Survey of World Music, Spring 2018
Professor John Elson Williams
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Monday & Wednesday
MUSC 1110: 01, CRN 11301: 955A-1045
MUSC 1110: 02, CRN 11305: 11A-1150
Humanities Choir Room 301
Office Hours: before or after class or by appointment in office 114

This course is an introduction to music of the world’s peoples, in three units, where we will discuss music in its social and historical context using recordings, films, and web-based and live performances. How does our perspective on music change as we learn about other cultures?

The purpose of this course is to aid listeners in increasing pleasure in the and understanding of music of the peoples of the world through acquiring a vocabulary of thought in cultural context; and in addition, heighten sensitivity to sound and its formal organization through exposure to a wide variety of musical manifestations. We begin: Why is there music? Is it necessary in our lives?

Grading:
Exam 1: 20%
Exam 2: 20%
Exam 3: 20%
Concert Report: 15%
Song Collecting Project: 15%
Participation: 10%
  Assignments- at least 2
  Pop Quiz- at least 3
90-100=A
80-89=B
70-79=C
60-69=D
Below 60=F

Exams consist of matching, multiple choice, listening identifications, and short essay. All assignments must be hardcopies that are due at the beginning of class. Assignments are late if it is not turned in within ten minutes of class (1005A: Section 1, 1110A: Section 2). Late assignments will accrue a ten percent deduction of the final grade per weekday, including holidays.


The Honor Code:
“At the University of West Georgia, we believe that academic and personal integrity are based upon honesty, trust, fairness, respect, and responsibility. Students at West Georgia assume responsibility for upholding the Honor Code. West Georgia students pledge to refrain from engaging in acts that do not maintain academic and personal integrity. These include, but are not limited to plagiarism*, cheating*, fabrication*, aid of academic dishonesty, lying, bribery or threats, and stealing.”


Schedule:

Unit I
Jan. 10/17/22/24/29/31: Chapters 1 & 2 monophonic vs. polyphonic, duple vs. triple meter, didgeridoo/Dream Time, lullabies, Native American Music, notation, traditional and persona. Elements of music, listening to yourself, manipulating emotion.
Feb. 5/7/12/14: Chapters 2 & 6, History of American Music, slave songs, sacred harp, gospel, blues, jazz, rock, timbre, pitch, rhythm, dynamics, form. Chinese Opera (stock characters), Javanese and Balinese gamelan, Korean Pansori.
Feb. 19: Review
Feb. 21: Exam 1

Unit II
Feb. 26/28/Mar. 5/7/12/14: Ravi Shankar (and family), sitar, the Beatles, southern and northern cultures of India, improvisation, solfege, tambura and table. Gender in music, the conch shell, Tagore, Bollywood (Bombay+Hollywood). Chapters 4 & 9, shamisen, koto, shakuhatchi, sho, Tan Dun, erhu, integrating western and eastern instruments.
Mar 26: Review
Mar 28: Exam 2

Unit III
Apr. 2/4: Alaskan native throat singing games and drumming, Mongolian throat singing, Tibetan trumpets and ceremonial sounds, the singing bowl.

Apr. 9 Concert Reports and Song Collecting Project Due
Apr. 16/18/23: Horizontal vs. vertical structures: triads (major and minor), chords, consonance vs. dissonance. Tone clusters, African drumming, Nigerian talking drum, dances of the Latin countries, syncretism and Haitian beliefs, influence of African music on the music of South and central America. Steel pan drums.
Apr. 25: Review
Apr. 30: Last Day of Class/Final Exam