

MUH 7938 Music, Politics, and Cultural Identity  
University of Florida, Spring 2019

Dr. Silvio dos Santos  
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**SEMINAR FOCUS**

This seminar focuses on intersections between music and politics, particularly the ways in which music reinforces notions of cultural identity. Since the 1990s, the field of music and politics has produced groundbreaking studies on music in the Soviet Union, Nazi Germany, and even during the McCarthy era in the US, and yet the music from Latin America seems to still lag behind. As such, we will start with my current research on the music of Heitor Villa-Lobos, particularly the ways in which he represented native communities in his work, as a way of asking questions on the nature and ownership of knowledge and representation. This topic will serve as a springboard for other related topics. The goal is for students to develop their own research topic and produce a long, publishable essay by the end of the semester.

**TEXTBOOK**

No textbook is required for this seminar. Books and articles used in the initial portion of the seminar are available in the Music Library, the various E-storages, or through interlibrary loan.

**REQUIREMENTS AND GRADING**

- Attendance and participation in seminar discussion is expected.
- Seminar participants will lead discussion and produce handouts on assigned readings. As the semester progresses, student will share the processes and results of their research with the group.
- The term paper will be in the format of an article that may be submitted for publication in journals such as *Music and Politics*.

**Grades will be based on the following**

- Class Participation 30%
- Term Paper and presentation 70%

**Grading scale**

A: 94-100	B+: 88-90	C+: 78-80	D+: 68-70	E: 0-60
A-: 91-93	B: 84-87	C: 74-77	D: 64-67	
	B-: 81-83	C-: 71-73	D-: 61-63	

\* Please keep in mind that C- is not a passing grade. Information on the conversion of grades to the University of Florida's grade point averages can be found at <http://www.isis.ufl.edu/minusgrades.html>.

**ACADEMIC HONESTY**

The theft of intellectual property is taken very seriously in this class. All student work must be original. Plagiarism or cheating will be dealt with according to the policies outlined in the university bulletin and student handbook (see [www.dso.ufl.edu/judicial/procedures/studenthonorcode.php](http://www.dso.ufl.edu/judicial/procedures/studenthonorcode.php) for more information).

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See the *Chicago Manual of Style* if you have any questions regarding proper citations in the humanities. All written work must be submitted to Turnitin through the E-Learning system to be graded.

**ADDITIONAL RESOURCES**

1. If you have a documented disability and require accommodations to obtain equal access in this course, please contact me privately to discuss your specific needs. Please visit the Disability Resources Program office for more information. It is located at P202 Peabody Hall, E-mail [accessuf@dso.ufl.edu](mailto:accessuf@dso.ufl.edu); Phone 392-1261; TDD 392-3008.
2. Students are encouraged to use the Campus Writing Center for extra help with the writing assignments. Students who use the Writing Center must submit all drafts of the paper, including the suggestions and revisions from the center. If you are asked to use the writing center, you will be expected to do so and to submit all drafts of your paper. Information about the center is available at [www.at.ufl.edu/r&w/](http://www.at.ufl.edu/r&w/).
3. Resources are available on campus for students having personal problems that affect academic performance or difficulty defining career and academic goals:
  - University Counseling Center for personal and career counseling; 301 Peabody Hall, 392-1575.
  - Student Mental Health for personal counseling; Student Mental Health Care Center, 392-1171.
  - Center for Sexual Assault/Abuse Recovery Services, Student Health Care Center, 392-1161.
  - Career Resource Center, career development assistance and counseling; Reitz Union, 392-1601.
4. Please do not hesitate to come by during office hours or contact me to schedule appointments. I am interested in your success and hope you will feel free to express any questions, ideas, or concerns you might have.

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**Syllabus**

Given the nature of this seminar, the schedule of topics will be flexible to accommodate research interests of participants. We will explore topics and bibliographies in the initial weeks, then organize discussions and presentations for the semester. The following topics are meant to introduce students to my most recent research and organize our fields of inquiry, from both a methodological and theoretical perspectives.

**Topic I: Indigeneity and National Cultural Identity**

Villa-Lobos: Representation and Othering

Choros No. 3 and Choros No. 10

*O Descobrimento do Brasil*

Symphony No. 10

Similar topics to be explored:

Carlos Chávez: *Sinfonía India*; *Xochipilli* (1940)

Silvester Revueltas: *Sensemaya*; *Las noches de los Mayas*; *Cuauhnáhuac*

**Topic II: Popular Music and Transnationalism in Cold War America**

“The Girl from Ipanema”

The Carnegie Hall and the State Department Connection

Similar topics to be explored:

Paul Winter, Charlie Byrd and the State Department Cultural Missions

Jazz and Cultural Diplomacy