role of the soundtrack and imagerack 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)**
4. 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)**

## Materials

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

***Please make sure you get the 2<sup>nd</sup> edition! It is much different than the first!***

## Course Technology & Skills

### Minimum Technology Requirements

- Computer
- Reliable internet access
- [Free Spotify account](#)
- [Microsoft Office Suite](#)

- [Canvas Technical Requirements](https://clear.unt.edu/supported-technologies/canvas/requirements) (https://clear.unt.edu/supported-technologies/canvas/requirements)

### Computer Skills & Digital Literacy

- Using Canvas
- Using email with attachments
- Downloading PDFs
- Interacting with online music platforms (Spotify/YouTube)
- Accessing UNT Library Databases

### 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) (http://www.unt.edu/helpdesk/index.htm)

**Email:** [helpdesk@unt.edu](mailto: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) (https://community.canvaslms.com/docs/DOC-10554-4212710328)

### Rules of Engagement

Rules of engagement refer to the way students are expected to interact with each other and with their instructors. Here are some general guidelines:

- While the freedom to express yourself is a fundamental human right, any communication that utilizes cruel and derogatory language on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, age, disability, genetic information, veteran status, or any other characteristic protected under applicable federal or state law will not be tolerated.
- Treat your instructor and classmates with respect in any communication online or face-to-face, even when their opinion differs from your own.
- Ask for and use the correct name and pronouns for your instructor and classmates.
- Speak from personal experiences. Use “I” statements to share thoughts and feelings. Try not to speak on behalf of groups or other individual’s experiences.
- Use your critical thinking skills to challenge other people’s ideas, instead of attacking individuals.
- Avoid using all caps while communicating digitally. This may be interpreted as “YELLING!”
- Be cautious when using humor or sarcasm in emails or discussion posts as tone can be difficult to interpret digitally.
- Avoid using “text-talk” unless explicitly permitted by your instructor.

- Proofread and fact-check your sources.
- Keep in mind that online posts can be permanent, so think first before you type.

See these [Engagement Guidelines](https://clear.unt.edu/online-communication-tips) (https://clear.unt.edu/online-communication-tips) for more information.

## Course Requirements

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

<b>Assignment</b>	<b>Total Points for Category</b>
<b>Team Discussion Activities</b>	<b>300</b>
<i>Weekly Team Discussion Activities</i> 14 opportunities to earn full points Due Weeks 1-14 10 @ 30 points each  14 opportunities to earn full points! <i>* You can miss 4 discussions without penalty! Or, your 4 lowest grades will drop!</i>  Individual Posts due: <i>Fridays @ 11.59pm</i> Community Responses due: <i>Sundays @ 11.59pm</i>	
<b>Quizzes</b>	<b>175</b>
<i>Course Overview Quiz</i> Due Week 1 1 @ 25 points	25
<i>Unit Quizzes</i> Due Weeks 4, 10, & 14 3 @ 50 points each  Quizzes due <i>Sundays @ 11.59pm</i>	150
<b>Individual Writing Assignments</b>	<b>275</b>
<i>Synopses &amp; Analyses Reports</i> Due Weeks 2, 4, 6, 10, 12, 14 5 @ 50 points each  6 opportunities to earn full points <i>* You can miss 1 report without penalty! Or, your lowest grade will drop!</i>  Reports due <i>Sundays @ 11.59pm</i>	250
<i>Teamwork Reflection</i> Due Week 15 1 @ 25 points	25
<b>Scoring Projects</b>	<b>250</b>
<i>Scoring Project</i> Due Week 15 Media File/Score @ 75 points Rationale and Terminology @ 50 points  Project due Sunday @ 11.59pm	125

## Grading

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**

## Course Schedule

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

***If there is ever a discrepancy between this schedule and Canvas, please follow the due dates and topics in Canvas!***

<b>Week/Module</b>	<b>Topic &amp; Reading</b>	<b>Assignment</b>
Week 1-2 Module 1	Course Organization Music and the Sound Track: Basic Terms and Concepts  Reading: <i>H/M</i> , Preface and General Introduction; Introduction to Part 1; Ch. 1	Team Discussions 1-2 Course Overview Quiz Synopses & Analyses 1
Weeks 3-4 Module 2	Musicality of the Sound Track Music, Sound, Space, and Time  Reading: <i>H/M</i> , Chs. 2 & 3	Team Discussions 2-4 Synopses & Analyses 2 Unit 1 Quiz  Scoring Project: SoundTrap Tutorial Videos
Week 5-6 Module 3	From 1895-1929: Music and Sound in Early Film From 1926 to 1932: The Transition to Sound Film  Reading: <i>H/M</i> , Introduction to Part 2; Chs. 4 & 5	Team Discussions 5-6 Synopses & Analyses 3  Scoring Project: SoundTrap Tutorial Videos
Week 7-8 Module 4	From 1932 to 1950: Music and Sound Track in the Classical Studio Era  Reading: <i>H/M</i> , Chs. 7	Team Discussions 7-8 Scoring Project Due
Week 9-10 Module 5	From 1950 to 1975: The Stereo Sound Track and the Post-Classical Era Music and Film for in the Post-Classical Era  Reading: <i>H/M</i> , Chs. 9 & 10	Team Discussions 9-10 Unit 2 Quiz
Week 11-12 Module 6	From 1975 to 2000: The New Hollywood, Dolby Stereo, and the Emergence of Sound Design Music and Film Form in the New Hollywood  Reading: <i>H/M</i> , Introduction to Part 3; Chs. 11 & 12	Team Discussions 11-12 Synopses & Analyses 3  Final Scoring Project: ClipChamp Tutorial Videos
Week 13-14 Module 7	Music and Film Sound Since 2000 Music and Film Form Since 2000  Reading: <i>H/M</i> , Chs. 13 & 14	Team Discussions 13-14 Synopses & Analyses 4 Unit 3 Quiz

		Final Scoring Project: ClipChamp Tutorial Videos
Week 15-16 Module 8	Final Scoring Project	Final Scoring Project  Final Scoring Project Previews (Extra Credit!)

## Course Policies

### Assignment Policy

Students can find all assignment information, submission guidelines, and due dates in the Introduction Module in Canvas.

All assignments have a 24-hour grace period in the event of unforeseen personal or technical difficulties. This policy means that all students can submit work up to 24 hours after the due date **without** penalty.

### Examination Policy

Unit Quizzes are designed to test students' reading and listening skills and mastery of unit materials. While students can use classroom materials during the quizzes, given their timed nature, students should have worked through the materials prior to taking the quizzes. Should technical issues occur, students have two attempts on each quiz and a 24-hour grace period.

### Instructor Feedback

Due to the class size, I will return feedback on all written assignments within one week of the due date. If I see that I will be unable to return your feedback within that timeframe, I will post an Announcement to let everyone know when it can be expected.

### Late Work

All assignments have a 24-hour grace period in the event of unforeseen technical difficulties. That means students can submit work up to 24 hours after the due date without penalty. Since students can miss two Weekly Team Discussion and one Synopsis & Analysis Report without penalty, no late assignments are accepted after the 24-hour grace period.

### Attendance Policy

This class has no attendance policy.

### Syllabus Change Policy

This syllabus can be modified. All modifications will be announced via Canvas and explained in writing.

## UNT Policies

### 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. [Insert specific sanction or academic penalty for specific academic integrity violation.]

### 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 \(https://disability.unt.edu/\)](https://disability.unt.edu/).

### Prohibition of Discrimination, Harassment, and Retaliation (Policy 16.004)

The University of North Texas (UNT) prohibits discrimination and harassment because of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, age, disability, genetic information, veteran status, or any other characteristic protected under applicable federal or state law in its application and admission processes; educational programs and activities; employment policies, procedures, and processes; and university facilities. The University takes active measures to prevent such conduct and investigates and takes remedial action when appropriate.

### 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 Canvas 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 Canvas 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) (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](https://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) (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 [insert administration dates] of the long semesters 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](mailto: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/) (<http://spot.unt.edu/>) or email [spot@unt.edu](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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/) (<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](mailto: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) (<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.

Download the UNT System Permission, Waiver and Release Form

### Transmission and Recording of Student Images in Electronically-Delivered Courses

1. No permission is needed from a student for his or her image or voice to be transmitted live via videoconference or streaming media, but all students should be informed when courses are to be conducted using either method of delivery.
2. In the event an instructor records student presentations, he or she must obtain permission from the student using a signed release in order to use the recording for future classes in accordance with the Use of Student-Created Work guidelines above.

- Instructors who video-record their class lectures with the intention of re-using some or all of recordings for future class offerings must notify students on the course syllabus if students' images may appear on video. Instructors are also advised to provide accommodation for students who do not wish to appear in class recordings.

Example: This course employs lecture capture technology to record class sessions. Students may occasionally appear on video. The lecture recordings will be available to you for study purposes and may also be reused in future course offerings.

No notification is needed if only audio and slide capture is used or if the video only records the instructor's image. However, the instructor is encouraged to let students know the recordings will be available to them for study purposes.

## Academic Support & Student Services

### Student Support Services

#### *Mental Health*

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

#### *Chosen Names*

A chosen name is a name that a person goes by that may or may not match their legal name. If you have a chosen name that is different from your legal name and would like that to be used in class, please let the instructor know. Below is a list of resources for updating your chosen name at UNT.

- [UNT Records](#)
- [UNT ID Card](#)
- [UNT Email Address](#)
- [Legal Name](#)

*\*UNT euIDs cannot be changed at this time. The collaborating offices are working on a process to make this option accessible to UNT community members.*

#### *Pronouns*

Pronouns (she/her, they/them, he/him, etc.) are a public way for people to address you, much like your name, and can be shared with a name when making an introduction, both virtually and in-person. Just as we ask and don't assume someone's name, we should also ask and not assume someone's pronouns.

You can [add your pronouns to your Canvas account](#) so that they follow your name when posting to discussion boards, submitting assignments, etc.

Below is a list of additional resources regarding pronouns and their usage:

- [What are pronouns and why are they important?](#)
- [How do I use pronouns?](#)
- [How do I share my pronouns?](#)
- [How do I ask for another person's pronouns?](#)
- [How do I correct myself or others when the wrong pronoun is used?](#)

*Additional Student Support Services*

- [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/)