

MUH 7938 Music and Imagined Indigeneity  
University of Florida, Spring 2022  
Friday, periods 3-5, MUB 232

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**SEMINAR FOCUS**

This seminar focuses on representations of indigenous people in music, particularly by Latin American composers in the twentieth century. Such representations posit several epistemological, ontological, and political problems, which tend to determine both local and global views on indigeneity. The music of Heitor Villa-Lobos (Brazil), Carlos Chávez and Silvestre Revueltas (Mexico), and contemporary American composers such as Chris Dersken and Mali Obomsawin will provide the “texts” for the seminar to confront issues of representation, self-representation, and the role of audiences (musicologists included) in the dissemination of mostly constructed images, as well as self-determination and sovereignty. As we formulate our methodologies, based on music analysis, archival research, and postcolonial and identity theories, the goal is for participants to be able to transpose the knowledge acquired and produce an original paper related to their area of interest.

**Desired Outcome:** Students will acquire fluency on relating music analyses and archival research to post-colonial theories and methodologies for analyzing and interpreting representations of indigeneity in music.

**Seminar Goal:** Students will produce an original research paper based on the theories and methodologies presented in the seminar. This research may lead to conference presentations and article publication.

**Covid Statement:**

In response to COVID-19, the following practices are in place to maintain your learning environment, to enhance the safety of our in-classroom interactions, and to further the health and safety of ourselves, our neighbors, and our loved ones.

- If you are not vaccinated, get vaccinated. Vaccines are readily available at no cost and have been demonstrated to be safe and effective against the COVID-19 virus. Visit this link for details on where to get your shot, including options that do not require an appointment: <https://coronavirus.uflhealth.org/vaccinations/vaccine-availability/>. Students who receive the first dose of the vaccine somewhere off-campus and/or outside of Gainesville can still receive their second dose on campus.
- You are expected to wear approved face coverings at all times during class and within buildings even if you are vaccinated. Please continue to follow healthy habits, including best practices like frequent hand washing. Following these practices is our responsibility as Gators.
  - Sanitizing supplies are available in the classroom if you wish to wipe down your desks prior to sitting down and at the end of the class.
  - Hand sanitizing stations will be located in every classroom.
- If you are sick, stay home and self-quarantine. Please visit the UF Health Screen, Test & Protect website about next steps, retake the questionnaire and schedule your test for no sooner than 24

hours after your symptoms began. Please call your primary care provider if you are ill and need immediate care or the UF Student Health Care Center at 352-392-1161 (or email [covid@shcc.ufl.edu](mailto:covid@shcc.ufl.edu)) to be evaluated for testing and to receive further instructions about returning to campus. UF Health Screen, Test & Protect offers guidance when you are sick, have been exposed to someone who has tested positive or have tested positive yourself. Visit the [UF Health Screen, Test & Protect website](#) for more information.

- Course materials will be provided to you with an excused absence, and you will be given a reasonable amount of time to make up work.
  - If you are withheld from campus by the Department of Health through Screen, Test & Protect you are not permitted to use any on campus facilities. Students attempting to attend campus activities when withheld from campus will be referred to the Dean of Students Office.
- Continue to regularly visit [coronavirus.UFHealth.org](http://coronavirus.UFHealth.org) and [coronavirus.ufl.edu](http://coronavirus.ufl.edu) for up-to-date information about COVID-19 and vaccination.

## 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 scholarly journals, a possible dissertation chapter, or any other substantive media.

### Grades will be based on the following

- Class Participation 40%
- Term Paper and presentation 60%

### 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).

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:

- *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](#) 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](#) or call 352-392-1575 for information on crisis services as well as 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](#).
- *University Police Department*: [Visit UF Police Department website](#) 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](#).
- *GatorWell Health Promotion Services*: For prevention services focused on optimal wellbeing, including Wellness Coaching for Academic Success, visit the [GatorWell website](#) or call 352-273-4450.

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.

#### 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 the most important concepts and organize our fields of inquiry, from both a methodological and theoretical perspectives. The area of research for each individual participant will vary.

#### Weeks 1-2: Indigenous, Indigeneity, and Ontologies

Being spoken of  
Indigenous voices  
Representations

**Week 3-4: Toward a Decolonization of Methods**

Different ways of knowing  
Perspectivism (and detractors)  
Politics of Indigeneity  
Writing histories

**Week 4-5: Disciplinary and Cross-Disciplinary Perspectives**

Music and Indigeneity  
Music and Identities (Indigenous, Gender, Culture, etc.)

Topics for Week 6ff to be decided by the seminar

### Working Bibliography

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- Budasz, Rogério. "Central-African Pluriarcs and Their Players in Nineteenth-Century Brazil." *Music in Art* 39, no. 1–2 (2014): 5–31.
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- Dove, Michael R. "Indigenous People and Environmental Politics." *Annual Review of Anthropology* 35, no. 1 (October 1, 2006): 191–208. <https://doi.org/10.1146/annurev.anthro.35.081705.123235>.
- Freire, Juliana Luna. "Whitening, Mixing, Darkening, and Developing: Everything but Indigenous." *Latin American Research Review* 51, no. 3 (2016): 142–60.
- French, Jan Hoffman, "The Power of Definition: Brazil's Contribution to Universal Concepts of Indigeneity." *Indiana Journal of Global Legal Studies* 18, no. 1 (2011): 241.  
<https://doi.org/10.2979/indjglolegstu.18.1.241>.
- Graham, Laura R, and H. Glenn Penny. *Performing Indigeneity Global Histories and Contemporary Experiences*. Lincoln: Univ. of Nebraska Press, 2015.

- Hunt, Sarah. "Ontologies of Indigeneity: The Politics of Embodying a Concept." *Cultural Geographies* 21, no. 1 (January 2014): 27–32.
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- May Castillo, Manuel, and Amy Strecker. *Heritage and Rights of Indigenous Peoples: Patrimonio y Derechos de Los Pueblos Indígenas*. Leiden, Netherlands: Leiden University Press, 2017.
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