

**Quest 1: MUS 1610**  
**An Echo of the Invisible World: Music & Spirituality**  
**Spring 2022**

“Music is the harmonious voice of creation; an echo of the invisible world.”  
- Giuseppe Mazzini

**INSTRUCTOR**

Dr. Chuck Pickeral

Office Location: 130 Music Building

Phone: 352-273-3165

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Office Hours: MW, 9-11:45 AM or by appointment. You may use this link if you would like to meet via Zoom during my office hours:

<https://ufl.zoom.us/j/91319691140?pwd=ZTdHOEIBNmJWcEM1WDUxVXUzbkRJdz09>

**GRADUATE TEACHING ASSISTANT**

Eric Heumann

e-mail: [ehumann@ufl.edu](mailto:ehumann@ufl.edu) (messaging through the course Canvas site is preferred)

**COURSE DETAILS**

Class Number: 29678

Meeting Time: T 4, R 4-5

Location: Music Building (MUB) 120

Quest 1 Theme: The Examined Life

General Education: Humanities (H), International (N)

(Note that a minimum grade of ‘C’ is required for General Education credit)

Course Cost: As part of the experiential learning component of this course, student must attend a spiritual musical performance. Some of these may require a ticket or other admission charge, and there are many free options as well.

Class resources, announcements, updates, assignments, and links to readings, musical examples, and other media will be made available through the class Canvas site ([www.elearning.ufl.edu](http://www.elearning.ufl.edu))

**COURSE DESCRIPTION**

While contemporary Western culture tends to regard music almost exclusively as a form of entertainment, from prehistory to the present day, across virtually every culture, music has been inextricably connected to the spiritual lives of humans. The essential question addressed in this course is: How does music move us spiritually? Or, to put it another way: Why do organized sounds have the power to catalyze spiritual experiences? How does music shape our spiritual experience and how do

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our spiritual beliefs and practices shape our musical taste and aesthetic experiences?

In order to address this question, we will examine the relationship between music and spiritual practice, both within and outside the context of organized religion. Through exposure to selected case studies from contemporary and historical cultures on multiple continents, students will be led to consider the underlying philosophies in both spiritual music and spiritual practices, to compare them to contemporary American culture, and to address the essential question as it pertains to their own beliefs and practices.

**QUEST 1 AND GEN ED DESCRIPTIONS AND STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES**

**Quest 1 Description:** Quest 1 courses are multidisciplinary explorations of truly challenging questions about the human condition that are not easy to answer, but also not easy to ignore: What makes life worth living? What makes a society a fair one? How do we manage conflicts? Who are we in relation to other people or to the natural world? To grapple with the kinds of open-ended and complex intellectual challenges they will face as critical, creative, and self-reflective adults navigating a complex and interconnected world, Quest 1 students use the humanities approaches present in the course to mine texts and artistic media for evidence, create arguments, and articulate ideas.

**Quest 1 SLOs:**

- ❖ Identify, describe, and explain the history, theories, and methodologies used to examine essential questions about the human condition within and across the arts and humanities disciplines incorporated into the course (Content).
- ❖ Analyze and evaluate essential questions about the human condition using established practices appropriate for the arts and humanities disciplines incorporated into the course (Critical Thinking).
- ❖ Develop and present clear and effective responses to essential questions in oral and written forms as appropriate to the relevant humanities disciplines incorporated into the course (Communication).
- ❖ Connect course content with critical reflection on their intellectual, personal, and professional development at UF and beyond (Connection).

**Humanities Description:** Humanities courses provide instruction in the history, key themes, principles, terminology, and theory or methodologies used within a humanities discipline or the humanities in general. Students will learn to identify and to analyze the

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key elements, biases and influences that shape thought. These courses emphasize clear and effective analysis and approach issues and problems from multiple perspectives.

**Humanities SLOs:**

- ❖ Identify, describe, and explain the history, underlying theory and methodologies used in the course disciplines (Content).
- ❖ Identify and analyze key elements, biases and influences that shape thought within the subject area. Approach issues and problems within the discipline from multiple perspectives (Critical Thinking)
- ❖ Communicate knowledge, thoughts and reasoning clearly and effectively (Communication).

**International Description:** International courses promote the development of students' global and intercultural awareness. Students examine the cultural, economic, geographic, historical, political, and/or social experiences and processes that characterize the contemporary world, and thereby comprehend the trends, challenges, and opportunities that affect communities around the world. Students analyze and reflect on the ways in which cultural, economic, political, and/or social systems and beliefs mediate their own and other people's understanding of an increasingly connected world.

**International SLOs:**

- ❖ Identify, describe, and explain the historical, cultural, economic, political, and/or social experiences and processes that characterize the contemporary world (Content).
- ❖ Analyze and reflect on the ways in which cultural, economic, political, and/or social systems and beliefs mediate understandings of an increasingly connected contemporary world (Critical Thinking).

**COURSE OBJECTIVES AND GOALS**

**Student Learning Outcomes:**

Upon completion of the course, the student will be able to:

1. Identify the basic components of music and describe musical works using discipline-specific terminology. (Q1 Content, GE-H Content SLOs)
2. Identify and describe a spiritual or religious practice using core terminology and methodologies of the discipline. (Q1 Content, GE-H Content SLOs)

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3. Analyze musical works from multiple perspectives and evaluate ways in which the musical and spiritual/religious elements are related or complimentary. (Q1 Critical Thinking, GE-H Content SLOs)
4. Articulate specific examples of spiritual/musical connections from a variety of cultural contexts – international, historical, and contemporary – and explain their differences and commonalities. (GE-N Content SLO)
5. Analyze and reflect on the ways in which cultural expressions and beliefs facilitate understandings of an increasingly connected contemporary world. (GE-N Critical Thinking SLO)
6. Offer both subjective, emotional commentary and objective analysis of spiritual musical expressions, and to distinguish between the two, including influences and biases that have shaped these responses. (Q1 Critical Thinking SLOs)
7. Recognize and describe the role(s) that a spiritual experience of music plays in their own lives, regional culture, and contemporary society as a whole. (Q1 Critical Thinking SLOs)
8. Articulate some of the forces that have shaped their own spiritual beliefs and aesthetic tastes, critically reflecting on their intellectual, personal, and professional development. (Q1 Critical Thinking SLOs)
9. Develop and present knowledgeable, clear, and effective responses to the essential questions raised in this course. (Q1 Communication, GE-H Communication SLOs)

As a result of learning and listening, the student will acquire:

- ❖ Increased awareness and curiosity about past, present and future developments and practices in spiritual music.
- ❖ A philosophy according to which the student may express and justify his/her own personal tastes and interest in music and its relationship to their spiritual life and practices.
- ❖ A greater understanding of global musical cultures and their relationship to broader cultural changes.
- ❖ An enhanced receptivity to the beliefs, practices, and music of other cultures.

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**COURSE SCHEDULE**

<b>Part</b>	<b>Topic Area</b>	<b>Readings/Media</b>
<b>I</b> January 6	<b>Introit: Key Questions in Art, Music, &amp; Spiritual Practice; Facilitating Respectful &amp; Open Communication</b>	“Music & Spirituality – Introduction”, Edward Foley ( <i>Religions</i> 2015)
<b>II</b> January 11 & 13	<b><u>Tools for the Musical Explorer – The Language of Music:</u> Properties &amp; Principles of All Musics, Techniques for Listening</b>	<i>Thinking About Music: An Introduction to the Philosophy of Music</i> , Lewis Rowell (The University of Massachusetts Press, 1983)  “Music of Antiquity,” <i>Dictionary of Gnosis &amp; Western Esotericism</i> , Wouter J. Hanegraaf, Ed. (Brill, 2006)
<b>III</b> January 18 & 20	<b><u>Tools for the Musical Explorer – Making Meaning with Music:</u> Musical Design, Pattern, and Purpose</b>	<i>Orfeo</i> , Richard Powers (W. W. Norton & Co., 2014)  <i>The Witches of Eastwick</i> , John Updike (Knopf, 1984)
<b>IV</b> January 25 & 27	<b><u>The Spiritual Explorer’s Rucksack:</u> Philosophical, Theological, and Sociological Tools; Evaluating Religious Claims.</b>	“Introduction: A Story about How We Got Here” from <i>Religion: Sources, Perspectives, and Methodologies</i> . Jeffery J. Kripal (Macmillan, 2015)  <i>Being Spiritual but Not Religious: Past, Present, Future(s)</i> , William B. Parsons, Ed. (Routledge, 2018)  “Neuroscience and Religion: Surveying the Field,” <i>Mental Religion</i> (MacMillan, 2017)
<b>V</b> February 1 & 3	<b><u>Case Study 1 – Hear That Long Snake Moan:</u> Possession/Performance in West Africa and the African Diaspora</b>	<i>Porous Bodies, Collective Agency: An Ethnography of Dance Possession Ceremonies in Mali</i> , Abigail Boette Baker (Weslyan University, 2012) “Hear that Long Snake Moan,” from <i>Shadow Dancing in the USA</i> . Michael Ventura (Tarcher’s/St. Martin’s Press, 1985)
<b>VI</b> February 8 & 10	<b><u>Case Study 2 – Into the Mystic:</u> Elements of African Spirituality in American Folk/Popular Musics</b>	<i>Into the Mystic: The Visionary and Ecstatic Roots of 1960s Rock and Roll</i> , Christopher Hill (Park Street Press, 2017)

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		<p>“Hear that Long Snake Moan,” from <i>Shadow Dancing in the USA</i>. Michael Ventura (Tarcher’s/St. Martin’s Press, 1985)</p>
<p><b>VII</b> February 15 &amp; 17</p>	<p><u>Case Study 3 – Models of the Universe</u>: Symbolism, Ritual, and Myth in the Concert Hall</p>	<p>“The Symbols of the Bach Passacaglia,” David Rumsey (<a href="http://www.davidrumsey.ch">http://www.davidrumsey.ch</a>, 1992)</p> <p>“Aspects of Cosmological Symbolism in Hindusthani Musical Forms,” <i>Asian Music, Vol. 24, No. 1</i>, Robert Simms (Univeristy of Texas Press, 1993)</p>
<p><b>VIII</b> February 22 &amp; 24</p>	<p><u>Case Study 4 – Sacred Geometry</u>: Numerology, Pattern, and Proportions in Ancient Peru &amp; China; The Church of St. John Coltrane</p>	<p><i>Music: A Living Language</i>, Tom Manoff (W.W. Norton &amp; Co., 1982)</p> <p><i>The Jazz of Physics: The Secret Link Between Music and the Structure of the Universe</i>, Stephon Alexander (Basic Books, 2016)</p> <p><i>Sweat Your Prayers: Movement as Spiritual Practice</i>, Gabrielle Roth (Tarcher/Putnam, 1998)</p>
<p><b>IX</b> March 1 &amp; 3</p>	<p><u>The Story So Far</u>: Student Reports on Visitations; Summaries, Digressions, and Loose Ends</p>	<p><i>How to Be a Perfect Stranger: The Essential Religious Etiquette Handbook</i>, Stuart M. Matlins &amp; Arthur J. Magida, Eds. (SkyLight Paths Publishing, 2006)</p>
<p><b>X</b> March 15 &amp; 17</p>	<p><u>Case Study 5 – Mono No Aware</u>: Aesthetics &amp; Spirituality in Japanese Lives</p>	<p>“Mono no aware,” from <i>The Future is Japanese</i>, Ken Liu (Haikasoru, 2012)</p> <p><i>Thinking About Music: An Introduction to the Philosophy of Music</i>, Lewis Rowell (The University of Massachusetts Press, 1983)</p>

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<b>XI</b> March 22 & 24	<u>Case Study 6 – When I Go:</u> Music, Spirituality, & Identity at the End of Life	“My Deathbed Playlist (and Yours),” Mark Vanhoenacker (New York Times, Nov. 5, 2016)  “Commentary on <i>Bardo Thodol</i> ,” Chögyam Trungpa ( <a href="https://www.themathesontrust.org/library/bardo-thodol">https://www.themathesontrust.org/library/bardo-thodol</a> )
<b>XII-XIV</b> March 29-April 14	<u>You Take the Wheel:</u> Student Presentations of Research Projects	
<b>XV</b> April 19	<u>Recessional:</u> Revisiting Key Questions in Art, Music, & Spiritual Practice; Where Do We Go From Here?	<i>Traces of the Spirit: The Religious Dimensions of          Popular Music</i> , Robin Sylvan (New York University Press, 2002)
<b>EXAM          PERIOD</b> April 29 7:30-9:30 AM	There is no final examination for this course. We will only use this time in case of unexpected circumstances such as class cancellations that affect student presentations.	

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CRITICAL DATES

- ❖ Sign-Up for Capstone Project Group: January 18
- ❖ Tools for the Explorer Quiz Available Online: February 6-14
- ❖ Capstone Project: Topic Pitch (during class)
  - Group A: February 1 & 3
  - Group B: February 8 & 10
  - Group C: February 15 & 17
- ❖ Capstone Project: Outline Due
  - Group A: February 7
  - Group B: February 14
  - Group C: February 21
- ❖ Experiential Learning Event Choice Due: February 14
- ❖ Capstone Project: Draft for Peer Review
  - Group A: February 21
  - Group B: February 28
  - Group C: March 14
- ❖ Experiential Learning Report Due: February 28
- ❖ Capstone Project: Peer Reviews Due
  - Group A: February 28
  - Group B: March 14
  - Group C: March 21
- ❖ Capstone Project: 10-Minute Presentation Posted in Canvas
  - Group A: March 21
  - Group B: March 28
  - Group C: April 4
- ❖ Case Studies Test Available Online: April 4-11
- ❖ Capstone Project: Individual Q & A Session (during class)
  - Group A: March 29 & 31
  - Group B: April 5 & 7
  - Group C: April 12 & 14
- ❖ Capstone Project: Paper Due
  - Group A: April 4
  - Group B: April 11
  - Group C: April 18
- ❖ Personal Philosophical Statement Due: April 20



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**GRADE DISTRIBUTION AND GRADING POLICIES**

- Participation in class discussions, in class and online – 15%
- Tools for the Explorer Review Quiz – 10%
- Case Studies Test – 15%
- Experiential Learning Choice – 2%
- Experiential Learning Report – 13%
- Capstone Project Pitch – 2%
- Capstone Project Outline – 5%
- Capstone Project Draft for Review – 5%
- Peer Review of Capstone Projects – 5%
- Capstone Projects Presentation, including Individual Q & A – 10%
- Final Capstone Project Paper – 13%
- Personal Philosophical/Aesthetic Statement – 5%

**Grading Scale:**

Consistent with UF grading policies, this course will employ the following grading scale:

A	4.00	94-100
A-	3.67	90-93
B+	3.33	87-89
B	3.00	84-86
B-	2.67	80-83
C+	2.33	77-79
C	2.00	74-76
C-	1.67	70-73
D+	1.33	67-69
D	1.00	64-66
D-	0.67	60-63
E	0.00	0-59

More information on UF grading policies can be found at:

<https://catalog.ufl.edu/UGRD/academic-regulations/grades-grading-policies/>

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GRADED WORK AND ASSIGNMENTS

**Participation/Discussion**

In order to effectively participate in class, students must arrive prepared, whether in the “live” classroom or the Zoom meeting. This requires keeping current on the reading/listening/viewing assignments and being aware of the course schedule and activities as presented in this syllabus, discussed in class, and announced on the course Canvas website. Consistent, high-quality participation is expected. “High-quality” in this instance means:

- ❖ Informed (i.e., shows evidence of having done assigned work)
- ❖ Thoughtful (i.e., shows evidence of having understood and considered issues raised in assignments and previous discussions)
- ❖ Considerate (e.g., takes the perspectives of others into account, recognizes and distinguishes between subjective and objective elements)

In order to accommodate different learning styles as well as time constraints, opportunities for discussion will occur in-class and online through the Canvas site. If you have personal issues that prohibit you from joining freely in either class or online discussions, such as language barriers, disabilities, etc., please see the instructor as soon as possible to discuss alternative modes of participation.

Advances SLOs: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9

**“Tools for the Explorer” Review Quiz**

The first three modules of this course present the student with some of the basic vocabulary, theories, and methodologies used to describe, analyze, explain, and evaluate spiritual musical constructs and practices. The Review Quiz will feature objective testing of these concepts (multiple-choice, short answer, fill-in-the blank questions) as well as questions that require the application of these tools to short examples of music and ceremony.

Advances SLOs: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9

**Experiential Learning Report**

After acquiring the tools for investigation of music and spiritual practices in Weeks 1-3, students will select a religious ceremony that includes music or a concert/presentation of overtly spiritual music to attend. They will apply the tools they’ve learned to report on their experience and analysis of the event.

Students will identify a suitable event and submit it for approval.

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Both the University of Florida and the greater Gainesville area offer numerous opportunities for such experiential learning. These include, but are not limited to:

**Buddhist:**

**Tibetan**

Gainesville Karma Thegsum Choling  
1216 NW 9th Ave  
(352) 335-1975  
<https://www.ktcgainesville.org/>

**Vietnamese**

Tu Viện A Nan Temple  
2120 SE 15th Street  
(352) 275-4308  
<http://www.tuvienanan.org>

**Christian:**

**Anglican**

All Saints Anglican Church  
8100 SW Archer Rd.  
(352) 317-5757  
<http://allsaintsgnv.org/>

**Baptist**

First Baptist Church  
425 W University Ave.  
(352) 376-4681  
<http://fbcgainesville.net/>

Baptist Collegiate Ministries  
1604 W University Ave.  
(352) 376-4405  
<http://www.ufbcm.org/>

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**Catholic**

St. Augustine Church (offers services in Spanish as well as English)  
1738 W University Ave.  
(352) 372-3533  
<https://catholicgators.org/>

Holy Faith Catholic Church  
700 NW 39th Road  
(352) 376-5405  
<http://www.holyfaithchurch.org/>

**Chinese Christian**

Gainesville Chinese Christian Church  
2850 NW 23rd Blvd  
(352) 271-0776  
<http://www.gcccf.org/>

**Church of Christ**

Campus Church of Christ  
2720 SW Second Ave.  
(352) 378-1471  
<http://www.campuscofc.org/>

**Episcopalian**

Holy Trinity Episcopal Church  
100 NE First St.  
(352) 372-4721  
<http://www.holytrinitygmv.org/>

UF Chapel House  
1522 W University Ave.  
(352) 372-8506  
<http://www.ufchapelhouse.com/>

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**Evangelical**

Creekside Community Church  
2640 NW 39th Ave.  
(352) 378-1800  
<http://www.creeksidecc.org/>

**Lutheran**

University Lutheran Church  
1826 W University Ave.  
(352) 373-6945  
<http://www.ulcgainesville.com/>

First Lutheran Church of Gainesville  
1801 NW Fifth Ave.  
(352) 376-2062  
<http://www.flcgainesville.org/>

**Methodist**

First United Methodist Church  
419 NE First St.  
(352) 372-8523  
<http://www.fumcgnv.org/>

**Nondenominational**

Cru at the University of Florida  
University Auditorium & other locations on or near campus  
[https://www.facebook.com/pg/cruatuf/community/?ref=page\\_internal](https://www.facebook.com/pg/cruatuf/community/?ref=page_internal)

United Church of Gainesville  
1624 NW Fifth Ave.  
(352) 378-3500  
<http://www.ucgainesville.org/>

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**Presbyterian**

Presbyterian and Disciples of Christ Student Center  
1402 W University Ave.  
(352) 376-7539

<https://www.facebook.com/Presbyterian-and-Disciples-of-Christ-Student-Center-Gainesville-FL-140681115869/>

First Presbyterian Church  
300 SW Third St.  
(352) 378-1527  
<http://1stpc.org/>

**Hindu:**

Devi Temple of Florida  
12311 SW 11th Ave, Newberry, FL 32669  
(352) 332-4907  
<https://www.devitempleofflorida.org/>

Hare Krishna Student Center  
214 NW 14th St.  
(352) 336-4183  
[http://www.krishnalunch.com/student\\_center.html](http://www.krishnalunch.com/student_center.html)

Kirtan – Music of the Soul at Ayurvedic Health Retreat  
14616 NW 140th St., Alachua, Florida  
(352) 870-7645  
<https://www.facebook.com/events/345265852980330/>

**Islam**

Hoda Center  
5220 SW 13<sup>th</sup> Street  
(352) 377-8080  
<http://hodacenter.org/>

Islamic Center of Gainesville  
1010 W University Ave.  
(352) 372-1980  
<https://www.islamiccenterofgainesville.com/>

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**Jewish**

**Chabad Chassidism**

Lubavitch Chabad Jewish Center  
2021 NW Fifth Ave.  
(352) 336-5877  
<https://www.jewishgator.com/>

**Conservative**

Congregation B'Nai Israel  
3830 NW 16th Blvd  
(352) 376-1508  
<http://www.bnaigainesville.com/>

**Reform**

Temple Shir Shalom-Reform  
3855 NW 8th Ave  
(352) 371-6399  
<http://www.shirshalom.net/>

**Non-Sectarian**

Temple of the Universe  
15808 NW 90th St., Alachua, Florida 32615  
(386) 462-7279  
<http://tou.org/>

Students will prepare for this experiential learning by reviewing the appropriate excerpts from *How to Be a Perfect Stranger: The Essential Religious Etiquette Handbook*, Stuart M. Matlins & Arthur J. Magida, Eds. (SkyLight Paths Publishing, 2006).

Advances SLOs: 1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 9

**Case Studies Test**

In Weeks 4-10, students will be presented with studies involving a wide variety of spiritual music works, artists, cultures, and practices from around the globe, both

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historical and contemporary. These case studies will also feature a range of approaches to spiritual music, demonstrating some of the methodologies of the arts and aesthetics.

After completion of these modules, students will be tested on their objective understanding of these case studies, in formats (short answer, discussion) that allow for the synthesis and application of material learned, as well as opportunities to compare and contrast the cultures and methodologies covered.

Advances SLOs: 4, 5, 9

### **Capstone Project**

Since the case studies covered in this course present only a fraction of the myriad musical expressions of spirituality that characterize the human experience, there are ample opportunities for further exploration. The capstone project provides such an opportunity. Working with the instructor, each student will propose a topic related to spirituality and music such as a specific culture or subculture, an artist, a genre of music, or a specific construct.

This project should include documented research, but also objective analysis of the elements and principles covered in the course, description of social context, subjective responses to the topic, both by audience/participants and the student themselves, and comparison to the student's personal and cultural experience.

In order to develop the project systematically, students will:

- ❖ Select a topic and present it in class for suggestions and approval (Pitch)
- ❖ Submit an outline of the project, including subjects to be covered, sources, and general findings (Outline)
- ❖ Submit a written draft of the project for peer review (Draft for Review)
- ❖ Review the drafts of two other students (Peer Review)
- ❖ Prepare and upload a 10-minute audio/video presentation of the highlights of their research which will be viewed by their classmates. (Presentation)
- ❖ Engage in an individual Question & Answer session during class (Q & A)
- ❖ Submit a written document of their research and findings, including sources (Final Paper)

Advances SLOs: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 9



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**Personal Philosophical/Aesthetic Statement**

At the conclusion of the course, each student will submit a statement describing their personal response to the essential question(s) addressed in the course. What music moves them spiritually? How has music shaped their spiritual experience and how do their spiritual beliefs and practices shape their musical taste and aesthetic experiences?

In their answer, the student should articulate some of the forces that have shaped their own spiritual beliefs and aesthetic tastes, critically reflecting on any influences in their intellectual, personal, and professional development. If the student does not have spiritual beliefs or practices, and/or are unmoved spiritually by music, they should still critically reflect on the experiences and influences that have contributed to their stance. In addition, they should articulate the role(s) that music does play in their intellectual, emotional, and personal life.

In either case, the student should be able to recognize and describe the role(s) that a spiritual experience of music plays in their family/peer groups, regional culture, and contemporary society as a whole, comparing and contrasting their personal experience with that of these groups and cultures.

Advances SLOs: 6, 7, 8, 9

**TEXTS & MATERIALS**

While there is no single required text for this course, individual modules feature key reading/viewing excerpts as well as playlists of musical examples. These examples will be available through links on the course Canvas site.

**COURSE POLICIES AND STUDENT RESOURCES**

**Attendance**

Students are expected to attend class regularly and to arrive on time. Unexcused absences will negatively affect the participation grade. Student taking the online section should plan to be visible, present, and engaged as much as possible.

Requirements for class attendance and make-up exams, assignments, and other work in this course are consistent with university policies that can be found at:

<https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/attendance.aspx>

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### **Conduct and Class Demeanor**

Students are expected to arrive to class on time and stay for the full class period unless specific arrangements are made with the instructor prior to the class meeting.

Active discussion and questioning is encouraged. However, because of the personal and often-sensitive nature of spiritual beliefs, experiences, and practices, it is essential that our class meetings provide a safe environment for discussing such things. Opinions and beliefs shared by others should be treated with respect and confidentiality. Students sharing such beliefs and opinions should be open to respectful questions.

Conversations that do not contribute to the discussion should be kept to a minimum.

The nature of the subject matter in this course encourages the cultivation of sustained attention. Therefore, all electronic devices should be turned off and placed in closed bags. The only exception are those occasions when the instructor may ask one or more students to use their device for a specific purpose (e.g. to look up a term, example, etc. that arises in discussion).

### **Special Accommodations**

Students with disabilities requesting accommodations should first register with the Disability Resource Center (352-392-8565, [www.dso.ufl.edu/drc/](http://www.dso.ufl.edu/drc/)) by providing appropriate documentation. Once registered, students will receive an accommodation letter which must be presented to the instructor when requesting accommodation. Students with disabilities should follow this procedure as early as possible in the semester.

### **Course Evaluation**

Students are expected to provide feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing online evaluations at <https://evaluations.ufl.edu>. Evaluations are typically open during the last two or three weeks of the semester, but students will be given specific times when they are open. Summary results of these assessments are available to students at <https://evaluations.ufl.edu/results/>.

### **Technical Issues**

Issues with the Canvas site, such as accessing media, submitting assignments, etc., should be addressed to: <http://helpdesk.ufl.edu>.

### **Academic Honesty**

UF students are bound by The Honor Pledge which states, "We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest

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standards of honor and integrity by abiding by the Honor Code. On all work submitted for credit by students at the University of Florida, the following pledge is either required or implied: "On my honor, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid in doing this assignment." The Honor Code (<http://www.dso.ufl.edu/sccr/process/student-conduct-honor-code/>) specifies a number of behaviors that are in violation of this code and the possible sanctions. Furthermore, you are obligated to report any condition that facilitates academic misconduct to appropriate personnel. If you have any questions or concerns, please consult with the instructor.

## **Campus Resources**

### Health and Wellness

#### *U Matter, We Care:*

If you or a friend is in distress, please contact [umatter@ufl.edu](mailto:umatter@ufl.edu) or 352 392-1575 so that a team member can reach out to the student.

#### *Counseling and Wellness Center:*

<https://counseling.ufl.edu/>, 392-1575; and the University Police Department: 392-1111 or 9-1-1 for emergencies.

#### *Sexual Assault Recovery Services (SARS)*

Student Health Care Center, 392-1161.

University Police Department, 392-1111 (or 9-1-1 for emergencies).

<http://www.police.ufl.edu>

### Academic Resources

*E-learning technical support*, 352-392-4357 (select option 2) or e-mail to [Learning-support@ufl.edu](mailto:Learning-support@ufl.edu). <https://lss.at.ufl.edu/help.shtml>.

*Career Connections Center*, Reitz Union, 392-1601. Career assistance and counseling. <https://career.ufl.edu/>

*Library Support*, <http://cms.uflib.ufl.edu/ask> Various ways to receive assistance with respect to using the libraries or finding resources.

*Teaching Center*, Broward Hall, 392-2010 or 392-6420. General study skills and tutoring. <http://teachingcenter.ufl.edu/>

*Writing Studio*, 2215 Turlington Hall, 846-1138. Help brainstorming, formatting, and writing papers. <http://writing.ufl.edu/writing-studio/>

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*Student Complaints On-Campus:* <https://sccr.dso.ufl.edu/policies/student-honor-code-student-conduct-code/>