



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

**MUS 120 World Music**

**Term: June 13<sup>th</sup> – July 14<sup>th</sup>, 2022**

**Instructor: Dr. Rika Asai**

**Home Institution: University of Pittsburgh**

**Email: rasai@pitt.edu**

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

**Office Hours: TBD**

**Discussion Session: 2 hours each week**

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

**Location: WEB**

**Credit: 4 units**

**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.

**Prerequisites:**

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, 3<sup>rd</sup> ed.**

Available on Kindle: [https://www.amazon.com/Music-Peoples-World-William-Alves-ebook/dp/B00B63MBI4/ref=mt\\_kindle?\\_encoding=UTF8&me=](https://www.amazon.com/Music-Peoples-World-William-Alves-ebook/dp/B00B63MBI4/ref=mt_kindle?_encoding=UTF8&me=)

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!

### Grading Policy:

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

Midterm and Final Exams	20% (10% each)
Learning quizzes	18%
In-class discussion	6%
Journal entries	30%
Ethnographic interview project	16%
Preparation, Participation, Attendance	10%

N.B. In order to pass the course, you must achieve an average of at least D in each grading category.

### Grading Scale:

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

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

### **Attendance Policy:**

Summer school is very intense and to be successful, students need to attend every class.

In the event that you must miss a quiz or an exam, please let me know as much in advance as possible. In the case of documented 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. All make-ups will be given during the last week of class.

### **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 five-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 will have a reasonable "window" of time within which to complete it, and because of the limit of a 5-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 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](mailto: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.

The course is in an online-only modality, student should expect to complete course requirements in a primarily asynchronous environment—that is, students should plan to set aside an equivalent “class time” through the week in order to view lecture vides and complete learning quizzes and assignments. The following alterations can be expected in an online-only format:

1. Course packet, learning quizzes, and exams will be offered via Blackboard.
2. Journal entries and other assignments will be submitted on Blackboard.
3. Lectures will be made via video, for asynchronous viewing.
4. Depending on time zone and other considerations of the students in the class and the instructor, there may or may not be synchronous Zoom sessions.
5. Office hours will be offered via appointment on Zoom.

### **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, Nettl-Excursions

#### WEEK TWO

M: Chapter 6

T: Chapter 7, Nettl-Insiders

W: Chapter 8

T: Chapter 10

#### WEEK THREE

M: Chapter 11

T: Chinese Music: Past, Present, Future

W: Midterm

T: Interview Day (class does not meet)

#### WEEK FOUR

M: Chapter 14

T: Chapter 12

W: Chapter 13

T: Chapter 15, Wong



WEEK FIVE

M: Chapter 16

T: World Music and Western Music

W: Final Examination

T: Vlog Presentation; Summary and conclusions