

MUSIC 232: MUSIC AS A GLOBAL PHENOMENON

University of Waterloo
Conrad Grebel University College
Department of Music
Fall Term 2018

Prof. Maisie Sum

Class Time: TTh 1:00–2:20 PM

Location: CGR Rm 1208

Office Hours: TTh 2:20–3:15 PM (or by appointment)

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Course Description

A survey of music studied in cross-cultural perspective with regard to its sound, performance practices, meanings, and functions from selected world traditions found in the diverse cultures of Africa, Asia, Latin America, North America, Europe, and the Middle East (in *Undergraduate Calendar 2018–19*).

Music is often thought of as universal, yet the way we understand, listen to, think about, make and use music differs across societies, not to mention within the same society. Through a survey of music worldwide, this course considers the meanings music has to the life of people in societies from Africa, Asia, Latin America, Europe, and North America. Our study of music considers three perspectives—sound, concept, and behaviour—and begins with the premise that to understand a people's music is to understand their aesthetic sensibility.

In this course, you are asked to open your ears, minds, and your imagination. Emphasis is placed on developing analytical and listening skills, and on participation in music-making activities (e.g., workshops, clapping rhythms). When possible, topics will be complemented by interaction with guest artists in the form of lecture demonstrations and workshops. These activities, combined with readings, internet sources, group discussions, listening and analysis, video footage, multi-media presentations, and live performances aim to give you firsthand experience of the diversity of musics in the world. Points of discussion may also include music and globalization, concepts of authenticity and appropriation, representation, preservation, the role of music in ritual, and its role for survival. Learning about music from diverse cultures can enable cross-cultural understanding, and in turn provide a mirror into our own sonic sensibilities and cultural attitudes. All are welcome. *No pre-requisite required.*

Summary of what the course will offer:

- A cross-cultural perspective of music as a human phenomenon, intended to enrich your experience and appreciation
- Practical and theoretical knowledge of music from diverse world cultures
- A sense of what music can mean and how it can be used
- Exposure to music you have never heard and some that you have
- Participation in an exchange of ideas with peers
- Interaction with expert musicians from Bali and South India
- Hands-on experience playing Balinese gamelan music on the Department of Music's instruments

Throughout the term, you are expected to:

- Understand concepts and terms developed in lectures. You may be asked to *memorize* terms and definitions (and a few quotations) and asked to cite them and/or apply them to musical examples on tests
- Prepare for lectures—do readings, watch videos, and/or listen to music
- Read assigned texts and participate in class discussions in a respectful way. You are expected to know what has been in the readings for quizzes and tests.
- Engage in-class activities (individual and group)
- Participate actively in music workshops and lecture demonstrations given by invited guest artists
- Come to all lectures **on time**, be focused, and take good notes. The class content—and the basis for the tests and assignments—is drawn largely from the lectures, which include discussions, AV materials, and music activities. There is no one textbook that matches the class material.

Success in the course will enable you to:

- Identify previously unfamiliar sounds and specific musical features about recorded examples (e.g., instruments, key elements, ensemble type)
- Discuss the relationship between music and society (e.g., how music may reflect the society that creates it, how it may reinforce or subvert social norms) and explain that understanding music can help us to understand the culture that produces it
- Explain the use, function, and meaning of music in diverse world cultures and reflect on music's use, function and meaning in your own life and in the lives of people around you
- Reflect on issues associated with the impact of globalizing forces (e.g., tourism, internet) on music traditions (e.g., change in performance context, instrumentation, ensemble)
- Compare music traditions cross-culturally and assess similarities and differences (e.g., sound, concept, behaviour)
- Demonstrate basic rhythmic patterns from diverse music cultures
- Observe musical activities and listen to music more critically and with greater openness, awareness, and curiosity, and in consideration of both sonic and cultural elements

Course Work

1. Two Written Tests (20% + 20% = 40%)*

- a. **First Test (20%):** Primarily focused on the music traditions of Africa, Latin America and Europe; however, you are expected to have a basic knowledge and understanding of all materials covered from September 6 to October 11 (inclusive). In-class Thursday, **Oct 18**.
- b. **Second Test (20%):** Primarily focused on music traditions of North America, Asia, and the Music and Globalization; however, you are expected to have a basic knowledge and understanding of all materials covered from September 6-13, October 16 to November 22 (inclusive). In-class Thursday, **Nov 29**.

* This course requires you to listen to music examples. In the tests you will be expected to identify key features of music (such as instrumentation, texture, ensemble size); the culture, country, and/or region of origin; the musical context; and the title of pieces. There are listening assignments in most classes. You will need to do careful, frequent listening outside of class in order to become acquainted with the music studied. (*N.B. Parts of pieces, not necessarily the very beginning, will be played for identification. The playlist will be reviewed and possibly modified before a test.*)

2. Research Plan, Outline, and Bibliography (15%)

Choose a topic or region of study inspired by your experience in the music workshops or by the lectures, and related readings. More information to be distributed on Tuesday, September 25.

Due at the beginning of class on Thursday, **Oct 4**.

3. Lightning Talk (10%)

A short six-minute presentation (5-talk + 1-music) in which you apply concepts and techniques studied throughout the term to discuss the topic or region you selected for your research plan. Use presentation software (e.g., Powerpoint) and include one audio/audio-visual clip for your talk. More information to be distributed on Tuesday, Oct 2.

Thursday, **Nov 1**, Tuesday, **Nov 6**, and Thursday, **Nov 8**. If necessary, presentations will be added on Tuesday, **October 30**.

4. Concert/Event Report (15%)

Attend a world music concert/event this term and write a report. If you choose to attend something that is not listed below, please check with me first to ensure that it is appropriate for the assignment. For more information about how to write the review and expectations, see *Event Review Guidelines* (on LEARN).

- Sept 20 (Thurs): 8 PM **The Gipsy Kings**, Centre in the Square (CITS), ~\$30 student price - Visit CITS or Call 519 578 1570
- Sept 22 (Sat): 12 PM to 5 PM **St. Pauls' 15th Annual POW WOW**, Waterloo Park (by the bandshell) Rain/Shine, FREE Admission

- Fri. Sept 28, Fri. Oct 26, Sat. Nov 24: 8:30 PM to 11:30 PM *Ceili* (Irish Music and Dance), Victoria Park Pavilion, \$12/\$15, (for more information [Grand River Ceilis](#)) –
- Nov 19 (Mon): 8 PM *A Tribe Called Red*, Chapel, Conrad Grebel University College
- Nov 23 (Fri): 7:30 PM *UWaterloo and Community Balinese Gamelan*, Humanities Theatre
- Other concerts announced in class
- Feel free to share “world” music concerts with the class

Due: **One week after the date of the concert** and no later than **Dec. 3**.

** Remember to include your ticket and the concert program with your review!*

5. Intellectual Reflections (15%)

Human experience is an important component of this course. You are encouraged to reflect on the music traditions studied throughout the course with regard to meaning, function, use, context, and sound. During the course, you will have opportunities to interact with expert musicians in the form of lecture demonstrations and music workshops. You will also view videos and participate in presentations delivered by your peers. For some of these activities, you will be given class time to reflect on your experience and write your thoughts and ideas (e.g., about the music, your experience playing/learning, the teaching method, learning process, demonstration, presentation, how you connect with what you heard, learned, experienced, and so on). You are expected to connect to related readings or class discussions in your writing. Keep all reflections after they are returned to you. For your final reflection, you will be asked to consider your experience throughout the term and to review your previous reflections.

Short reflections (in-class or dropbox): 250–350 words (approx. 1 to 2 handwritten pages, double spaced). Submit at the end of class or via dropbox by 8PM (on the same day of class). See the Course Calendar for intellectual reflection (IR) due dates.

Final reflection (homework): 600–800 words (written using a word processor, 12-pt TNR, double-spaced). Submit with all previous IRs attached via dropbox by **Mon. Dec 3**.

You have an automatic grace period of one-week. 10%

6. Participation & Attitude (5%)

You are assessed throughout the term on your overall engagement with the course, which includes discussions and questions in and outside of class, listening activities, responses to assigned materials, hands-on music-making activities⁺, and attitude. Regular class attendance is important, expected and factored into the grade (one absence will be excused without penalty or a medical note). In addition to attendance, your attention is key to understanding and engaging with the material, and doing well on the tests.

⁺N.B. Assessment of music-making activities is based on your effort, participation, and attitude.

7. 232 Music Café

You are welcome to share music with the class at the end of the term during the Music Café. Each participant has 5 minutes. Your selection could be inspired by a reading or listening

assignment, something you decided to google after a lecture and found interesting, music that has a specific meaning to you, music you enjoy, etc. Or you may choose to demonstrate music that you already play or are learning to play. In addition to sharing a clip or giving a demo, you are encouraged to say a few words, though it is not required. **Email me by October 25** if you wish to participate.

Test and Due Dates Summary

Intellectual Reflections	15%	Sept 11, Oct 2, 23, Nov 8, 15 * final reflection – due Dec 3
Research Plan and Bibliography	15%	Oct 4 (week 4)
First Test	20%	Oct 18 (week 6)
Lightning Talks	10%	Nov 1, 6, 8 (weeks 8, 9)
Concert/Event Report	15%	One-week after concert date, no later than Dec 3
Participation & Attitude	5%	

Course Materials

Required Readings:

Readings are available as electronic resources and uploaded to the course site on **LEARN** (link to **Course e-Reserves** and uploaded under **Course Content/Readings** tab). See the Course Calendar for weekly reading assignments.

*N.B. The books from which many of these readings have been scanned are on **reserve** in the Conrad Grebel Milton Good Library on the 3rd floor of Grebel and available for purchase at the UWaterloo Campus Bookstore (see Reading List).*

Listening Examples:

Due to copyright laws, only some recordings have been uploaded to LEARN as mp3 files. Others are free to access on the web, though there may be a few iTunes purchases. Many of the music examples are only available on CDs in the Grebel library Course Reserves (listed below), and have been selected for their pedagogical value—that is, the selections include extensive explanations in books or liner notes, and/or listening guides. The location of music examples is indicated on the Course Calendar. For details, see “232 Playlist” posted on LEARN. You are also encouraged to go to [NAXOS World](#) to listen to additional recordings of the musical areas covered throughout the course. Click [here](#) if connecting off-campus. (*N.B. In order to get off-campus access you must first “Connect from Home” from the library home page using their Watcard barcode and last name.*)

ON RESERVE in the Grebel Library (3rd Floor)

- Berliner, Paul, prod. *Zimbabwe: The Soul of Mbira*. Nonesuch 9 72054-2 [CGC CD900 Zim Fol-1]
- Gold, Lisa. *Music in Bali: Experiencing Music, Expressing Culture*. New York: Oxford University Press. [ML345.I5 G65 2005] - companion CD with book
- Miller, Terry E. and Andrew C. Shahriari. 2012. *World Music: A Global Journey*, 3rd Edition. New York: Routledge. [ML3545.M54 2012 discs]
- Shelemay, Kay Kaufman. *Soundscapes: Exploring Music in a Changing World*, 2nd Edition. [MT90.S53 2006] - companion CD-set with book

- Tenzer, Michael. 2011 [1998]. *Balinese Gamelan Music*, 3rd Edition (with companion CD). Vermont: Tuttle Publishing. [ML1251.I53 T46 2011] - companion CD with book
- Tilton, Jeff, ed. *Worlds of Music: An Introduction to the Music of the World's Peoples*, 5th Edition [ML3798.W67 2009 discs]

Extras – Lunches: Beginning September 26 (Wed) I will reserve each Wednesday from 11:45 AM–12:15 PM for lunch in the Grebel dining hall with anyone in class who wants to come, chat, and get to know one another better. It is challenging to have conversational interaction in class and I would like to. Bring your lunch or buy it in the dining hall. For the day's lunch menu, go to [Dining Hall Menu](#)

Asking for help: You are encouraged to ask questions and discuss any concerns you may have about the course during class time or after. If you email for help, I will normally respond within 48 hours between 9 and 5PM. Please be sure to check whether the answer to your question was covered in class or is elsewhere available in advance. Mainly, I would prefer to speak to you in person. Please take advantage of the office hours listed on the first page of the syllabus, or make an appointment if these hours conflict with your course schedule. I am always happy to talk and eager to get to know you.

Writing and Communication Centre (WCC): The WCC works with students as they develop their ideas, draft, and revise. Writing and communication specialists offer one-on-one support in planning assignments, synthesizing and citing research, organizing papers and reports, designing presentations and e-portfolios, and revising for clarity and coherence.

You can make multiple appointments throughout the term, or you can drop in at the Library for quick questions or feedback. To book a 25- or 50-minute appointment and to see drop-in hours, visit uwaterloo.ca/wcc. Group appointments for team-based projects, presentations, and papers are also available.

Please note that communication specialists guide you to see your work as readers would. They can teach you revising skills and strategies, but will not change or correct your work for you.

Playing music through the year: The UWaterloo Department of Music offers three World Music Ensembles in Balinese music—two large gamelan ensembles (*semara dana*) and a Balinese chamber percussion ensemble (*gender wayang*)—which are open to ALL students, whether you have studied music before or not. Why not take one of these? It provides a wonderful kind of learning you may not have experienced. In addition, you will have the opportunity to study with I Dewa Made Suparta, Grebel's artist-in-residence from Bali, Indonesia—a founding member of *Gamelan Çudamani*. Check out a performance recorded during one of their U.S. tours [Gamelan Çudamani - Royce Hall](#).

Balinese Gamelan (large ensemble)

- World Music Course 116, 117, 216, etc. (register for credit)
Meets Tuesday and Thursday 4:00 to 5:20 PM
- Community Gamelan (extra-curricular)
Meets Thursday 6:30 to 8:30 PM (10 sessions, begins September 21)

Balinese Chamber Gamelan (2 to 4 players)

- Nine hours of instruction over the 12-week term (register for credit)
Schedule coordinated between instructor and student.

The above ensemble courses normally require no work beyond going to rehearsal. You must participate in a concert at the end of the term. If you want to participate in a satisfying group music-making experience and learn about another culture and its music at the same time, this is an EXCELLENT AND RARE OPPORTUNITY.

Come to an information session to learn more about the Balinese gamelan (sign up at

[Gamelan Info Session](#)). For general information about the ensemble go to [Gamelan](#).

The UWaterloo Department of Music has six additional music ensembles to choose from. For more information go to [UWaterloo Department of Music Ensembles](#).

Course Policies and the University of Waterloo

1. Attendance

Attendance is important, expected and factored into your final grade. A poor attendance record and habitual tardiness will affect your overall performance and result in a lower grade. One absence will be excused without penalty or a medical note. For exceptional cases, see Point #9 **Accommodation Due to Illness**.

2. Technology Policy

Attitude is important for fostering a positive learning environment. Inappropriate use of technology has been shown to have negative impacts on class attitude and attention. Unless otherwise instructed, cellphones must be safely stowed and silenced during class (airplane mode is preferable) and computers used for taking notes only. The severity of this cannot be overstated and your grade will go down if you violate these rules. Studies have shown that texting, viewing social media, surfing the net, task switching, etc., affect the learning and performance of others in the classroom. Please be considerate. For more information:

- [Facebook and texting made me do It](#)
- [Laptop Distractions in the Classroom](#)

3. Course Work Deadlines

- *Homework* assignments must be submitted at the beginning of class or electronically (as instructed) by the due date indicated on the **Course Calendar**. Note that electronic submissions to the Dropbox on LEARN will be closed at 11:59 PM on the due date. See Point #9 **Accommodation Due to Illness** below for exceptional cases.
- *Tests* and *in-class tasks* must be written and submitted in class on the same date it is given as indicated on the **Course Calendar**. See Point #9 **Accommodation Due to Illness** below for exceptional cases.

4. Academic Integrity

In order to maintain a culture of academic integrity, members of the University of Waterloo community are expected to promote honesty, trust, fairness, respect and responsibility. See the UWaterloo Academic Integrity Webpage (<https://uwaterloo.ca/academic-integrity/>) and the Arts Academic Integrity Office Webpage (<http://arts.uwaterloo.ca/current-undergraduates/academic-responsibility>) and <https://uwaterloo.ca/arts/currentundergraduates/student-support/ethical-behavior> for more information.

5. Discipline

A student is expected to know what constitutes academic integrity to avoid committing academic offenses and to take responsibility for his/her actions. A student who is unsure whether an action constitutes an offense, or who needs help in learning how to avoid offenses (e.g., plagiarism, cheating) or about “rules” for group work/collaboration should seek guidance from the course professor, academic advisor, or the undergraduate associate dean. For information on categories of offenses and types of penalties, students should refer to Policy 71, [Student Discipline](#). For typical penalties check [Guidelines for the Assessment of Penalties](#).

6. Grievance

A student who believes that a decision affecting some aspect of his/her university life has been unfair or unreasonable may have grounds for initiating a grievance. Read Policy 70, Student Petitions and

Grievances, Section 4 (<https://uwaterloo.ca/secretariat/policies-procedures-guidelines/policy-70>). When in doubt please be certain to contact the department's administrative assistant who will provide further assistance.

7. Appeals

A decision made or penalty imposed under Policy 70, Student Petitions and Grievances (other than a petition) or Policy 71, Student Discipline may be appealed if there is a ground. A student who believes he/she has a ground for an appeal should refer to Policy 72, Student Appeals (<http://www.adm.uwaterloo.ca/infosec/Policies/policy72.htm>).

8. Access Ability Services - Accommodation for Students with Disabilities

<https://uwaterloo.ca/disability-services/>

The University of Waterloo and Grebel share a commitment to support the participation and access to university programs, services, and facilities by persons with disabilities.

Note for Students with Disabilities:

- Contact the Office of AccessAbility Services at 519-888-4567 ext. 35082 or visit Needles Hall 1132. Book an appointment to meet with an advisor to discuss the available services and supports. The Office for Persons with Disabilities (OPD) collaborates with all academic departments to arrange appropriate accommodations for students with disabilities without compromising the academic integrity of the curriculum. If you require academic accommodations to lessen the impact of your disability, please register with the Office at the beginning of each academic term.

9. Accommodation Due to Illness

From time to time students become ill or have ongoing medical conditions that prevent them from meeting academic obligations. The University is committed to assisting students who are ill and has established the following policy:

Documentation:

Students in on-campus courses who are ill and unable to meet assignment due dates or write a term test or final examination should seek medical treatment and provide confirmation of the illness to the instructor(s) **within 48 hours**. A doctor's note or form created by the physician or clinic is acceptable. In the case of a missed test, students must submit within 48 hours medical documentation that contains the same information specified on the UW Verification of Illness Form.

10. Mental Health Support

All of us need a support system. The faculty and staff in Arts encourage students to seek out mental health supports if they are needed.

Full details can be found online at the Faculty of ARTS [website](#). Download [UWaterloo and regional mental health resources \(PDF\)](#). Download the [WatSafe app](#) to your phone to quickly access mental health support information.

11. Territorial Acknowledgement

We acknowledge that we are living and working on the traditional territory of the Attawandaron (also known as Neutral), Anishinaabe and Haudenosaunee peoples. The University of Waterloo is situated on the Haldimand Tract, the land promised to the Six Nations that includes six miles on each side of the Grand River. For more information about the purpose of territorial acknowledgements, please see the [CAUT Guide to Acknowledging Traditional Territory \(PDF\)](#).