MUSC 6083: Research Methods and Materials
University of West Georgia
Fall, 2017

Instructor Information
Instructor: Dr. Molly M. Breckling
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Course Information

Course Description
This course is a study of research materials, methods, procedures, and designs in music and music education, including research and data analysis techniques and the application of findings. Students have the opportunity to explore research topics that exploit their professional interests and goals. The course includes a research project component.

Required Materials
All Students

Required Style Manual
M.M. in Music Education students:

M.M. in Music Performance students:

Bibliography of Sources

**Learning Outcomes**
In producing research in music education and/or performance, the student will:

1. Examine principles, methods, and designs of music research.
2. Identify and evaluate music research sources.
3. Employ critical thinking skills in oral and written communication.
4. Apply appropriate standard style, format, and citation procedures.

**Course Evaluations – Method of Grading**

**Unit Discussions:** 20%
- Student Introductions
- Disc I: Critical thinking and writing about music
- Disc. Ila: Journal Report
- Disc. IIb: Scholarly article
- Disc. Illa: Peer feedback on research topics
- Disc. IIIb: Empirical and quantitative research
- Disc. V: Peer feedback on abstracts

**Preparatory Stages of Research:** 40%
- Topic Proposal
- Preliminary annotated bibliography
- Cleaned-up annotated bibliography
- Paper outline

**Assessments:** 10%
- Orientation quiz
- Unit I quiz
- Unit II quiz
- Citation quiz
- Unit VI quiz

**Final Project:** 30%
- Final draft of annotated bibliography
- Final presentation
- Modified paper

**GRADE BREAKDOWN**

- A= 100 – 90
- B= 89 – 80
- C= 79 – 70
- D= 69 – 60
- F= 59

UNIVERSITY POLICIES
University Policies Common Language

FERPA
Due to the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) of 1974, instructors cannot discuss any information pertaining to a student’s grade via email or telephone unless the student signs an 1126 form waiving his or her FERPA rights.

Discussion/work from assigned readings
You will be expected to stay current on assigned readings and participate actively in our discussion/work sessions on writing style and format. Your preparation and participation in these discussions will account for a significant portion of the final grade.

Synchronous Class Meetings
There will be four scheduled synchronous class meetings (dates and times TBA). You are required to participate in three of the four classes. Expectations include active participation during the class. Specific requirements will be provided in CourseDen. Classes may be recorded and for attendance credit, you must be present at the beginning of class and throughout the scheduled time.

Assignments and Annotated bibliography
One of the final projects for MUSC 6083 is an annotated bibliography (50 entries minimum) of sources on a topic of your choice and approved by the instructor. On the day the bibliography is due, you should be prepared to give a report of procedures used and answer questions on the process. Peer and self reviews will be assigned. An outline of the paper will be required.

Assessments
Throughout the course, students will complete online assessments.

Final Project (paper and presentation)
The final project for MUSC 6083 is a paper and presentation on the topic of your annotated bibliography. This paper should be properly formatted, with proper bibliographical format using APA style (MM Music Education candidate) or Turabian (MM Performance candidate). The paper should be as long as necessary to thoroughly and completely discuss your topic. Peer and self reviews may be assigned.
Course Schedule:
This schedule is subject to change at the instructor's discretion.

Introductory Unit: August 9-19
Orientation
By August 12:
Read over the following items on CourseDen
● Orientation Module Overview Page
● Course Syllabus and Schedule
● Welcome from Dr. Breckling
● Teacher Expectations
Post initial orientation discussion on CourseDen
By August 19:
Read and Watch the following items on CourseDen
● Communication Rules
● UWG Statements Common to All Courses
● Technology Needs
● Pearls of Wisdom from a Student
● Accessibility
Post discussion responses on CourseDen
Complete Synchronous Class Time Survey
Acquire textbooks
Complete Understanding CourseDen tutorial
Complete Orientation Module Quiz

Unit I: August 20-September 2
Beginning music research
By August 26:
Read the following:
● Bayne, A Guide to Library Research in Music, Chapter 1
● (For MM Music Ed. students) APA Publication Manual, Chapter 4
● (For MM Music Perf. Students) Turabian, Manual of Style, Chapters 20-25
● Acquiring the UWG ID on CourseDen

Watch the following videos on CourseDen:
● The Research Process – beginnings of research
● Collecting Data and ideas
● Communicating Ideas & Thinking Critically
● Music Research Guide for Finding Library Resources in Music
• Search Ingram Library Catalog
• Proposing a Research Topic
• Quick Article Search
• Oxford Music Online

Post initial discussion on Course Den

By September 2:
Post discussion responses in CourseDen
Submit Research Topic Proposal on CourseDen
Complete Quiz I: Intro to the Library

Unit II: September 3-16
Developing research processes
By September 9:
Read the following:
• Bayne, A Guide to Library Research in Music, Chapters 2-7, 16-18
• (For MM Music Ed. students) APA Publication Manual, Chapter 6-7
• (For MM Music Perf. Students) Turabian, Manual of Style, Chapters 15-19

Watch the following videos on CourseDen:
• Other sources and their citations
• Special issues in writing about music
• From bibliographic citations to footnotes and endnotes
• Introduction to Research Ethics and citing Sources
• (For Music Ed. Majors) APA Style Part 1, APA Style Part 2, and APA Style Part 3
• (For Performance Majors) Chicago Style Part 1 and Chicago Style Part 2
• Types of Music Research/Other Resources
• World Cat and Iliad
• Academic Search Complete
• Classical Music Library
• Ingram Library’s Journal Locator
• Music Index
• Blackboard Collaborate Ultra tutorial

Post initial discussion for Discussion IIb on Course Den and select a journal for Discussion IIa
Attend the Synchronous Class I (Date and time TBA)

By September 16:
Post discussion responses for Discussion IIb in CourseDen
Post initial discussion for Discussion IIa in CourseDen
Complete Quiz II

Unit III: September 17-30
Finding and citing sources
By September 23:
  Read the following:
    ● Bayne, A Guide to Library Research in Music, 8-15
    ● (For MM Music Ed. students) APA Publication Manual, Chapter 2-3
    ● (For MM Music Perf. Students) Turabian, Manual of Style, Chapters 5-11

  Watch the following videos on CourseDen:
    ● Other sources and their citations
    ● Special issues in writing about music
    ● From bibliographic citations to footnote and endnotes
    ● Music Research Guide for Finding Library Resources in Music

  Post discussion response IIa on Course Den
  Post research topic for peer review
  Post initial Discussion III on Empirical and quantitative research

By September 30:
  Post research topic feedback in CourseDen
  Post discussion response IIIa
  Complete Citations Quiz

Unit IV: October 1-21
Responding to Sources and Cultivating Critical Thinking
By October 14

  Our focus has now shifted from learning how to do research to actually doing research. By now, you should have collected a sizable number of sources on your research topic, using the techniques we have learned.
  Submit Preliminary Annotated Bibliography on CourseDen

By October 21:
  Submit Cleaned Up and Expanded Annotated Bibliography on CourseDen
  Attend Synchronous Class II (time and date TBA)

Unit V: October 22-November 11
Writing the Topic Paper and Abstract
By October 28
Read and Watch the following:
- Writing Abstracts
- Bibliography and Paper Process

Write and post abstract as Discussion V CourseDen
By November 11:
- Respond to peer abstracts on Discussion V
- Submit Project Outline on CourseDen

Unit VI: November 12-December 1
Presenting Research to the Public
By November 18
- Submit PowerPoint for Final Presentation
- Attend Synchronous Classes III and IV (times and dates TBA)

By December 1:
- Submit complete package (topic proposal, annotated bibliography, abstract, outline, and modified paper) CourseDen