

MUET 5210/6010: Seminar in Ethnomusicology

Music and Ritual

Ritual exists only in becoming other than it is.

-----Paraphrase of Hans Georg Gadamer on tradition

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Office hours: T-R 12:30-2:00 or by appointment

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All cultures have some form of ritual music. According to Bruno Nettl, it may be one of the true universals of music culture. Making music together, in fact, may be the Ur-ritual where the *Mitsein* (being-with) of human comportment was forged. From its possible proto-musical origins in our hominid ancestors, to current iterations in both sacred and secular contexts, the music/ritual nexus will be explored from an ontomusicological perspective, an approach that questions music *as* ritual and ritual *as* music.

Class Structure:

Each week a member of the seminar will present a 1-2 page protocol that summarizes the previous week's discussion and poses a series of questions that carries issues and concerns forward.

Grade Assessment:

Seminar paper (15-20 pages), assignments, and class participation. Class participation encompasses several measures of engagement with the class, including effectiveness of protocol presentations and general level of contribution to class discussions.

A paper proposal (roughly two pages) is due the 6th week of class. An annotated bibliography is due the 8th week of class.

Requirements:

- Ability to conduct independent research
- Writing skills commensurate with a graduate seminar
- Engagement in class discussion

Readings:

Selected readings will be posted on Canvas.

(The following is a tentative schedule of class content and readings, subject to change)

Class Meeting	TOPIC
Class Meeting 1 1/19	Overview of seminar/Introduction to the course.
Class Meeting 2 1/26	Definitions of Ritual: How do we know it when we see (make that hear) it?
Class Meeting 3 2/02	Music <i>as</i> Ritual/Ritual <i>as</i> Music
Class Meeting 4 2/09	Cont.
Class Meeting 5 2/16	UrRitual: Hominin Beginnings
Class Meeting 6 2/23 Paper Proposal Due	Cont.
Class Meeting 7 3/02	Functionalist and Structuralist Approaches to the Study of Ritual
Class Meeting 8 3/09 Annotated Bibliography Due	Cont.
No Class 3/16	SPRING BREAK
Class Meeting 9 3/23	Ritual as Lived Experience: Phenomenological Approaches
Class Meeting 10 3/30	Cont.
Class Meeting 11 4/06	Cont.

Class Meeting 12 4/13	The Ontological Turn: Ritual Transformations of Consciousness
Class Meeting 13 4/20	Cont.
Class Meeting 14 4/27	Postlude
Class Meeting 15 5/04	Presentations
5/11	Final paper due (submit on Canvas)

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

See: [Academic Integrity](#)

LINK: <https://policy.unt.edu/policy/06-003>

STUDENT BEHAVIOR

See: [Student Code of Conduct](#)

Link: <https://deanofstudents.unt.edu/conduct>

ACCESS TO INFORMATION – EAGLE CONNECT

See: [Eagle Connect](#)

LINK: eagleconnect.unt.edu/

ODA STATEMENT

See: [ODA](#)

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

UNT Policy Statement on Diversity

See: [Diversity and Inclusion](#)

Link: <https://idea.unt.edu/diversity-inclusion>

Health and Safety Information

Students can access information about health and safety at:
<https://music.unt.edu/student-health-and-wellness>

Registration Information for Students

See: [Registration Information](#)

Link: <https://registrar.unt.edu/students>

Final Exam Schedule

Paper in lieu of final exam

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

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

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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 Fall, 2021 is November 12. Information about add/drop may be found at:

See: [Drops and Withdrawals](#)

Link: <https://sfs.unt.edu/class-drop-and-withdrawal-refunds>

(Also see Academic Calendar, listed above)

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