

MU2118H Musicology

World Music

Initial Course Document:

1. Timetable of sessions
2. Assignments (with a first list of essay titles) and due dates
3. General Course Bibliography

Matthew Spring (Sept 2003)

This module will seek to give students the opportunity to discover, play in workshops and study classical, folk and ethnic music from around the world. There will be a two-fold approach. Firstly a lecture series covering diverse music from around the world: India, Islamic world, Sub-Sahara Africa, china, Japan, Korea, South America, folk and native music of North America and Europe. A second strand will involve practical workshops on non-Western and Western traditional styles, Tabla, Persian and Arabic, Songs from Africa, South American panpipes, etc., which will involve visiting lecturers where appropriate. A third strand will involve a short fieldwork study, resulting in a report using research techniques developed in ethnomusicology, which will take students out into the community to study musicians and musical events. As learning outcomes students will:

1. Develop knowledge and understanding of the basic approaches and tenets of ethnomusicology and its historical development
2. Develop knowledge and understanding of key concepts and working methods, including the key role of fieldwork within the study of ethnomusicology
3. Acquire independence of thinking and the ability to apply critical reasoning within the study of musics of different cultures, particularly Islam and Java
4. Acquire techniques of investigation and research, communication and debate
5. Plan and execute a small field work exercise

1. Timetable of lectures/sessions

Week 1

Thurs 2 October

Lecture 1a: Introductions; World Music and Ethnomusicology, its Precepts and Development; Problems and Methods – PPT

Lecture 1b: Fieldwork Methods and Ideas -PPT

Week 2

Thurs 9 October

Lecture 2: Musical Instruments, Classification systems - PPT

The Work of Kunst, Seeger, Neetl, Hood, Merriam and Blacking

Lecture 2b: Music in the Mediterranean

Week 3

Thurs 16 October

Lecture 3a: Musicality, the Musician, Social Functions and Social Behavior – PPT

Workshop 1: Traditional Musics of Europe – French Folk Music from Mid-France

Week 4 – Alkamaar Week

Week 5

Thursday 30 October

Workshop 2: Klezmer all session

Week 6

Thursday 6 November

Lecture 4: The transcription debate. PPT

Music of Islam - North Africa and the Middle East – Listening and playing session

Week 7 – Reading Week

Week 8

Thursday 20 November

Lecture 6: Music of India, China, Japan and Chorea. PPT

Fieldwork Project Tutorials I

Week 9

Thursday 27 November

Lecture 7: Music of South America. PPT

Workshop 3: session on Panpipes

Week 10

Thursday 4 December

Lecture 8: Music of North American native traditions. PPT

Field Work Project Tutorials II

Week 11

Thursday 11 December

Lecture/workshop 9: Music of Australia. PPT
Workshop Session 4: TBA

Week 12

Thursday 8 January

Lecture/workshop 10: Music of Sub-Saharan Africa. PPT
Field Work Project Tutorials III

2. Assignments and due dates

Due Date for both pieces of work – 11.00 am Monday January 19th
Cut Off date (max 40%): January 26th

1. Essay (2,000 words) %40
2. A field work project presented as a 20-minute conference paper and also handed-in in written form as a report. (2,000 words) %40
3. Workshops Log (1,000 words) %20

Essay Titles:

1. Give a general survey of the classification methods available to the organologists. Highlight the advantages and disadvantages of each system.
2. Discuss the notion of social function as applied to music.
3. Discuss some of the interrelationship between language and music that have been investigated by ethnomusicologists.
4. Compare the attitudes taken towards 'musicality' between at least two different societies.
5. The debate over the uses and limitations of transcription as a means of communication and analysis has been central to the study of ethnomusicology. Outline this and the past, present and future of transcription within ethnomusicology.
6. For Merriam ethnomusicology is the 'study of music in culture' and is an approach rather than a defined area of musical study. Outline the merits and demerits of this approach in the study of forms of Western Music.
7. Is there a Mediterranean style and what are the main themes and characteristics of traditional musics of the Mediterranean?
8. Compare and contrast the relationship between instruments and voices in Western society and other musical cultures.
 9. Outline the differences between North African and Sub-Saharan musical traditions and give your account of why they are so different.
 10. Aboriginal Music is bound up with identity and religion. How does this manifest itself and highlight regional differences.
 11. The aesthetics of traditional Andean music are remote from that of the West. Outline those differences with reference to a variety of Andean musical examples.
 12. Give an account of the concepts of 'raga' and 'tala' in classical Indian Music.

Bibliography

a. General**Books:**

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b. Instruments/Voices:**Books:**

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c. Musicality**Books:**

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Articles:

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- John Bailey, 'Patterns of Musical Enculturation in Afganistan' in Frank Wilson and Franz Roehmann, eds. *Music and Child Development: Proceedings of the 1987 Denver Conference St Louis: (St Louis, 1988-90)*, 88-99
- John Blacking, 'Musicians in Venda', *World of Music* (1979), xxi/2, 18-38
- John Blacking, 'The Biology of Music-Making, (ed.) Helen Myers *Ethnomusicology an Introduction: The New Grove Handbook in Music* (London, 1992), pp.301-314
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