



MUS 1315

World Music

Course Syllabus: Spring 2024

Instructor Information

Instructor:	Natasha Merchant
Classroom Location:	Music Building Rm. 158; TuTh 12:30-1:35 pm
Office Location:	TBD
Office Hours:	by appointment
University E-mail:	Natasha.Merchant@tamuc.edu
Preferred Form of Communication:	Email
Communication Response Time:	24 hours

Course Information

Required Texts and Materials

Jeff Todd Titon, *Worlds of Music: An Introduction to the Music of the World's Peoples*, 6th edition, New York: Cengage Learning, 2017.

In this course, we will use the e-book and the book companion website called “Mindtap” on the textbook publisher’s website. This is much cheaper than purchasing the book, and gives you access to the listening links and online study resources. You can purchase access to the ebook from the publisher’s website through the D2L shell in the first week of class.

For some of the chapters, supplemental readings will be used in place of *Worlds of Music*. These readings will be posted in D2L, along with their corresponding assignments.

Course Description

This course provides a survey of World Music which focuses on the music, musical styles, genres, traditions and theories of non-Western cultures.

Student Learning Outcomes

1. Identify the basic elements of music (melody, harmony, rhythm, form, etc.) of music as found in the music of non-Western cultures.
2. Describe and identify, through visual and aural examples, the instruments, genres, and styles of music presented throughout the semester.
3. Connect non-Western music to its purposes in the societies and cultures of the music’s origin.
4. Connect non-Western music to the student’s personal experiences.

General Education Student Learning Outcomes

Critical thinking: Students will be able to analyze, evaluate, or solve problems when given a set of circumstances, data, texts or art.

Communication: In written, oral and/or visual communication, students will communicate in a manner appropriate to the audience and occasion, with an evident message and organizational structure.

Social responsibility: Students will demonstrate an understanding of societal and/or civic issues

Teamwork: Students will be able to work together toward a shared purpose relevant to the course or discipline with a sense of shared responsibility for meeting that purpose.

Course Requirements

Minimal Technical Skills Needed

Use of the learning management system (D2L), *MindTap*, and Microsoft Word.

Instructional Methods

Students will follow outlined activities for each week that include in-person lectures, listening examples, readings, and discussions.

Student Responsibilities or Tips for Success

To successfully complete this course students should regularly attend class, keep up with weekly activities, and complete assignments on time.

Grading

Your final grade will be based on the following point distribution:

Discussion/Attendance	100
My Musical Culture Essay	150
Presentations	150
Listening Quizzes	150
Exam 1	150
Exam 2	150
Exam 3	150
Total	1000

A=900-1000 B=800-899 C=700-799 D=600-699 F=Below 600

Assessments

Discussion and Listening Activities: 100 points of the final grade will be earned through Discussion and Listening Activities. There will be twelve Discussion and Listening Activities over the course of the semester. For activities focused on discussion, students will break into small groups to discuss a topic relevant to that day's lecture and submit a short written answer for credit. When activities are focused on practicing critical listening skills and listening identification, students will submit written answers that they arrive at individually. **Dates of the Discussion and Listening Activities will not be announced ahead of time. The only way to earn points for a Discussion and Listening Activity is to be in the classroom for the entire class period on the day that an activity takes place.** Each time you are present for an activity, you will earn 10 points toward your final grade (points are awarded based on the thoughtfulness of response you submit). You can thus miss two Discussion and Listening Activities and still earn full points in this category. I will drop your two lowest scores. **I reserve the right to change Discussion and Listening Activities to graded pop quizzes if it becomes evident that students are not preparing for class or are not participating.**

My Musical Culture Essay: Students will write an essay describing their own music culture and the ways they use music in their personal lives.

Album Review: Students will write an essay reviewing an album of non-Western music that they choose and connect it to concepts from the course.

Exams: There will be three exams over the course of the semester that consist of listening identification and multiple choice questions.

Grading: Grades will be posted within one week for Discussion and Listening Activities and Exams, and within two weeks for the My Musical Culture Essay and Album Review.

Technology Requirements

All course sections offered by Texas A&M University-Commerce have a corresponding course shell in the myLeo Online Learning Management System (LMS). Below are technical requirements

LMS Requirements:

<https://community.brightspace.com/s/article/Brightspace-Platform-Requirements>

LMS Browser Support:

https://documentation.brightspace.com/EN/brightspace/requirements/all/browser_support.htm

YouSeeU Virtual Classroom Requirements:

<https://support.youseeu.com/hc/en-us/articles/115007031107-Basic-System-Requirements>

Access and Navigation

You will need your campus-wide ID (CWID) and password to log into the course. If you do not know your CWID or have forgotten your password, contact the Center for IT Excellence (CITE) at 903.468.6000 or helpdesk@tamuc.edu.

Note: Personal computer and internet connection problems do not excuse the requirement to complete all course work in a timely and satisfactory manner. Each student needs to have a backup method to deal with these inevitable problems. These methods might include the availability of a backup PC at home or work, the temporary use of a computer at a friend's home, the local library, office service companies, Starbucks, a TAMUC campus open computer lab, etc.

Communication and Support

If you have any questions or are having difficulties with the course material, please contact your Instructor.

Technical Support

If you are having technical difficulty with any part of Brightspace, please contact Brightspace Technical Support at 1-877-325-7778. Other support options can be found here:

<https://community.brightspace.com/support/s/contactsupport>

Course and University Procedures / Policies

Course Specific Procedures / Policies

Attendance Policy

Attending class regularly is the responsibility of each student and is not mandatory. Although you will not be penalized for missing classes, I will keep a record (via sign-in sheet) of which students have attended. I am always happy to answer questions about class material for students who have been in class, but I will not re-teach material to students who have not been in class (limited exceptions may be made for students who provide documentation for truly unavoidable absences). **I reserve the right to institute an attendance policy if I think attendance and/or tardiness is becoming a problem.**

Classroom Etiquette

As a courtesy to me and to your classmates, you should plan to arrive on time for class and to remain in the classroom for the entire class period. It is very distracting when students leave and enter the

classroom during a lecture. Students who consistently arrive late, depart early, or leave and reenter the classroom without serious reason may lose Discussion and Listening Activity points.

Although the format of this class is a lecture, I expect students to answer questions and engage in discussion about the assigned materials. I strongly encourage every student to participate actively. You are by no means required to like all of the music assigned in this course. You are, however, expected to be thoughtful and courteous in expressing your opinions and in responding to those of your classmates.

Electronic Devices

Students may use laptops or tablets to take notes during lectures. The use of cell phones is prohibited. Please silence and put away (completely out of sight) your cell phone. If I notice you using your cell phone, I will ask you to put it away. If I must ask you to do so more than once in a class period, you may lose Discussion and Listening Activity points.

Students may not record lectures or take pictures of PowerPoint slides without my consent.

Late Assignments and Make Up Exams

Assignments submitted within one week of the deadline will incur a 50% penalty. No assignments will be accepted beyond one week after the deadline. Exams will only be given on the dates listed in the Course Schedule. Make-up exams will be given at the discretion of the instructor and only in extreme cases with documentation.

Syllabus Change Policy

The syllabus is a guide. Circumstances and events, such as student progress, may make it necessary for the instructor to modify the syllabus during the semester. Any changes made to the syllabus will be announced in advance.

University Specific Procedures

Student Conduct

All students are expected to follow the Tenets of Common Decency and acceptable behavior conducive to a positive learning environment. The Code of Student Conduct is described in detail in the [Student Guidebook](#).

Students should also consult the Rules of Netiquette for more information regarding how to interact with students in an online forum: <https://www.britannica.com/topic/netiquette>

TAMUC Attendance

For more information about the attendance policy please visit the Attendance webpage and Procedure 13.99.99.R0.01.

<http://www.tamuc.edu/admissions/registrar/generalInformation/attendance.aspx>
<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/13students/academic/13.99.99.R0.01.pdf>

Academic Integrity

Students at Texas A&M University-Commerce are expected to maintain high standards of integrity and honesty in all of their scholastic work. For more details and the definition of academic dishonesty see the following procedures:

Undergraduate Academic Dishonesty 13.99.99.R0.03

<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/13students/undergraduates/13.99.99.R0.03UndergraduateAcademicDishonesty.pdf>

Graduate Student Academic Dishonesty 13.99.99.R0.10

<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/13students/graduate/13.99.99.R0.10GraduateStudentAcademicDishonesty.pdf>

Students with Disabilities—ADA Statement

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact:

Office of Student Disability Resources and Services

Texas A&M University-Commerce

Waters Library- Room 162

Phone (903) 886-5150 or (903) 886-5835

Fax (903) 468-8148

Email: studentdisabilityservices@tamuc.edu

Website: Office of Student Disability Resources and Services

<http://www.tamuc.edu/campusLife/campusServices/studentDisabilityResourcesAndServices/>

Nondiscrimination Notice

A&M-Commerce will comply in the classroom, and in online courses, with all federal and state laws prohibiting discrimination and related retaliation on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, disability, age, genetic information or veteran status. Further, an environment free from discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression will be maintained. Please let me know what pronouns you would prefer I use for you in class and in conversation.

Campus Concealed Carry Statement

Texas Senate Bill - 11 (Government Code 411.2031, et al.) authorizes the carrying of a concealed handgun in Texas A&M University-Commerce buildings only by persons who have been issued and are in possession of a Texas License to Carry a Handgun. Qualified law enforcement officers or those who

are otherwise authorized to carry a concealed handgun in the State of Texas are also permitted to do so. Pursuant to Penal Code (PC) 46.035 and A&M-Commerce Rule 34.06.02.R1, license holders may not carry a concealed handgun in restricted locations.

For a list of locations, please refer to the Carrying Concealed Handguns On Campus document and/or consult your event organizer.

<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/34SafetyOfEmployeesAndStudents/34.06.02.R1.pdf>

Pursuant to PC 46.035, the open carrying of handguns is prohibited on all A&M-Commerce campuses. Report violations to the University Police Department at 903-886-5868 or 9-1-1.

A&M-Commerce Supports Students' Mental Health

The Counseling Center at A&M-Commerce, located in the Halladay Building, Room 203, offers counseling services, educational programming, and connection to community resources for students. Students have 24/7 access to the Counseling Center's crisis assessment services by calling 903-886-5145. For more information regarding Counseling Center events and confidential services, please visit www.tamuc.edu/counsel

Course Calendar

Assigned reading should be completed before class. Exam dates and due dates for assignments will not change; plan your schedule accordingly.

Week 1
1/11 Course Introduction; Musical terms R: None
Week 2

1/16 Music and Culture

R: Chapter 1

1/18 Soundscapes

R: R. Murray Schaefer: *The Soundscape: Our Sonic Environment and the Tuning of the World*, "Introduction"

Week 3

1/23 Music in Our Own Backyards

R: pg. 559-569

1/25 Ethnography

Week 4

1/30 North American Tribal Music and Intertribal Music

R: Chapter 2: Intro, 2-1, 2-2

2/1 North American Flute and Popular Music

R: 2-3, 2-4

Week 5

2/6 Listening Quiz: North America/Native America

2/8 TMEA No Class

Week 6

2/13 Music in Africa; Music of the Ewe People

R: Chapter 3: Intro, 3-1 through 3-3

2/15 Music of the Dagbamba; Shona Mbira Music

R: 3-4 through 306

My Musical Culture Essay due (2/16)

Week 7

2/20 Music of the BaAka; Listening Quiz and Exam Review

R: 3-7 and Conclusion

2/22 Exam 1

Week 8

2/27 Indian Classical Music; North India- Instrumental

R: Chapter 6, section 1

Selections from *The Raga Guide*

2/29 Music of North India- vocal

Week 9

3/5 Music of South India

3/7 Indian Film Music, Listening Quiz: India

Week 10

Spring Break

Week 11

3/19 Indonesia: Javanese Gamelan

R: Introduction and 7-1

3/21 Indonesia: Bali, Sumatra, Popular Music

R: 7-2, 7-3, 7-4

Week 12

3/26 Exam Review and Listening Quiz

3/28 Exam 2

Week 13

4/2 The Music of China

R: 8-1 through 8-3

4/4 Chinese Instrumental Traditions; Jingjiu (Beijing Opera)

R: 8-4 through 8-6

Week 14

4/9 Listening Quiz: China

4/11 The Music of Tuva

R: "The Throat Singers of Tuva"

Week 15

4/16 Tuvan Throat Singing

The Musical Steppes of Mongolia

4/18 The Arab World

R: 10-1 through 10-4

Week 16

4/23 The Arab World Continued

R: 10-5 through 10-8

4/25 Presentations

Week 17

4/30 Presentations

5/2 Listening Quiz and Exam Review

Finals Week

5/7 Final Exam (10:30-12:30)