

Music of the World's People

MUSC 2248

Required Materials: Titon, Jeff, ed. Worlds of Music: An Introduction to the Music of the World's Peoples. New York: Schirmer Books, 2002.

Optional Materials: Companion CD for Worlds of Music.

Course Objectives: To introduce the student to the diversity of musical behaviors and expressions of the world's peoples. The course will adopt an ethnomusicological approach to the understanding of music in the context of human life, focusing on the how and why of musical behavior with great attention to the sociocultural context shaping the music-making. The course will examine the music genres, performance practices, and modes of conceptualizing about music in six cultural regions. The student will also become familiar with the fundamentals of music, and develop critical listening skills that facilitate the appreciation and discernment of the musical products of many cultures. Students are not required to be able to read music.

Topical Outline and Required Reading:

1. Introduction, and the fundamentals of music.
2. Ethnomusicological concepts, and functions of music (Chapter 1, pp 1-16).

Exam 1

3. Africa (Chapter 3, pp. 71-143).
4. North America/ Black America (Chapter 4, pp. 144-210).

Exam 2

5. North America/ Native America (Chapter 2, pp. 17-70).
6. Latin America (Chapter 9, pp. 428-494).

Exam 3

7. India (Chapter 6, pp. 252-315).
8. Asia/ Indonesia (Chapter 7, pp. 316-368).

Final Exam

Attendance and Exam Policy: Class attendance is essential for proper understanding of course topics and materials. The student is responsible for any class notes or handouts missed due to unexcused absence. Make-up exams will not be given except in emergency cases and at the instructor's discretion.

Grading Policy: Test 1: 25% Test 2: 25% Test 3: 25% Final 25%

Grading Scale: A= 90-100; B= 89-89; C= 70-79; D= 60-69; F= 0-59.

Extra Credit: Up to five (5) points may be added to each exam grade, with a maximum of (10) points per exam period, for attendance at a non-Western or course-related concert/ musical event (e.g., powwow). Proof of attendance (ticket stub and program) must be submitted to the instructor accompanied by a one-page critique of the concert/musical event. The amount of extra credit points awarded will be determined by the quality of the critique.

