

## GENERAL INFORMATION

### PROFESSOR INFORMATION

**Instructor:** Johnny Frías  
**Class meeting times:** Tuesdays 1pm-3:40pm  
**E-mail:** [jfrias@fiu.edu](mailto:jfrias@fiu.edu)  
**Room:** PCA 180

### COURSE DESCRIPTION AND LEARNING GOALS

This course provides an introduction to selected music cultures from around the world, particularly those outside the Euro-American mainstream. Areas for study include India, Indonesia, Africa, the Middle East, South America, and the Caribbean. These will be explored from the perspective of ethnomusicology.

This is a hybrid course, meaning that it is essentially half online, half in-person (in the classroom). In this case, we will meet once a week in a class. Class meetings will center mostly on activities, listening, and lecture material. Out of class, you will take quizzes, listening tests, journals, and other assignments online via Canvas. The course calendar at the end of this syllabus provides a layout of our in-class and out-of-class topics and assignments, and contains specific due dates for assignments. Please check the calendar regularly as certain things may change as we progress through the semester, in which case I will announce the changes in class and on Canvas.



My goals as your professor are that you will:  
Become more familiar with music-cultures outside the Euro-American mainstream  
Gain interest in new kinds of music you've never heard before  
Be able to appreciate a given music tradition on its own terms, rather than solely from a Western point of view  
Become a more well-rounded musician (or music listener) as a result of all the above

### COURSE OBJECTIVES

As students, you will be able to:

- Distinguish music from non-music
- Distinguish prevailing musical characteristics of various world regions
- Identify greater amounts of musical characteristics when listening to music, thus understanding it on a deeper level
- Draw on appropriate vocabulary in describing and discussing music, including music with which you are unfamiliar
- Approach the discussion of music from various angles, including as a performance and as expressions of society and culture tied to real world issues, such as racism and spirituality

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- Draw on such approaches and relevant theoretical issues in conducting music research

Additionally, this is a global learning (GL) course that counts towards your global learning graduation requirement. Thus, by the end of the semester you will also achieve the following global learning student learning objectives (GL-SLO):

1. Have demonstrated knowledge of the interrelatedness of local, global, international, and intercultural musical issues, trends, and systems.
2. Have demonstrated the ability to conduct a multi-perspective analysis of local, global, international, and intercultural musical issues.
3. Have engaged in local, global, international, and intercultural problem-solving pertaining to cross-cultural musical issues.

## IMPORTANT INFORMATION

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### POLICIES

Please review the [FIU's Policies](#) webpage. The policies webpage contains essential information regarding guidelines relevant to all courses at FIU, as well as additional information about acceptable netiquette for online courses.

As a member of the FIU community you are expected to be knowledgeable about the behavioral expectations set forth in the [FIU Student Code of Conduct](#).

### CELL PHONES, RECORDING DEVICES, & LAPTOPS

You must turn off or silence your cell phone upon entering the classroom. Please refrain from using them in class unless it is related to a class activity. Recording is not allowed unless approved by the instructor.

### TECHNICAL REQUIREMENTS AND SKILLS

One of the greatest barriers to taking an online course is a lack of basic computer literacy. By computer literacy we mean being able to manage and organize computer files efficiently, and learning to use your computer's operating system and software quickly and easily. Keep in mind that this is not a computer literacy course; but students enrolled in online courses are expected to have moderate proficiency using a computer.

Please visit our [Technical Requirements](#) webpage for additional information.

### ACCESSIBILITY AND ACCOMMODATION

The Disability Resource Center collaborates with students, faculty, staff, and community members to create diverse learning environments that are accessible, equitable, inclusive and sustainable. The DRC provides FIU students with disabilities the necessary support to successfully complete their education and participate in activities available to all students. If you have a diagnosed disability and plan to utilize academic accommodations, please contact the Center at 305-948-3532 or visit them at the Graham Center GC 190.

Please visit our [ADA Compliance](#) webpage for information about accessibility involving the tools used in this course.

Please visit the LMS Accessibility webpage for more information:

- [Canvas](#)

For additional assistance please contact FIU's [Disability Resource Center](#).

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## ACADEMIC MISCONDUCT STATEMENT

Florida International University is a community dedicated to generating and imparting knowledge through excellent teaching and research, the rigorous and respectful exchange of ideas and community service. All students should respect the right of others to have an equitable opportunity to learn and honestly to demonstrate the quality of their learning. Therefore, all students are expected to adhere to a standard of academic conduct, which demonstrates respect for themselves, their fellow students, and the educational mission of the University. All students are deemed by the University to understand that if they are found responsible for academic misconduct, they will be subject to the Academic Misconduct procedures and sanctions, as outlined in the Student Handbook.

Academic Misconduct includes: **Cheating** – The unauthorized use of books, notes, aids, electronic sources; or assistance from another person with respect to examinations, course assignments, field service reports, class recitations; or the unauthorized possession of examination papers or course materials, whether originally authorized or not. **Plagiarism** – The use and appropriation of another's work without any indication of the source and the representation of such work as the student's own. Any student who fails to give credit for ideas, expressions or materials taken from another source, including internet sources, is responsible for plagiarism.

Academic misconduct will not be tolerated in this class. Ignorance of the law is no excuse. These violations involve the use of any method or technique enabling you to misrepresent the quality or integrity of any of your university related work.

If, after reading this, you still do not understand what plagiarism is, I am available to explain it to you individually. I also suggest that you come to me with any specific questions regarding this issue that may arise during the course.

Academic sanctions in this class will range from a grade on the assignment or test to an F in this course. A report of suspected academic dishonesty will be sent to the Office of the Dean of Student. Such dishonesty includes any plagiarism, cheating on a test, etc. If you have not already done so, please read through the Standards of Student Conduct in your FIU Student Handbook. The Standards address three major areas of moral integrity: Academic Honesty, Respect for the Law, and Respect for People.

Learn more about the [academic integrity policies and procedures](#) as well as [student resources](#) that can help you prepare for a successful semester.

## COURSE PREREQUISITES

This course has no prerequisites.

## PROCTORED EXAM POLICY

This course does not require proctored exams.

## EXPECTATIONS OF THIS COURSE

**Students are expected to:**

- **Review the how to get started information** located in the course content
- **Take the practice quiz** to ensure that your computer is compatible with the LMS
- **Review** and follow the course calendar
- Submit assignments by the corresponding deadline

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### The instructor will:

- Respond to emails within two days
- Grade assignments within one week of the assignment deadline

### TEXTBOOK

#### **Worlds of Music: An Introduction to the Music of the World's Peoples (6<sup>th</sup> edition)**

Jeff Todd Titon

Cengage Learning, 2016-01-01

ISBN-10: 9781133953906

ISBN-13: 1133953905

You may purchase your textbook online at the [FIU Bookstore](#).

\* Audio examples will be available on Canvas, so there is no need to buy the additional subscription to MindTap for listening examples. All you need is the book.

The syllabus, assignments, additional listening examples, study guides, and all other materials will be posted on the course website on Canvas.

### UNIVERSITY LEARNING CENTER

The FIU University Learning Center is available on both campuses to support you. They provide personalized attention tailored to your needs in a user-friendly environment that includes online support. You can get help writing a paper, reading more efficiently and increasing textbook comprehension, or even creating an individualized learning plan. The center is located in PC 247 (305-348-2180) on the main campus and at ACI 160 (305-919- 5927) on the Biscayne Bay campus. Find them online at <http://www.learningcenter.fiu.edu>.

### NAXOS MUSIC LIBRARY

As an FIU student, you have access to the Naxos Music Library, a digital online music collection, with 100,000+ classical, jazz, and world music tracks. Naxos is accessible either on-campus, or from home. To connect directly from the FIU computer network, to go to its address: <http://FIU.NaxosMusicLibrary.com>

and for the jazz add-on:

<http://FIU.NaxosMusicLibrary.com/jazz>

**IMPORTANT:** If you are accessing the system from home by any of the commercial providers, Naxos has to validate you as a user. Go to the library home page at: [library.fiu.edu](http://library.fiu.edu) and click on "Connect from Home" and follow the instructions. The procedure is as above.

### COURSE DETAILS

### COURSE COMMUNICATION

It is best to contact me via email. I will try to answer student emails as quickly as possible (within one or two days), but don't expect an immediate reply.

### PARTICIPATION AND TARDINESS

Do not copy without the express written consent of the instructor.

It is important that you attend class, because that is where we will be doing our discussions and listening. Your participation grade is based on attendance, completion of in-class individual and group assignments, and participation in class discussion. This will comprise **10% of your grade**.

Each unexcused absence **subtracts two points** from your final grade. For an absence to be excused, students must provide an explanatory note (i.e. from a doctor, funeral home, or Dean's office); otherwise the absence will be considered unexcused. Leaving before the conclusion of the lecture (without teacher approval) will result in an unexcused absence. Disruptive behavior such as excessive talking will also lower your participation grade. As students, you are responsible for getting any notes or other information from classmates if you are absent.

After 2 late arrivals, each following late arrival **subtracts a half point** from your final grade.

## TESTS AND QUIZZES (GL SLO #1)

There will be three quizzes and three listening tests, all of which will be online. The tests are based on listening examples, so it is important that you listen regularly to the required listening examples (on Canvas). The third exam is not a comprehensive final exam. It requires no more time or preparation than either of the other two previous exams. There will be no make-up exams. If I am not notified (by your leaving me an email message or a phone message) *before the exam begins*, you will receive a zero. If I am given notice within these bounds and your reason for missing the exam is documentable according to the attendance policy (below), there are options available to you to make up the missing grade.

The quizzes are comprised of multiple choice questions. Due dates for both quizzes and tests will be posted on Canvas. Tests will comprise **40% of your grade** and quizzes will comprise **15% of your grade**.

In order to mitigate any issues with your computer and online assessments, it is very important that you take the "Practice Quiz" from each computer you will be using to take your graded quizzes and exams. It is your responsibility to make sure your computer meets the minimum [hardware requirements](#).

Assessments in this course are not compatible with mobile devices and should not be taken through a mobile phone or a tablet. If you need further assistance please contact [FNU Online Support Services](#).

## ASSIGNMENTS

### Undergraduate Students:

- Journals:** (GL SLO #2): The journals allow me to gauge your skills in writing about and discussing music. There will be 6 journals, one per week. You will write between **300-500 words** about a given topic related to the material you are discussing in class. Journal topics will be provided on the course website.  
  
Your journal grade is based on ten possible points. In order to write a successful journal, you should: 1.) turn it in on time, 2.) stay within the designated word count, 3.) answer all parts of the question(s), and 4.) demonstrate in your writing that you have engaged critically with the question(s), providing relevant details from class material and thoughtful discussion. Together, the journals will comprise **20% of your grade**, so be sure to take your time with them and give them the necessary attention. Due dates: see Canvas or course calendar.
- Group Project:** (GL SLO #3): Working in groups of three or four, you will prepare a group research project in the form of a wiki based on a specific music tradition, artist, or musical group from a music culture not covered in class. Each project will include information (history, cultural norms, etc.) about that particular music culture, as well as musical analysis of a specific musical example. Your group must submit your topic to me via email for approval by **July 6**. The topic must fall outside the realm of Western art or Western popular music (i.e. not American jazz or British rock). See Canvas for detailed guidelines. This will comprise **15% of your grade**. Due: **July 27**.

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### Graduate Students:

1. Journals: The journals allow me to gauge your skills in writing about and discussing music. There will be 5 journals, one per week. You will write between 500-700 words about a given topic related to the material we are discussing in class. Journal topics will be provided on the course website.

Your journal grade is based on ten possible points. In order to write a successful journal, you should: 1.) turn it in on time, 2.) stay within the designated word count, 3.) answer all parts of the question(s), and 4.) demonstrate in your writing that you have engaged critically with the question(s), providing relevant details from class material and thoughtful discussion. Together, the journals will comprise **20% of your grade**, so be sure to take your time with them and give them the necessary attention. Due dates: see Canvas or course calendar.

2. Final paper (12-15 pages): You will prepare a research paper on a genre or artist of your choosing, approved by the professor early in the semester. This should be a topic not covered in class and should engage a particular theoretical issue (i.e. race, gender, political/social issues, etc.). The paper should draw on scholarly references (i.e. from JSTOR, Google Scholar, etc.) and use the [Chicago references \(author-date\)](#) format for citations and the reference section. See Canvas for detailed guidelines. Due **July 27** (emailed to me as a .doc or .pdf document).
3. Proposal: A proposal (1 page) for your final paper and preliminary list of references for your term paper topic will be due on **July 6\*\*** (in class or emailed as a .doc or .pdf document). Include a description of the topic, the theoretical issue you are focusing on (i.e. race, gender, transnationalism, etc.), and some background on what kind of scholarly work has been done in this area, ideally engaging the scholarly references you are using in your paper. Use the [Chicago references \(author-date\)](#) citation format. Include at least three scholarly references (i.e. from JSTOR, Google Scholar, etc.).  
\*\*Prior to completing your proposal, please email me with a brief description of your topic for me to approve it.

### Turning in Assignments

You may turn your work in at any time before the due date if the assignment is posted and available. Please see the course calendar or Canvas for due dates, including specific times for submitting online assignments. Please note that I may adjust the due dates for certain assignments. If I do, I will be sure to announce this in class and post an announcement on Canvas. Please check Canvas regularly for the most updated information. The following are the penalties for late assignments submitted:

- Within 24 hours after the due date/time (-10%)
- Within 48 hours after the due date/time (-20%)
- Two days following the due date/time (-30%)
- Three days following the due date/time (-40%, etc.)

### GRADING

Course Requirements		Weight			
3 Online listening tests			40%		
5 Online Quizzes			15%		
5 Online journals			20%		
Group Presentation (final paper for grad students)			15%		
Participation			10%		
<b>Total</b>			<b>100%</b>		
Letter	Range (%)	Letter	Range (%)	Letter	Range (%)
A	94 or above	B	83 - 86	C	70 - 76
A-	90 - 93	B-	80 - 82	D	60 - 69

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B+

87 - 89

C+

77 - 79

F

59 or less

## COURSE CALENDAR

### WEEKLY SCHEDULE (\*SUBJECT TO CHANGE)

#### MODULE 1: Music cultures, India, Indonesia

##### WEEK 1: June 19 - June 25

In class (Tuesday, June 19):

- Course introduction
- What is a music culture?
- Structure in music: Rhythm, melody, harmony, form
- Components of a music culture
- Syllabus, accessing Canvas, journals, quizzes

Out of class

- Complete Journal 1 on Canvas (due Wed June 20 by 11:59pm)
- Read: What is culture? What is music? (p. 5-9)
- Read: India: History, culture and music (p. 296-301)
- Read: Indonesian introduction and Javanese gamelan (p. 331-350)
- Take Practice Quiz on Canvas prior to taking Quiz 1
- Take Quiz 1 on Canvas (due Mon June 25 by 11:59pm)

##### WEEK 2: June 26 - July 2

In class (Tuesday, June 26):

- Review: music-culture, structure in music
- Carnatic music
- Javanese gamelan
- Balinese gamelan
- Review for Listening Test 1

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Out of class

- Complete Journal 2 on Canvas (due Wed June 27 by 11:59pm)
- Take Listening Test 1 on Canvas (due Thurs June 28 by 7:59pm)
- Read: Selection from *Race in North America* (on Canvas)
- Read: Black America: Introduction, music of work (p. 187-193)
- Read: Arab world: Religion and music in the Arab world (p. 506-514)
- Take Quiz 2 on Canvas (due Mon July 2 by 11:59pm)

**MODULE 2: Black America, the Arab world, Africa**

WEEK 3: July 3 – July 9

In class (Tuesday, July 3):

- Race and slavery in the US
- Black American music of worship, music of work
- Blues
- Religion and music in the Arab world

Out of class

- Complete Journal 3 on Canvas (due Thurs July 5 by 11:59pm)
- Read: Africa: Introduction and Ewe (p. 99-119)
- Read: Africa: Shona (p. 139-150)
- Take Quiz 3 on Canvas (due Mon July 9 by 11:59pm)
- Topics for undergraduate group projects (due Fri July 6 via email)
- Graduate student final paper proposals (due Fri July 6 via email)

WEEK 4: July 10 – July 16

In class (Tuesday, July 10):

- Ewe music
- Shona music
- Congolese rumba
- Review for Listening Test 2

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Out of class

- Complete Journal 4 on Canvas (due Wed July 11 by 11:59pm)
- Take Listening Test 2 on Canvas (due Thurs June 28 by 7:59pm)
- Read: "Introduction: The Caribbean crucible" (on Canvas)
- Read: "Santería: Historical background" (on Canvas)
- Take Quiz 4 on Canvas (due Mon July 16 by 11:59pm)

**MODULE 3: The Caribbean, South America**

**WEEK 5: July 17 – July 23**

In class (Tuesday, July 17):

- Music of Santería: Batá drumming
- Rumba
- Son

Out of class

- Complete Journal 5 on Canvas (due Wed July 18 by 11:59pm)
- Read: Chilean nueva canción (p. 443-450)
- Read: Quilimá and the sanjuán (p. 456-467)
- Take Quiz 5 on Canvas (due Mon July 23 by 11:59pm)

**WEEK 6: July 24 – July 27**

In class (Tuesday, July 24):

- Jamaica: ska, reggae, dub
- Chilean nueva canción

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- Review for Listening Test 3

Out of class

- Take Listening Test 2 on Canvas (due Thurs July 26 by 7:59pm)
- Undergraduate group project due Fri July 27 by 7:59pm
- Graduate final paper due Fri July 27 by 7:59pm

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