

**MUH 7938 (Ethno)musicology Seminar**  
**Music, Identity, and Senses of Place Syllabus and Calendar**  
**Fall 2023**  
**Section: TMGR**

**Class Period**

Mondays 4:05-7:05 pm

**Location**

Music Building 146

**Instructor**

Dr. Tim Murray

[timothymurray@ufl.edu](mailto:timothymurray@ufl.edu)

352-278-4918

**Office hours**

Tuesdays 1-3 pm or by appointment

**COURSE OVERVIEW**

This seminar explores how ethnomusicologists, historical musicologists, anthropologists, music theorists, and cultural geographers, have conceptualized the ways in which music enables the articulation and construction of meaningful senses of place.

Throughout the semester, students will assess different theoretical, intellectual, and philosophical perspectives that consider how the sensing of places, as meaningful and sensorial social contexts, contributes to the formation, and adaptation of various kinds of identity. Topics will include the creation of musical spaces, soundscapes, music scenes, and music's role in dwelling, and how both individuals and communities use music to assert themselves within the superflows of local, translocal, and transnational contexts.

In conjunction with selected readings, students will also take turns identifying and selecting additional articles and ethnographies that correspond to individual interests, leading to the development of an individual research project/term paper (in consultation with the instructor).

**COURSE OBJECTIVES**

In this graduate level seminar, students will:

- Develop an understanding of how music is linked to place and the formation of identity in different cultural contexts.
- Develop an understanding of how space, place, and related concepts connect with their own research interests.
- Learn to identify and operationalize theoretical/analytical approaches to the music/place relationships from a variety of intellectual perspectives.

## **BASIC COMPONENTS AND REQUIREMENTS**

- weekly reading assignments
- written commentaries on reading assignments
- class discussions
- two student led class discussions in collaboration with a classmate on assigned topics
- a book review on single-authored musical ethnography published in the last 10 years of your choice (due Nov 21, appx. 5 pages. Book must be chosen by Oct. 23)
- term paper proposal
- A conference-style oral presentation based on the final term paper (6-8 pages) on Dec 5 (conference style i.e. prepare a 20-minute presentation with 10 minutes for discussion)
- final paper of around 15-20 pages (due Dec 12)

## **CLASS POLICIES**

Class periods will be conducted as seminars so your participation is essential. These will be comprised of a combination of discussions of assigned materials (reading, viewing, listening) and individual student reports on assigned/chosen topics. Please show up to class on time. You may use electronic devices such as laptops and tablets in class for class related matters only, but please keep cell phones out of sight. In the case of absence due to a medical or other types of emergency please inform the instructor as soon as possible. Other than such emergencies, the instructor must be informed in advance of any class periods that you will not be able to attend. Because this class meets only one time per week, one absence is equivalent to missing an entire week of MWF class periods.

## **WRITTEN WORK AND RESEARCH ASSIGNMENTS**

Each student must:

- complete reading and listening assignments and write an evaluative summary/commentary for each weeks readings
- attend class prepared to discuss the readings
- complete a mid-term proposal (serves as midterm exam).
- lead two class discussions in collaboration with a classmate on assigned topics
- present in-class reports on assigned topics during the semester
- write one book review (3-5 pages each)
- oral presentation of 6–8-page conference paper based on term paper project
- research and write a 15–20-page term paper.

### **Weekly Observation/Response Papers**

For each course topic we cover, students are required to submit a written summary/commentary of around 500 words *for each set of weekly readings* the evening before the topic is discussed to the course canvas page. There are many reasons for requiring

these, not the least of which will be to generate in class discussion. Not only will they generate original, annotated bibliographic information for use in other papers (HINT, HINT, HINT...) but also serve as useful study guides for Master’s level oral and PhD level comprehensive exams.

- These should include:
  - a *narrative* synopsis of each reading’s main points, primary arguments, and conclusions.
  - three thought questions for in-class discussion. (**PRO TIP:** Structure your response papers with a bulleted outline first and save it as a separate document for use in class. *It is far easier and much faster to draw on a bulleted list of key points during class discussions than it is to hunt for their exact location in a text during class discussion.*) Also, this should go without saying, but do not wait until the hour before class to compose your responses.
  - critical reactions to the author’s thesis or supporting evidence. Did you agree or disagree with the article’s premise?
  - Anything you think the author overlooked or failed to consider. How might the article’s thesis be made stronger?
  - Any conceptual material that connects with your own research interests. Disimilarities between the author’s and your own research interest’s aside, what did, or can you find useful about the text?
  - Anything you found confusing. How might the author have expressed their points more clearly?
  - Any connections the reading stimulated between the subject at hand and concepts dealt with in another class

**REQUIRED TEXTS:**

There are three required textbooks for this course. Required readings in the form of journal articles, and book chapters can be accessed through the UF libraries (J-Stor, and online texts) the course Canvas website.

- Allen, Aaron S, and Kevin Dawe. “Ecomusicologies.” In *Current Directions in Ecomusicology*, 9–24. United Kingdom: Routledge, 2016. (**Free online through UF Libraries**)
- Feld, Steven, and Keith H. Basso. *Senses of Place*. Santa Fe, New Mexico: School of American Research Press, 1996.
- Stokes, Martin. 1994. *Ethnicity, Identity, and Music: The Musical Construction of Place*. Oxford: Berg.

**COURSE GRADING**

Final Grades will be based on the following percentages:

Midterm proposal .....	20%
Term Paper.....	35%
Book Review.....	10%

Class Participation and reports..... 25%  
Written Commentaries..... 10%

## **GRADING SCALE**

94-100 = A  
91-93 = A-  
88-90 = B+  
85-87 = B  
82-84 = B-  
79-81 = C+  
76-78 = C  
73-75 = C-  
70-72 = D+  
66-69 = D  
67-68 = D-  
65↓ = E

## **MIDTERM PROPOSAL**

### **TERM PAPER**

Term papers should be around 15-20 pages double-spaced). It is required that the topic must be approved by the instructor. This paper should be based on your own investigations into a specific type or issue linked to ideas and theoretical discussions developed in class. The final paper will be due December 12, 2023.

## **PRELIMINARY DUE DATES**

### **STUDENTS REQUIRING ACCOMMODATION**

Students with disabilities who experience learning barriers and would like to request academic accommodations should connect with the Disability Resource Center by visiting <https://disability.ufl.edu/students/get-started/>. It is important for students to share their accommodation letter with their instructor and discuss their access needs, as early as possible in the semester.

### **UF EVALUATIONS PROCESS**

Students are expected to provide professional and respectful feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing course evaluations online via GatorEvals. Guidance on how to give feedback in a professional and respectful manner is available at <https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/students/>. Students will be notified when the evaluation period opens and can complete evaluations through the email they receive from GatorEvals, in their Canvas course menu under GatorEvals, or via <https://ufl.bluera.com/ufl/>. Summaries of course evaluation results are available to students at <https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/public-results/>.

## UNIVERSITY HONESTY POLICY

As a result of completing the registration form at the University of Florida, every student has signed the following statement: *“I understand that the University of Florida expects its students to be honest in all their academic work. I agree to adhere to this commitment to academic honesty and understand that my failure to comply with this commitment may result in disciplinary action up to and including expulsion for the University.”* I fully endorse this statement and will not tolerate academic dishonesty. Students requesting classroom accommodation must first register with the Dean of Students Office.

### *Health and Wellness*

- **U Matter, We Care**

If you or someone you know is in distress, please contact [umatter@ufl.edu](mailto:umatter@ufl.edu), 352-392-1575, or visit U Matter, We Care website (<https://umatter.ufl.edu/>) to refer or report a concern, and a team member will reach out to the student in distress.

- **Counseling and Wellness Center**

Visit the Counseling and Wellness Center website (<https://counseling.ufl.edu/>) or call 352-392-1575 for information on crisis and non-crisis services.

- **Student Health Care Center**

Call 352-392-1161 for 24/7 information to help you find the care you need, or visit the Student Health Care Center website (<https://shcc.ufl.edu/>)

- **University Police Department:**

Visit the UF Police Department website (<https://police.ufl.edu/>) or call 352-392-1111 (or 9-1-1 for emergencies).

- **UF Health Shands Emergency Room / Trauma Center**

For immediate medical care call 352-733-0111

or go to the emergency room at 1515 SW Archer Road, Gainesville, FL 32608;

Visit the UF Health Emergency Room and Trauma Center website

<https://ufhealth.org/emergency-room-trauma-center> )

- **GatorWell Health Promotion Services**

For prevention services focused on optimal wellbeing, including Wellness Coaching for Academic Success, visit the GatorWell website (<https://gatorwell.ufsa.ufl.edu/>) or call 352-273-4450.

### *Academic Resources*

- **E-learning technical support**

<https://Canvas/Elearning.ufl.edu/>

352-392-4357 (select option 2)

or e-mail to [Learning-support@ufl.edu](mailto:Learning-support@ufl.edu)

- **UF Career Connections Center**

Career assistance and counseling.

Reitz Union, 392-1601

<https://career.ufl.edu/>

- **Teaching Center**

<https://academicresources.clas.ufl.edu/tutoring/>

Broward Hall, 392-2010 or 392-6420.

Free tutoring, test prep, language help, and more.

- **Writing Studio**

<https://writing.ufl.edu/writing-studio>

Help brainstorming, formatting, and writing papers.