MUET 3030: Music Cultures of the World

Tuesday/Thursday; 11 AM – 12:20 PM; Music Building, Room 258

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Office Hours: Tuesday/Thursday; 8 – 10:30 am; 1 – 2 pm

Teaching Assistants (office hours by appointment only):

- Meng Ren (mengren@my.unt.edu)
    - **Office Hours:** By appointment
- Rachel Schuck (rachelschuck@my.unt.edu)
    - **Office Hours**: Bain Hall 310; Thursday, 9 – 10:50 am.

Course Description and Objectives

This course will introduce you to various musical traditions around the world beyond Western Europe. In particular, discussions on musical practices will emphasize music as a sociocultural phenomenon, exploring how music operates as a symbolic and cultural expression. This version of the course will focus on musical practices from the South American Andes, North Native American territories, Africa, Indonesia, Mexico, and the Caribbean.

By the end of this class, you should:

- Develop an understanding of the concept of music-culture
- Develop an increased understanding of various music-cultures around the world
- Develop critical listening skills
- Understand music as a cultural expression

Required Text

- *Worlds of Music: An Introduction to the Music of the World's Peoples* (5th Edition), edited by Jeff Titon, published by Cengage Learning
    - (The “Shorter Version,” the 4th edition long version, and the 6th edition will not work for this class)
- Additional materials will be posted on Canvas

Grade Evaluation

The course will be graded on a cumulative 1000-point scale (not including extra credit, which may be offered throughout the semester). To pass the course, students must maintain a passing grade of 600 (D) or higher. The points will be divided as such:

Introduction	100 points
Major Assignments	300 points
Weekly Journal	300 points
Midterm Exam	150 points
Final Exam	150 points
_____	
Total	1000 points

Weekly Journal

There will be a journal assignment each week (15 total, worth 20 points each) with prompts asking students to reflect and/or share their thoughts on various topics related to the course modules. These prompts are meant to encourage self-reflection, especially with regard to music and/or culture (100 – 1000 words). Students may also consider asking questions or mentioning anything from outside the module relevant to a given topic including: material covered in other modules or courses, past experiences, or any other ideas/thoughts/suspicions.

Completed, on-topic, and on-time journal entries will receive full points. Late submissions will receive an automatic 10 point deduction, and off-topic journal entries (or those that are below 100 words) will receive a 0.

Assignments

Students will complete two major assignments for the semester. All electronic assignments, unless otherwise noted, must be typed in a separate document file and submitted through Canvas. Late submissions will receive 10% deductions for every day after the due date until the assignment is no longer available.

Unless otherwise noted, essays must be formatted with 1-inch margins, double-spaced, with text in the Times New Roman or Arial font style, with a 12-point font size:

1. **Soundscape Analysis (150 pts)**
   This assignment is meant to encourage you to listen critically to the many sounds you engage with in your daily life. It will consist of two parts: a field journal (50 pts), and a typed essay (100 pts). For the field journal, you are to document every time you hear music and/or musical sounds in your daily life during four different 24-hour periods. At least one of these days should be a weekday, the other during the weekend. You may choose to document your observations in a small notebook or an electronic device. For any musical sounds documented, please record the date, time, place, and a short description of what you observed. For full credit, two things must be submitted: the field journal itself (**jpg** photos of a physical notebook's pages are acceptable), and a short electronic Word document (150 – 500 words) summarizing your findings and explaining parts of the journal you think may need clarification.

   For the essay, you are to write a 1000 – 1250-word paper analyzing the data collected in the field journal. In the essay, at least three of the following topics should be considered in some form and at length. That is, not just addressing the topic, but also explaining—or at least attempting to explain—why you think certain variations occur over time or place. The overall essay must be informed by data collected in the field journal:

   - <u>Time</u>
     Do you often visit the same place multiple times in the same day? Does the music/sounds there vary depending on the day or time-of-day? Why do you think this variation happens?
   - <u>Space</u>
     Do sounds/music vary depending on the place/space in which they occur? Why?
   - <u>Use</u>
     Do you think music is used for some reason in certain situations? Why?
   - <u>Function</u>
     Did you think music had certain functions in some situations? Why?
   - <u>Listening</u>
     Are there certain places, times-of-day, or contexts in which people are encouraged to listen in unique ways? Why?
   - <u>Engagement</u>
     Do audiences engage with music in different ways depending on where/when it occurs? Explain.

2. **Comparative Research Paper (150 pts)**
   This assignment consists of a 1000 – 2000-word research paper in which you will compare and contrast two music-cultures: a personal music-culture, and a music-culture discussed in the class. You are free to choose any personal music-culture that you have encountered throughout your life, so long as you are able to explicitly identify, define, analyze, and explain it.

   The music-cultures should at least be compared according to Titon's music-culture model in *Worlds of Music* (pg. 15): how do affective experiences between the two music-cultures differ? How do performances differ? Communities? The histories/memories informing these musical experiences? Furthermore, you are expected to explain how music-cultural practices may reflect—or be connected to—broader beliefs and practices among a cultural group.

   As a research paper, you must support any claims or statements—regardless of the music-culture being discussed—with outside primary or secondary scholarly sources (no encyclopedias or dictionaries). Although you may choose to refer to personal experiences or conversations with others as further support, citing outside scholarly sources is critical to this assignment.

Exams

The midterm will cover material discussed during the first half of the course, whereas the final will cover the second half. The format of both tests will include multiple choice questions, short answer responses, and listening examples.

Attendance

Class attendance is mandatory for all students. For this course, students are allowed up to three unexcused absences, after which each unexcused absence will result in a 10% deduction on the student's final grade. Non-emergency absences that have not received prior approval from the instructor will be counted as unexcused. Please be aware that some excuses may require documentation. A document on UNT's authorized absence policy will be available to you on Canvas.

Starting on the second week of class, a seating chart will be created in which you will be assigned the seat of your choosing (although, the instructor asserts the right to make slight alterations as necessary). Attendance will be taken after the first 15 minutes of

class through a distributed sign-in sheet. Signing in will be required to be marked present for the course on a particular day.

If an emergency arises that forces you to leave class in the middle of a lecture, please inform a TA before leaving; as failure to do so will result in you being marked absent. Otherwise, leaving during class will result in an absence for that period.

Course Outline

The following is a general outline of the topics discussed in this course. Please be aware that slight changes may occur due to unexpected circumstances. All readings/assignments for a particular day are expected to be completed before class.

Week	Date	Topic	Readings/Assignments
1	8/24	Course Introduction – Ethnomusicology	• [Optional] Miner 1956
	8/26		
2	8/31	Music Cultures & Acoustemology	• Titon, Ch. 1 • [Optional] Feld 1982, 60 – 85
	9/02		• "Introduction" Due (Canvas) (9/02, 11:59 pm)
3	9/07	Native American Music: Andean Peoples	• Stobat 2008 (Canvas) • Garland Entry on Q'eros (Canvas) • [Optional] Turino 2008, 28 – 51 (Canvas)
	9/09		
4	9/14	Native American Music: The Diné (Navajo)	• Titon 6th ed, Ch. 2, 33 – 80 (Canvas)
	9/16		
5	9/21	West Africa/Ghana	• Titon, Ch. 3, 83 – 118
	9/23		
6	9/28	South Africa: The Shona	• Titon, Ch. 3, 123 – 134 • Turino 1998 (Canvas)
	9/30		

7	10/05	Indonesia: Javanese Gamelan	• Titon, Ch. 7, 299 – 330; 334 – 338
	10/07		• Soundscape Field Journal Due (10/08, 11:59 pm)
8	10/12	Indonesia: Balinese Gamelan	• Titon, Ch. 7, 338 – 341 • Dunbar-Hall 2006 (Canvas)
	10/14		
9	10/19	Midterm Review	• NONE
	10/21	Midterm	• Soundscape Essay Due (10/22, 11:59 pm)
10	10/26	Indian Art Music: Carnatic and Hindustani	• Titon, Ch. 6, 265 – 295
	10/28		
11	11/02	India: Popular Traditions	• Titon, Ch. 6, 295 – 298 • Skillman 1986 (Canvas) • SEM Podcast (Canvas Link)
	11/04		
12	11/09	Mexico: Nationalist Musics	• Schechter 1999, 34 – 50 • Madrid 2013 (Canvas)
	11/11		
13	11/16	U.S.-Mexican Border Musics	• Ragland 2009, 1 – 26
	11/18		
14	11/23	**[OPEN]**	• NONE
	11/25	NO CLASS	
15	11/30	The English Caribbean	• TBD
	12/02		• Comparative Analysis Essay Due (12/03, 11:59 pm)
16	TBD	Final Review (TAs)	• NONE
	TBD	Final	

Electronic Device Policy

Due to classroom design, the use of electronic tablet stands, laptops, and cellphones is ***prohibited*** without prior permission from the instructor. This is to ensure a learning environment with as few distractions as possible for all. Two exceptions are allowed without prior permission:

- Students may use an electronic tablet so long as it remains flat on their desk and only visible to the user.
- Students may use a convertible laptop in tablet form so long as it remains flat on their desk.

NOTE: Cellphones are unconditionally prohibited without prior instructor approval.

Students who fail to adhere to this policy will receive a warning before they are counted absent for the class period. The TAs will enforce this policy and may, or may not, offer additional warnings at their discretion. If there is an **emergency** that requires you to have access to a cellphone or similar communication device, please let the instructors and TAs know before class.

While using authorized electronic devices, the recording of class lectures in any way without prior permission is prohibited.

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)

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. Students caught engaging in academic dishonesty for a particular assignment will receive a written warning and an automatic "0" for that assignment. The incident will also be reported to the Dean of Students, who may impose further penalties. Subsequent offenses may lead to the deduction of the student's final grade by one letter grade (-10%), or to the student automatically failing the course; depending on the severity of the offense.

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/).

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) 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 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) 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.

Survivor Advocacy
UNT is committed to providing a safe learning environment free of all forms of sexual misconduct. Federal laws and UNT policies prohibit discrimination on the basis of sex as well as 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. The Survivor Advocates can be reached at SurvivorAdvocate@unt.edu or by calling the Dean of Students Office at 940-5652648.

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.

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)