



**University of International Business and Economics
International Summer School**

MUS 120 World Music

Term: Nov 2 – Nov 27, 2020

Instructor: Dr. Rika Asai

Home Institution: University of Pittsburgh

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Class Hours: Monday through Friday, 120 minutes each day (2,400 minutes in total)

Office Hours: Please e-mail for appointment via Zoom

Discussion Session: 2 hours each week

Total Contact Hours: 64 contact hours (45 minutes each, 48 hours in total)

Credit: 4 units

TA information: Yiting Zhao, 1318091666@qq.com

Course Description:

World Music is a survey the music of the peoples of the world. We will explore a large variety of indigenous, folk, popular, and art music from Sub-Saharan Africa, the Middle East, Eastern Europe, Latin America, North America, Central Asia, India, China, and Indonesia. The music of these regions allows us to examine one or more specific concerns or topics emerging from a global context such as environment, economy, politics, human rights, migration, and developed vs. development countries. We will examine music from an ethnomusicological perspective focusing on musical performance and the interrelationship between music, society, and culture. In doing so, the course is designed to cultivate an understanding of the complexities inherent in today's global society and the issues that confront us as members of a culturally diverse world.

Prerequisite:

The course does not require you to read Western music notation and will begin with an overview of musical elements.

Course Goals:

Our goals for the semester include development in the following skills:

1. The ability to identify and compare/contrast musical systems, genres, and instruments from a variety of regions
2. The ability to compare how different cultures use music to structure social, cultural, religious, and political belief systems
3. The ability to organize and implement small-scale ethnographic fieldwork and articulate your results and interpretations through writing

4. The ability to understand the history, practice, and purpose of the discipline of ethnomusicology

World Music provides opportunities for development in the following foundational music skills:

1. The ability to listen critically to music.
2. The ability to write about music using technical terms and concepts.
3. The ability to utilize the knowledge and skills acquired to foster a great appreciation for musical and cultural diversity.

Required Textbook:

The required text is William Alves, *Music of the Peoples of the World*, 3rd ed.

- Available on Kindle: https://www.amazon.com/Music-Peoples-World-William-Alves-ebook/dp/B00B63MBI4/ref=mt_kindle?_encoding=UTF8&me=
- Available on VitalSource (formerly, CourseSmart):
<https://www.vitalsource.com/products/music-of-the-peoples-of-the-world-william-alves-v9781133712305>

Students will also receive a Course Packet .pdf file containing handouts, study questions, writing assignments, discussion prompts. In addition to the textbook and handouts given in class, there will be listening examples that we will study in lectures and via online resources.

Throughout the semester, you may find yourself interested in exploring in more depth the music of a specific geographic region than an introductory survey course is designed for. If that happens, please do reach out and ask me for resources that can help you explore something that interests you in greater detail!

Announcements:

Each week, I will post at least one announcement that summarizes the past week's material and introduces the week's goals. The announcements may also contain information about upcoming assignments and deadlines. Because of the critical content, please be sure to read these announcements. You are responsible for content provided to you through these announcements.

Online Learning:

For some of you, this may be your first opportunity to participate in an online learning environment. Online learning provides unique opportunities and challenges, because the mode of course delivery won't occur in a traditional classroom environment during a regularly scheduled time. Success in online courses depends on the following four factors:

Self-Motivation. Many students are attracted to online courses because of the freedom and flexibility that distance learning offers. With this freedom, however, comes added responsibility to keep up on assignments and class discussion. Realize that online

courses traditionally require MORE homework time to compensate for the lack of in-class contact time. Successful students tend to replicate the schedule of face-to-face classes by setting aside a certain time each day to listen to the required repertoire, read through the required readings, to respond to discussions, and work on assignments. You are responsible for understanding the material found in the e-text, announcements, and related resources, although your classmates and instructor are more than willing to help you with any concepts you find confusing or difficult.

Establishing your Workflow. It may help your approach to the course to understand that this course is very systematically laid out. This is a condensed, summer session course, so the activities and deadlines happen at a quicker pace than a longer semester, but in general, I have designed the course in a way to help you replicate the structure of face-to-face courses as well as to incentivize learning through steady and consistent work habits. Please use the course schedule to orient yourself throughout the semester.

This course is deliberately designed to prevent putting off assignments until the end of the session because it is not possible to complete the work of a semester in a few days or even a week. The schedule is also not ideal for students who hope to complete all assignments for the week on the day of the deadlines. It is a reasonable expectation that you may find yourself overwhelmed, stressed out, and likely doing poor work if you try to do everything for a week on the date things are due. The deadlines are designed to give you some flexibility during the week, while still asking you to keep yourself on track to complete the session's work. It is designed with your success in mind!

Active Participation. The only way your participation can be felt in this course format is for you to communicate through postings in the Discussion Forum. The forums are very much a student-driven activity and the quality of discussion primarily depends upon you! This may be somewhat new for you if you prefer to sit back and listen in traditional classroom situations. There is a minimum of two postings on each Discussion Forum, but I hope you plan on participating even more than that. Credit for forum postings will be evaluated on when you post and the quantity and quality of your responses. Plan on getting actively involved early on with each discussion, keeping up with the new postings of your classmates each day. You are encouraged to think about the ideas of classmates by offering support or alternative views, or you may choose to start your own thread of new dialogue. Keep your dialogue courteous and civil. Any consistent non-professional dialogue occurring in the forums could result in a warning from the instructor and possible removal from the course roster.

Persistence Through Technical Difficulties. In any online course, there are bound to be technical problems that arise—the platform may be down, your computer may get a virus, you may accidentally log off during a test, etc. Realize that you have a variety of options to work through those problems.

It's a good idea to account for technical difficulties particularly in your timeline for important deadlines—complete things in advance so that you aren't relying on technology to work perfectly! If you can't figure a way out of a certain situation, or have any questions regarding course assignments, please contact me, and we'll work it out. I will do my best to respond to you within 24 hours of any e-mail.

Grading Policy:

In this course, grading will be based on the following grade breakdown:

Midterm Exam	10%
Final Exam	10%
Learning quizzes	18%
In-class or Blackboard discussion	6%
Journal	30%
Ethnographic interview project	16%
Preparation, Participation, Attendance	10%

Grading Scale:

Assignments and examinations will be graded according to the following grade scale:

A	90-100	C+	72-74
A-	85-89	C	68-71
B+	82-84	C-	64-67
B	78-81	D	60-63
B-	75-77	F	below 60

Class Rules:

Students are expected to:

- Understand their personal responsibility for material covered in class and assigned work.
- Complete the day's required reading, listening, and assignments before class.
- Review reading and notes regularly; make notes about questions you have about the previous class or the day's reading; reach out to Dr. Asai about those questions via e-mail or bring them up during a Zoom class session, if applicable to the topic
- Participate in class discussions and complete required written work on time.

Academic Honesty:

Students are expected to maintain high standards of academic honesty. Some of this work in the class will be designated "open-book," but the work you produce in this class should be the product of your own time in reading, listening, thinking, and writing. Students who violate academic integrity will receive an "F" for the assignment, quiz, or exam and may receive an "F" for the course.

Deadline Policy:

A four-week semester is very intense and to best ensure your success in this class, students must be proactive in their work. This means that you should not only be disciplined about completing assigned reading, listening, and assignments in a timely way, but also that you reach out to me when you have questions.

All work in the class will have a reasonable “window” of time within which to complete it, and because of the limit of a 4-week semester, we don’t have a lot of room

Written assignments will be accepted late until the last day of classes, but will be worth 1/2 of the possible points after the scheduled due date. The Musical Ethnography submitted late will be worth 1/2 of the possible points. Learning quizzes, Discussion submissions, Exams, Ethnographic interview peer reviews, and any Extra Credit cannot be submitted past their respective deadlines.

Communication:

Let me know if something is not clear. Let me know if there is a reason you are missing class. Let me know if you need more help—we can schedule some office hours via Zoom. I want you to succeed in learning the material. If something is not working for you, I am not able to do anything about it if I don’t know about it.

Please e-mail—rasai@pitt.edu—for an appointment via Zoom if you would like to talk "live." Alternatively, we can also communicate via e-mail, particularly if you just have a quick question. When you e-mail, please be sure to include the class (Music 120 online) in your e-mail subject and to include your own name in the body of the e-mail message as well as a clear description of the issue you’re asking me about.

I do not WeChat with students, so please get in the habit of using the more formal environment of e-mail or Zoom! I am usually able to respond to e-mail within 24 hours, however, should 24 hours pass by and you have not received a response from me, please contact me again.

Detailed Description of the Course Requirements:

Learning quizzes

This course is designed to build knowledge over time. You can help yourself succeed by keeping on top of the reading and reviewing your notes daily...cramming has proven to be an ineffective way to learn the material! To help you stay on track, you will work almost every class day to complete short quizzes that help guide your reading and listening.

Journal

There will be journaling exercises assigned throughout the semester. These are designed to help you synthesize knowledge gained from the reading, listening, and lectures. Grades for journal entries will be based on completeness, quality, and effort.



Discussion:

The topics are designed to help you stay on track by facilitating your interaction with a peer group with whom you can discuss course materials ranging from information and data to “big picture” issues. Depending on the size and constitution of the class, these discussions will either take place electronically or via Zoom.

Exams:

There will be two exams during the semester. Each will consist of both the written material we have covered in class as well as questions requiring you to listen to aural examples.

Missed Quizzes or Exams:

In the event that you must miss a quiz or exam, please let me know as much in advance as possible. In the case of illness or emergency, you may be eligible to make-up one quiz or exam. Please see me upon your return to class and be prepared to provide written documentation. No make-ups will be offered for unexcused absences.

Ethnographic Interview Project:

In addition to exams, quizzes, and assignments, you will also complete a course project. For this project, we will create questions for open-ended interview, you will interview someone about their musical experiences, and you will transcribe/translate the interview. Then, you’ll briefly synthesize the information you’ve gathered.

Course Schedule:

The planned schedule outlined below may be modified to suit the interests or abilities of the enrolled students or to take advantage of special opportunities or events that may arise during the term.

WEEK ONE

M: Introduction, Chapters 1-5
T: Chapters 1-5, cont.
W: Chapters 1-5, cont.
T: Chapter 1, Nettle-Excursions
F: Chapter 6

WEEK THREE

M: Interview Day
T: Chinese Music: Past, Present, Future
W: Chapter 14
T: Chapter 12
F: Chapter 13

WEEK TWO

M: Chapter 7, Nettle-Insiders
T: Chapter 8
W: Chapter 10
T: Chapter 11
F: Midterm

WEEK FOUR

M: Chapter 15, Wong
T: Chapter 16
W: World Music and Western Music
T: Final Examination
F: Vlog Presentation; Summary and conclusions