

SYLLABUS

Survey of World Music (MUSC 1110)

Fall 2009
81023-section 1 (12:30pm-1:45pm)
Instructor: Peter Mueller

Office: Music 115 (1st floor Humanities Bldg.)

Email: pmueller@westga.edu

Office Hours: As posted on office door/CourseDen and by appointment

1) **Required Materials:**

- Text: *World Music: Traditions and Transformations*. Michael B. Bakan (2007)
- CD set: *World Music: Traditions and Transformations*. Michael B. Bakan (2007)
- i-Clicker transmitter
- CourseDen access

2) **Course Vision:** This course surveys several music-cultures of the world with the primary aim of acquainting students with diverse musical sounds and structures. To better understand these music-cultures, we will explore topics such as music learning and performing, music in ceremony and ritual, music cultures in contact, and film music. We will approach these issues through the development of musical listening skills that reflect active critical thinking about what it means to study music as an ethnographer. Students must demonstrate:

1. knowledge and understanding of basic patterns in music;
2. understanding of the concept of a music-culture;
3. knowledge and understanding of selected music-cultures;
4. knowledge and understanding of various ethnographic approaches to music.

3) **Course Skills:**

- a) Discuss and define music and describe its significance in society
- b) Developed listening skills
- c) Develop an understanding of music elements: Melody, Harmony, Rhythm, Form, Texture and Timbre
- d) Develop an understanding of instruments/voices and their respective ensembles
- e) Make critical judgments regarding musical style utilizing concepts presented.

4) **Course Topics:**

- a) What is Music?
- b) Music and culture
- c) Instruments and Ensembles
- d) Rhythm
- e) Pitch
- f) Dynamics, timbre, instruments
- g) Texture and form

- h) Balinese Gamelan music
- i) Indian music
- j) Irish/Celtic music
- k) West African music
- l) Latin music
- m) Egyptian music
- n) Chinese music
- o) Jewish music

5) **Course Grading (1000 Points):**

- a) Exams (3@150) 450
- b) Listening/Projects/Quizzes 200
- c) Topical Online discussions (5@20) 100
- d) Class Participation 100
- e) Final 150

Final Grades: 890+ points=**A**; 800+=at least **B**; 710+=at least **C**; 600+=at least **D**; less than 600=**F**

7) **CourseDen:** We will use UWG CourseDen as a supplement. Course announcements, schedule, grades, and other information will be posted. Many assignments and quizzes will be completed through CourseDen only as well as online discussions. Please be sure to sign-in to CourseDen to learn your way around.

8) **Final Exam (comprehensive):** Dec. 8, 2009

COURSE POLICIES

1. **Class Attendance:** Attendance will be taken for the official record and in determining your dedication to coursework. Attendance does not directly affect your grade. However, few students are able to pass this course (much less receive a higher grade) without regularly attending class. Work presented and/or completed in class for a grade or extra credit may only be completed by those in attendance. **Tardiness:** Students may not enter the classroom after instruction has begun. **Leaving Early:** Students leaving the classroom will not be readmitted for that class period. If you must leave early, please sit near the front of class and choose an appropriate time to “sneak out”. Prior notice to the instructor is appreciated. Any student continually leaving class early will be considered disruptive and subject to the behavior rules presented below.
2. **Classroom Behavior Expectations:** Due to the size of our class, we will observe a strict classroom behavior policy in order to ensure a positive learning environment for us all. If you are unable/unwilling to abide by these policies, either do not attend class or drop this course. Students causing a classroom disruption (as defined by the instructor) will be asked to leave the class period. S/he may not return to class before discussing the incident with the instructor. Further action will be pending this discussion. Work missed due to dismissal may not be made-up. Examples of unacceptable behaviors: talking, ringing and/or visible cell phones, texting, visible electronic devices and headphones, sleeping, etc. Laptops may be used for taking notes only; other uses may result in dismissal.
3. **Missed Work:** Assignments and quizzes are due on or before the deadline. Assignments/quizzes are due whether you are in class that day or not. Many assignments/quizzes will be completed online using CourseDen and available only during specified times. Late work will not be accepted. **Exams** must be taken when scheduled. **Make-up exams** will be given at the discretion of the instructor.
4. **Communication/email:** Official email communication is through your UWG assigned email account. Emails from other providers (hotmail, etc.) which request personal information will be ignored. **PREFERRED:** Please use the CourseDen email system for class communication. For “live” conversations, come by during office hours or make an appointment for a meeting or phone call.
5. **Office Hours:** Please see my office door and/or CourseDen for office hours or request an appointment.
6. **Academic honesty:** Plagiarism, cheating on tests, falsifying attendance records, and other acts of academic dishonesty will not be tolerated. Any appearance of academic dishonesty (i.e. having a cell phone visible during a test) will result in disciplinary action.
7. **Other details:**
 - a. The student is responsible for all assigned readings/resources for the class. This information may be on exams even if not discussed during class.
 - b. Most course information will be posted on CourseDen (lecture notes, PowerPoints, announcements, etc.). Review these if you miss class.
 - c. Policies, announcements, procedures, schedules, requirements, etc. posted on CourseDen are binding as addendums to this syllabus.
 - d. The student is responsible for knowing information provided in the syllabus and for contacting the instructor regarding any course details, information, questions, concerns, or extenuating circumstances.
 - e. Extra credit may be offered for certain assignments and in-class activities. No extra credit will be created in order to boost your grade. Take advantage of extra credits when they are offered.
 - f. Work completed in another course may not be used in this course.

Anyone needing special assistance must notify the instructor before the end of drop/add.