

Music, Identity, and the British Empire
MUH 7938 / EUS 6930 — Fall 2022 — TH 4:05-7:05pm

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How to use this syllabus

This syllabus provides you with information specific to this course, and it also provides information about important university policies. This document should be viewed as a course overview; it is not a contract and is subject to change as the semester evolves. Any changes to the syllabus will be communicated to students via email and new syllabi.

General course description

The British Empire has been examined historically, socially, economically, and culturally in regard to its impact on the larger world during the length of its existence — and beyond. This seminar will look at how the British Empire affected both its own people and those under its dominion musically and sonically. By approaching empire through music and sound, we will try to assess what it means to be English/British and how those people understand themselves; music as part of a colonizing mission, intertwined with faith, economy, and nationalism; how those within in the empire and their musics and sound also shape the empire and Britain itself; and the ways in which music and sound are bound up within issues of ethnic, racial, and national identities. This course does not look to cover the entire of the British Empire’s history nor every place that has been a part but it will be a somewhat comprehensive look at the 350-year history of its existence both in the British Isles and abroad. This course will touch on art and popular musics from throughout the empire as they relate to the empire itself.

Course Materials

All readings will be available through Canvas though you are, of course, always allowed to buy your own copies of texts. There will also be a shared Zotero library that you will be invited to join as well as a shared Spotify playlist. There will also be scores and recordings placed on reserve in the Architecture and Fine Arts Library.

Requirements and Grading

Final grades will be calculated according to the system below. Rubrics and supplemental documents pertaining to the assignments are available on Canvas.

Attendance 25%
Contribution 35%
Final Paper/Presentation 40%

Grading Scale for UF

94-100	A	74-76	C
91-93	A-	71-73	C-
87-90	B+	67-70	D+
84-86	B	64-66	D
81-83	B-	61-63	D-
77-80	C+	0-60	F

Attendance, Discussion, Papers and Projects

This class is a graduate seminar that meets once a week and as such, it is imperative to attend each class meeting. If you are unable to attend class, please let me know as soon as possible. Additionally, the most important element of this course is class participation. Seminars of this nature are dependent upon class participation so please come to class prepared, having done the assigned readings and listenings. There will be a final paper and presentation at the end of the semester.

Academic Honesty

All violations of academic honesty will be referred to the Dean of Students Office for disciplinary action without exception. UF students are bound by The Honor Pledge, which states, "We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honor and integrity by abiding by the Honor Code. On all work submitted for credit by students at the University of Florida, the following pledge is either required or implied: 'On my honor, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid in doing this assignment.'" The Honor Code (<http://www.dso.ufl.edu/sccr/process/student-conduct-honorcode/>) specifies a number of behaviors that are in violation of this code and the possible sanctions. Furthermore, you are obligated to report and condition that facilitates academic misconduct to appropriate personnel. If you have any questions or concerns, please consult with the instructor or TA.

Accommodations

Students with disabilities requesting accommodations should first register with the Disability Resource Center (352-392-8565, www.dso.ufl.edu/drc/) by providing appropriate documentation. Once registered, students will receive an accommodation letter that must be presented to the instructor when requesting accommodation. Students with disabilities should follow this procedure as early as possible in the semester. Accommodations are not provided retroactively. Accommodations for other circumstances may be available. Examples include childbirth or care, elder care, grieving, or trauma. Consult with your instructor or the Dean of Students Office for more information.