



蘇州大學
Soochow University

MUS 300 Music and Culture

Summer 2024

Course Credits: 4

Contact Hours: 56 hours

Instructor: TBA

Email: TBA

COURSE OBJECTIVES

This course offers an exploration of the intricate relationship between music and culture. Through an interdisciplinary lens drawing from cultural studies, music sociology, popular music studies, sound studies, music anthropology, and ethnomusicology, students will examine music as a dynamic social and cultural phenomenon. Rather than focusing on any specific genre, the course delves into the broader implications of music within society, addressing key concepts such as identity, historiography, globalization, nationalism, multiculturalism, ethnicity, social structures, institutions, cultural policy, and cultural fields.

Upon Completion of this Course, students will be able to:

1. Analyze the role of music in shaping cultural identities and communities;
2. Evaluate the impact of globalization on music production, distribution, and consumption;
3. Critically assess the relationship between music and social phenomena such as nationalism, multiculturalism, and ethnicity;
4. Examine the influence of social structures and institutions on music creation and dissemination;
5. Understand the intersections between music, cultural policy, and cultural fields.

PREREQUISITES

None



GRADING

Grades will be determined by accumulating points, with 100 points being the maximum, as follows:

ITEM	POINTS
4 Assignments	20 Points
2 Quizzes	20 Points
Research Project and Presentation	20 Points
Midterm Exam	15 Points
Final Exam	25 Points
Total	100 Points

Late submissions will be graded at the end of the course. Grades will be assigned according to the following rule:

$A \geq 90 > B \geq 80 > C \geq 70 > D \geq 60 > F$.

We reserve the right to make adjustments to the overall grading policy.

COURSE MATERIALS

Required Texts:

There is no required textbook.

Recommended (Optional) Texts or Other Materials:

None

COURSE TOPICS

MODULE	TASKS
Module 1	Topics: Topic 1: Noise, Silence, and Music Topic 2: Ethnomusicology Topic 3: Ethnographic Practice and Ethics Topic 4: Thinking about Music in Cultural and Social Contexts Assessments: Assignment #1



Module 2	Topics: Topic 5: Impact of Globalization on Music Production and Dissemination Topic 6: Music and Nationalism Topic 7: Multiculturalism and Music Topic 8: Social Structures and Music Consumption Assessments: Assignment #2 Quiz #1
Module 3	Topics: Topic 9: Institutions and Music Production Topic 10: Cultural Policy and Music Topic 11: Music and Cultural Fields Topic 12: Music and Identity Assessments: Assignment #3 Midterm Exam
Module 4	Topics: Topic 13: Sound Studies: Listening and Perception Topic 14: Music and Power Topic 15: Music, Technology, and Society Topic 16: Ritual and Ceremonial Music Assessments: Assignment #4 Quiz #2
Module 5	Topics: Topic 17: Geographies of music Topic 18: Cultural Appropriation and Authenticity Topic 19: Music and Resistance Topic 20: Future Directions in Music and Culture Studies Assessments: Research Project and Presentation Final Exam

ATTENDANCE

1) Class attendance is required. Missing classes without permission will lead to decrease in overall grade.

Missing less than two classes: no penalty.

Missing more than two classes: 7% will be taken off from the overall grade.

If the instructor reports a student's frequent missing of class to the Soochow



University Academic Administration Office, the student might get a written warning and might be prohibited from attending final exam.

2) Participants in this course are expected to arrive in class promptly and adequately prepared. The primary objective of this course is to critically engage with the readings and the subject matter. Therefore, course participants are expected to have completed the reading prior to class and prepare thoughtful reflections/commentaries to share with fellow colleagues.

LEARNING REQUIREMENTS

- 1) Late assignments are not acceptable and are subjected to grade deductions.
- 2) Assignments submitted in the wrong format will be counted as not submitted.
- 3) Failure to submit or fulfill any required course component results in failure of the class.
- 4) Make-up for midterm and final exams only with valid excuses, as defined by the University.
- 5) In order to earn a Certificate of Completion, participants must thoughtfully complete all assignments by stated deadlines and earn an average quiz score of 50% or greater.

TECHNOLOGY POLICY

The use of electronic devices in class is distracting, both for the user and for the rest of the class. Only non-programmable calculators can be used in the tests and exam. Any attempts to use cell phones and other electronic communication devices will be seemed as cheating. Laptops are discouraged, unless you use them for activities DIRECTLY related to the course (eg., note taking, reading course documents).

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY POLICY

Soochow University highly values the academic integrity and aims to promote the academic fairness, honesty and responsibility. Any academic dishonesty behaviors and any attempts to cheats and plagiarism will be reported to the university administration office. A written warning and the relevant penalties will be imposed. The record might be shown on the official university transcript.



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DISABILITY ACCOMMODATION

Soochow University is committed to maintaining a barrier-free environment so that students with disabilities can fully access programs, courses, services, and activities at Soochow University. Students with disabilities who require accommodations for access to and/or participation in this course are welcome.

Note:

Please contact the University Administrative Office immediately if you have a learning disability, a medical issue, or any other type of problem that prevents professors from seeing you have learned the course material.