

Introduction to Research in Music

MuMH 5010 Section 002 – Spring 2021

Instructor: Dr. Bernardo Illari

Bernardo.illari@unt.edu

Office: Music 316

Phone: (940) 565 4528 (leave a message)

Text (emergency only): (940) 220 9119 (an internet-based service) Office hours: We 11:00-12:00 or by appointment.

<https://unt.zoom.us/j/86912048352> ; Meeting ID: 869 1204 8352

Website: <http://learn.unt.edu>

Caveat lector!

There is nothing set in this world, not even syllabi. This document will change as needed.

My commitment to you

I will offer you an understanding of music research as a vital and creative endeavor.

- 1) You will get experience with a variety of research approaches, methods and techniques.
- 2) You will develop strategies for thinking critically about music.
- 3) You will acquire basic tools for library research.
- 4) You will master an academic writing style.

Overview

This class is not only about a few basic skills, such as how to write footnotes and bibliographies, but rather introduces you to a continuing process of exploration of and reflection upon the many important questions that music

poses to all of us. This is not to say, however, that getting to know library tools and learning to write footnotes or bibliographies are not important—and we shall cover these and other, similar, essential items. Yet our coverage will reach beyond, in the context of defined projects shaped according to your own interests and strengths. We all will create a free space for exchanging experiences and ideas and learn from each other in the form of class-wide discussions.

Required Texts

I recommend that you purchase these books to use them throughout grad school.

Sampsel, Laurie J. *Music Research: A Handbook*, 3rd edition. New York and Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2020. On permanent music reserve.

Turabian, Kate L. *A Manual for Writers of Research Papers, Theses, and Dissertations: Chicago Style for Students and Researchers*, 9th ed. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2018.

Recommended Texts

Bolker, Joan. *Writing Your Dissertation in Fifteen Minutes a Day: A Guide to Starting, Revising, and Finishing Your Doctoral Thesis*. New York: Henry Holt and Co., 1998.

Comer, Denise K. and Garrett, Gina. *It's Just a Dissertation!: The Irreverent Guide to Transforming Your Dissertation from Daunting...to Doable...to Done*. Southlake, TX: Fountainhead Press, 2014.

Duckles, Vincent H., and Ida Reed. *Music Reference and Research Materials: An Annotated Bibliography*. 5th ed. New York: Schirmer Books, 1997.

Harris, Joseph. *Rewriting: How to do Things with Texts*. Logan, Utah: Utah State University Press, 2006). E-book available through UNT library catalog.

Lamott, Anne. *Bird by Bird: Some Instructions on Writing and Life*. New York: Anchor Books, 1995.

Noble, Safiya Umoja. *Algorithms of Oppression: How Search Engines Reinforce Racism*. New York: NYU Press, 2018.

Strunk, William, Jr., and E.B. White. *The Elements of Style*. 3d ed. New York: Macmillan, 1979. [There are many other editions of this book].

Wingell, Richard J. *Writing about Music: An Introductory Guide*. Third edition. Upper Saddle River, N.J.: Prentice-Hall, 2002.

Zinsser, William. *On Writing Well: The Classic Guide to Writing Nonfiction*. New York: Harper Collins, 2006.

Requirements

- 1) Three shorter papers.
- 2) About one assignment (blog entry) per week.
- 3) No less than ten responses to your peers' blog postings.
- 4) One original paper, of no less than 3,300 words (not counting footnotes, bibliography, tables, and quotations), based upon primary evidence and including a background section shorter than 1,100 words.
- 5) Class presentations, including a delivery of your final paper.
- 6) Your active participation in regular class discussions.

Grading Policy

Shorter papers	27
Assignments	24
Blog responses	10
Final paper	20
Final paper presentation	10
Class participation	09
Total	100

Attendance Policy

Attendance is required for this course. Roll will be checked for each class period.

- a) Each unexcused absence after the third one will be penalized with the subtraction of five class points from your grade.
- b) Missed scheduled presentation will be penalized with the subtraction of five class points from your grade. Absences from your peers' paper presentations will be penalized in the same way.
- c) Since late arrivals and early departures cut into class time and are disruptive, these will also count as absences. Arriving ten minutes after the hour will get you half an absence. After twenty minutes, a whole absence will be counted.
- d) Please refer to the UNT policy manual for a definition of what constitutes an excused absence. Basically, if you miss class due to your participation in official university business, absences are excused.
- e) While attendance is an important part of succeeding in this class, your own health, and those of others in the community, is more important. 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/symptoms-testing/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.

Doubts?

Please feel free to contact me if you have any question or problem. I mean it! I am available to talk to you during my office hours or by

appointment. You can also contact me through e-mail, or phone my office (see above).

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 classrooms, labs, discussion groups, field trips, etc. See [Student Code of Conduct](#)

Academic Integrity

All tests and assignments for this class should be the product of individual work, unless otherwise indicated. Students caught cheating or plagiarizing will receive a "0" for that particular assignment. Students who repeatedly engage in cheating or plagiarism will receive an "F" for the class. 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 to take 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. acquisition, without permission, of tests, notes or other academic materials belonging to a faculty or staff member of the university;

- d. dual submission of a paper or project, or re-submission of a paper or project to a different class without express permission from the instructor; 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.
- b. the knowing or negligent unacknowledged use of materials prepared by another person or by an agency engaged in selling term papers or other academic materials.

See Academic Integrity.

Additional information

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

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. You can now request your Letters of Accommodation ONLINE and ODA will mail your Letters of Accommodation to your instructors. You may wish to begin a private discussion with your professors regarding your specific needs in a course. Note that students must obtain a new letter of accommodation for every semester. For additional information see the Office of Disability Access. See ODA. 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](#)

2020-2021 SEMESTER ACADEMIC SCHEDULE (WITH ADD/DROP DATES)

See [Spring, 2021 Registration Guide](#)

ACADEMIC CALENDAR AT A GLANCE, 2020-2021

See [Academic Calendar](#)

FINAL EXAM SCHEDULE

See [2021 Final Exam Schedule](#)

FINANCIAL AID AND SATISFACTORY ACADEMIC PROGRESS

A student must maintain Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) to continue to receive financial aid. Students must maintain a minimum 3.0 cumulative GPA in addition to successfully completing a required number of credit hours based on total registered hours per term. Music scholarships require a 3.5 cumulative GPA. Students cannot exceed maximum timeframes established based on the published length of the graduate program. If a student does not maintain the required standards, the student may lose their financial aid eligibility.

If at any point you consider dropping this or any other course, please be advised that the decision to do so may have the potential to affect your

current and future financial aid eligibility. It is recommended you schedule a meeting with an academic advisor in your college, an advisor in UNT-International or visit the Student Financial Aid and Scholarships office to discuss dropping a course. See [Financial Aid](#)

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](#)

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](#). For more information on mental health issues, please visit [Mental Health Issues](#).

The counselor for music students is: Myriam Reynolds
Chestnut Hall, Suite 311 (940) 565-2741
Myriam.reynolds@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. After the 12th class day, students must first submit a completed "Request to Drop" form to the Registrar's Office. The last day

for a student to drop a class in Spring, 2021 is April 2. Information about add/drop may be found here: [Add Drop](#).

STUDENT RESOURCES

The University of North Texas has many resources available to students. For a complete list, go to [Student Resources](#).

Music Research: Schedule

This schedule is subject to change.

Please check our Canvas site for details and materials.

Week 1

12 January – Welcome!

14 January – What is research? Topic and thesis. Sampsel, chapter 1. Turabian, selections from chap. 1 and 14.

Week 2

19 January – Infamous Google. Outlines. Turabian, chap. 2.

21 January – Theses.

Week 3

26 January – Musical examples.

28 January – Outlines (1). Find and read Edward T. Cone, “Analysis Today.”

29 January: Paper 1 due, 11:59 pm (Canvas link).

Week 4

2 February – Library searches, LC. Outlines 2. Sampsel, chap. 2 and Appendix A.

4 February – Searches and Search engines. Musical examples. Noble, “A Society Searching.” In *Algorithms of Oppression*, 15–63.

Week 5

9 February – Encyclopedias. Sampsel, chap. 3.

11 February – Databases: articles and dissertations. Outlines 3. Sampsel, chap. 4 and 5.

12 February: Final paper proposal due, 11:59 PM (Canvas posting).

Week 6

16 February – Bibliographies, discographies, iconographies. Sampsel, chap. 9-11.

18 February – Thematic catalogs; indexes to complete works editions. Sampsel, chap. 6-7.

Week 7

23 February – Musical editions.

25 February – Footnotes and Bibliography. Sampsel, chap. 13, and Appendix D.

Week 8

2 March – Key concepts (1).

4 March – Key concepts (2).

5 March: Bibliography due, 11:59 PM (Canvas posting).

Week 9

9 March – Abstracting.

11 March – No class

Week 10

16 March – Handling Literature.

18 March – Putting together a narrative.

19 March: Annotated Bibliography due, 11:59 PM (Canvas posting).

Week 11

23 March – Handling Terms.

25 March – Arguing. Turabian, chap. 5-6.

Week 12

30 March – Drafting. Turabian, chap. 7.

1 April – Framing.

Week 13

6 April – Revising. Turabian, chap. 8.

8 April – The Performers' Literary Genres.

9 April: Presenters for Week 14, post your paper draft by 11:59 PM.

Week 14

13 April – Paper presentations.

15 April – Paper presentations.

16 April: Presenters for Week 15, post your paper draft by 11:59 PM.

Week 15

20 April – Paper presentations.

22 April – Paper presentations.

Exam Week

Final paper due, Monday 26 April, 11:59 PM.