



MUSC117 Music of the World

Syllabus

(Online – Fall 2012)

Instructor: Bob Adams
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Phone: 360-710-6416
Office Hours: Flexible. Please call me with questions or email me through Blackboard Vista.

Course Information

COURSE OUTCOMES

After successfully completing this course, students will be able to:

- Understand and discuss the relationship between music and society in selected cultures of the world
- Understand and describe how the music they typically enjoy and listen to is a part of, and is emblematic of, their own culture and social milieu
- Identify selected styles of world music.
- Demonstrate a greater appreciation, understanding and respect for other cultures.

HOW OUTCOMES WILL BE MET

The learning objectives of the course will be met through 1) listening to and viewing musical performances and course lectures, 2) reading, 3) classroom discussions, 4) occasional on-line music library assignments in which students find and share additional samples of music related to the units we cover.

COURSE STRUCTURE

The course is divided into the following units:

- Introduction to Music and Music Cultures
- Music of Sub-Saharan Africa
- North Indian (Hindustani) Classical Music
- Middle Eastern/Arabic/Islamic Music
- Music of the Southeast Asian Gong Culture
- Music of East Asia
- Native American music
- Global Fusion Music

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GRADING & ASSIGNMENTS

ASSIGNMENT DEADLINES

There will be a short exam after each unit, and a comprehensive final. There is no midterm. The exams will cover content in class lectures and assigned listening, viewing and reading. These exams will include identification of music samples and multiple choice or other 'objective'-type questions. The unit exams and final will all be 'open-book;' i.e., you may use your notes, textbook, etc. to look up the answers. Once you begin, however, you will not be able to pause the clock.

The intercultural understanding we're pursuing in this course will come more easily if everyone shares their insights and experiences, so classroom forum discussions on one or more specified topics will be assigned for most units. Students will be expected to make at least three substantive contributions to each discussion.

There is no major research paper required.

Assignment deadlines are shown in the course calendar provided on the class site. Work submitted after a deadline will be penalized at the discretion of the instructor. If you are going to miss a deadline, you should alert your instructor ahead of time.

GRADING POLICY

I use the following criteria to assess work that cannot be graded quantitatively.

A-level work:

- is excellently done, and goes well beyond the minimum requirements of the assignment.
- demonstrates a high degree of intellectual engagement in the assignment and enthusiasm for learning.
- is well organized, submitted on time, and communicates ideas clearly, with a minimum of spelling and grammar errors.
- displays excellent analytical thinking skills, originality and insight, and the ability to recognize and synthesize relevant facts and concepts.
- demonstrates a high degree of understanding of and facility with the ideas and skills taught in the course, including the ability to recognize and describe musical events using appropriate terminology and concepts, and an openness to unfamiliar types of music and ways of listening.

B-level work:

- is good work that clearly goes beyond minimum requirements for the assignment.
- is on the right track to "A" work, but does not score as highly on the criteria outlined for above for "A" work.

C-level work:

- is acceptable, but only minimally meets expectations and minimal requirements for the assignment, and scores only at threshold levels on the criteria outlined for above for "A" work.
- typically demonstrates inconsistent or merely superficial understanding of or

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facility with course concepts and skills, and little intellectual engagement in the activity.

D-level work:

- is substandard.
- clearly lacks sufficient content and depth of thought, demonstrates only limited understanding of course concepts or interest in the assigned activity, and falls substantially short of fulfilling the minimum assignment requirements and the expectations outlined above.

F-level work:

- is unacceptable and not worthy of a passing grade.
- falls far below the minimum requirements of the assignment, demonstrates only the most minimal level of effort and intellectual engagement in the activity, and meets virtually none of the requirements and the expectations outlined above.

GRADE WEIGHTING

Your course grade will be determined by your performance on exams and the class discussions, in the following ratios:

- Unit exams (8 total): 50%
- Final exam: 25%
- Class discussions (17 total): 25%

GRADING SCALE

Grades will be assigned based on each student's accumulated points as a percentage of the total points possible, according to the following scale (**Note:** I sometimes curve this scale to the benefit of students, if needed at the end of the quarter to offset the difficulty of exams):

A:	95-100%
A-:	92-94%
B+:	89-91%
B:	86-88%
B-:	83-85%
C+:	80-82%
C:	77-79%<
C-:	<74-76%
D+:	71-73%
D:	68-70%
F	<68%

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BOOKS AND MATERIALS REQUIRED

No textbook is required. Reading assignments from a variety of sources will be provided to students without charge.

Classroom Learning Atmosphere

INSTRUCTOR'S EXPECTATIONS

No musical talent or prior music training is necessary for success in this course, but students do need to be willing to:

- learn about some of the basic concepts of music: rhythm, pitch, melody, etc.;
- listen to different types of music with open ears and an open mind;
- learn to recognize music samples from the cultures covered in class (if you do the assigned listening this will not be any more difficult than recognizing the music of your favorite bands).

In a traditional, in-class format this course would meet for about 1 hour every day, and a student would need to spend at least 1-2 additional hours each day on homework. You should expect to invest the same amount of time in this online version of the course.

AFFIRMATION OF INCLUSION

Bellevue College is committed to maintaining an environment in which every member of the campus community feels welcome to participate in the life of the college, free from harassment and discrimination. We value our different backgrounds at Bellevue College, and students, faculty, staff members, and administrators are to treat one another with dignity and respect. <http://bellevuecollege.edu/about/goals/inclusion.asp>

STUDENT CODE

Statement on unacceptable behavior:

“Cheating, stealing and plagiarizing (using the ideas or words of another as one’s own without crediting the source) and inappropriate/disruptive classroom behavior are violations of the Student Code of Conduct at Bellevue College. Examples of unacceptable behavior include, but are not limited to: talking out of turn, arriving late or leaving early without a valid reason, allowing cell phones/pagers to ring, and inappropriate behavior toward the instructor or classmates. The instructor can refer any violation of the Student Code of Conduct to the Vice President of Student Services for possible probation or suspension from Bellevue College. Specific student rights, responsibilities and appeal procedures are listed in the Student Code of Conduct, available in the office of the Vice President of Student Services.” The Student Code, Policy 2050, in its entirety is located at: http://bellevuecollege.edu/policies/2/2050_Student_Code.asp

Important Links

DISTANCE EDUCATION PROGRAM

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Email: disted@bellevuecollege.edu

Phone: (425) 564-2438 or 1 (877) 641-2712 (toll-free)

Office: Bellevue College Main Campus, Room A140

Web page: <http://bellevuecollege.edu/distance/>

DISABILITY RESOURCE CENTER (DRC)

The Disability Resource Center serves students with a wide array of learning challenges and disabilities. If you have a disability or learning challenge for which you have documentation, or you have seen someone for treatment, and if you feel you may need accommodations in order to be successful in college, please contact the DRC as soon as possible.

If you require assistance in case of an emergency situation, such as a fire, earthquake, etc, please meet with your instructor immediately.

The DRC office is located in B132. The reception desk can be reached at 425-564-2498. Deaf students can contact the DRC by video phone at 425-440-2025 or by TTY at 425-564-4110.

Please visit the DRC website, at www.bellevuecollege.edu/drc, for program and application information other helpful links.

PUBLIC SAFETY

The Bellevue College Public Safety Department staff provides personal safety, security and crime-prevention services to the campus community 24 hours per day, 7 days per week. Public Safety is located in room K100 and on the web at: <http://bellevuecollege.edu/publicsafety/>. Contact Public Safety by phone at 425-564-2400.

ACADEMIC CALENDARS

- **Enrollment Calendar**

<http://bellevuecollege.edu/enrollment/calendar/deadlines/>

Dates for admissions, registration, withdrawing and receiving tuition refunds.

- **College Calendar**

<http://bellevuecollege.edu/enrollment/calendar/holidays/1011.asp>

Quarter end and start dates, holidays, scheduled closures, and final exam dates and times.

STUDENT SERVICES

- [Advising](#)
- [Degree Audit](#)
- [Placement Testing](#)
- [Financial Aid](#)
- [Student Programs](#)
- [Student Handbook](#)
- [Ordering Books](#)
- [Library Media Center](#)
- [Disability Resource Center](#)

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- [Counseling Center](#)
- [All BC Online Services](#)

**This syllabus is subject to change at the discretion of the instructor.*