

COURSE OUTLINE

Music 127

I. Catalog Statement

Music 127 - World Music - 3 units.

Prerequisite: None.

Note: Skills expected: Rdg 5+, Wrtg 5+, Lstng/Spkg 5+, Math 2

Music 127 is designed to provide non-majors with a broader understanding of the multi-cultural world community. Students are introduced to non-western music as it occurs in Africa, the Middle East and Asia. Musical expression is viewed as an outgrowth of diverse cultural needs.

Lecture 3 hours.

II. Course Objectives

The student will be able to:

1. understand the relationships between culture, society, ritual and music.
2. recognize distinguishing characteristics of music from Africa, the Middle East and Asia.
3. perceive some of the essential differences between non-western music and the eurocentric musical tradition.
4. relate non-western musical instruments to western musical instruments though a universal classification system.
5. develop a greater appreciation for the cultural heritage of their peers in a multi-cultural community.

III. Text

Worlds of Music, ed. Jeff Todd Titon, (Schirmer Books, 1992)

Online CD:

Connect for Education. On Music of the World. Current Edition.
Reston, VA: Connect for Education, 3/2007.
ISBN: 978-0-9779276-3-0.

V. Course Outline

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| A. Introduction to the study of world music in culture: primary issues, interpretation as a root for understanding. | 3 hours |
| B. Music in Africa: the function of music, local environment as an inspiration for music and as a source for materials with which to make instruments. Emphasis will be on the use of music in the hunting-gathering societies and on music as communication. | 12 hours |
| C. Music of the Middle East: emphasis on the structure of music and on its improvisatory nature. The influences of Islam and Sufism will be studied. Countries studied will include Egypt, Turkey and Persia (Iran). | 12 hours |
| D. Music in Asia: emphasis on music as essential to religion and to the performing arts. Beginning with the Islamic tradition in North India and the Hindu-Buddhist tradition of South India, the course will explore the influence of these traditions on the musics of East and Southeast Asia. Countries studied will include India, China, Korea, Japan and Indonesia. | 21 hours |

V. Examination Procedures / Evaluation Procedures

A written examination is given after each major section of the course.
A final examination is also given. Students are required to submit written papers reporting on selected video tapes and live performances of non-western music.

VI. Special Features

Students will view video tapes and live performances of non-western music during class.