Research Methods and Bibliography

MUS 6716:
Instructor: Dr. Payam Yousefi
Assistant Professor of Ethnomusicology
Email: payam.yousefi@ufl.edu
Office: Yon Hall 433
Office hours: Mon. 9am-12pm by appointment

COURSE DESCRIPTION
This course provides an introduction to graduate-level music research and scholarship. As a class we will explore what it means to engage in musical research in today’s world across music’s sub-fields. We will take a hands-on approach and ask ourselves early on: What questions interest us, and where can we look to find the recourses that may answer our questions? Additionally, we will familiarize ourselves with other research methods that take place outside libraries and online search engines—Research methods that engage with human interaction in methodologically grounded ways. By the end of this course students will have a deeper understanding of the different kinds of recourses, the different methods for music research, and how research can benefit their careers as musicians and scholars.

COURSE OBJECTIVES
• To gain proficiency in effectively using different reference and research tools.
• To become knowledgeable about research methods across musicology, ethnomusicology, theory, and critical performance practice.
• To gain familiarity with our music library and its various recourses.
• To develop strategies on how to frame, conceptualize, & carry out research projects.
• To engage critically with music scholarship and recourses.
• To learn how to leverage research in their careers as musicians and/or scholars.

REQUIREMENTS AND GRADING
• Attendance and Participation (30%): Weekly attendance, genuine contributions to discussions, and short writing responses to occasional discussion prompts on Canvas.
• Assignment 1—Group Wikipedia Project (10%) due week four due (9/13)
• Assignment 2—Journal Article Review (10%) due week seven (10/4)
• Midterm Assignment: “Preliminary Bibliography” (required for PhD students), or “Residency/ Project Proposal,” (20%) due week 9 (10/20)
• Assignment 3—“Ethnographic interview transcript,” or “Conference Paper Abstract,” (10%) due week 12 (11/8).
• Final Project— Annotated Bibliography (required for PhD students), Critical Edition of Score, or Short Ethnographic Film, (20%) due 12/15.

Rubrics and prompts for above assignments can be found in weekly Canvas modules and will be introduced to students in detail by the instructor.
GRADING RUBRIC

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COURSE MATERIAL
This class does not have a course reader. All readings, audio/visual links, and classroom handouts will be posted in the class website for each week.

Students should check each week’s Canvas module as the contents, reading materials, and assignment rubrics will be regularly updated to better suite our classes progression.

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 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. See honor code here: https://archive.catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/1617/advising/info/student-honor-code.aspx#text=The%20Honor%20Pledge&text=The%20University%20requires%20all%20members,other%20acts%20of%20academic%20dishonesty.

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.
COURSE SCHEDULE

Week One

8/24 Introduction to Graduate Research Methods and Bibliography

Week Two

8/29 What is music research today?

8/31 Evaluating and Finding Sources/ Assignment 1 overview (due 9/13)

- **Required Reading:**

Week Three

9/5 Music Library Tour*

9/7 Librarian session on using UF library search engines and databases effectively.

Week Four

9/12 Online and Research Strategies; LibGuides, Online Catalogues, Wikipedia

9/14 In class group presentations for Assignment 1.

Week Five

9/19 Research Approaches: How Scholars Write About Music

9/21 Academic Journals

- Assignment 2—Journal Article Review Explained (due 10/4)

Week Six

9/26 Bibliographies and the Research Process

9/28 Critical Music Performance and Research

Week Seven
10/3 Biographies


10/5 Midterm project preparation (**Due 10/20**)

Week Eight
10/10 Musical Ethnography as a Research Method


10/12 Performance as a Research Process and Participant Observation


Week Nine
10/17 The Archive and Primary Sources


10/19 Score Studies, Facsimiles, Manuscripts

Week Ten
10/24 Archives: Newspapers, Letters, Public Documents, Music Criticism.
• **Required Reading**: Jacques Barzun, “Introduction;” Hector Berlioz, “First Evening: The First Opera — Vincenza — The Vexations of Kleiner the Elder,” in *Evenings at the Orchestra*

10/26 Discuss Assignment 3 Rubric (**Due 11/8**); and Discuss Ethnographic Interviews

• **Required Reading**: Spradley. 1979 [2016]. *The Ethnographic Interview*. Read 78-91; 120-131; 155-172

**Week Eleven**

10/31 Theory, Positivism, Musical Analysis; and Community Based Research


11/2 Digital Archives, Multimedia Sources, and Social Media.


**Week Twelve**

11/7 Discussing Annotated Bibliographies/Critical Editions for Final Project (**Due 12/15**)


**Week Thirteen**

11/14 Community Based Research Cont.…; and Bias and Scholarship


11/16 Ethnographic Films as a Recourse and Research Approach

• Browse through the *Journal of Audiovisual Ethnomusicology* website. Choose a film or two to watch and come prepared to speak about some of the audio/visual techniques that
were used in the films. How were the frames and sequences composed? Consider closely what the visual medium can do that written mediums cannot? How do moving images themselves speak in the place of texts as a form of research? **Post your response (500 words max)** to the course website.

**Week Fourteen**

11/21 Music Scholarship, Data, and the Digital Humanities


11/23 THANKSGIVING BREAK – NO CLASS

**Week Fifteen**

11/28 Research and Ethics: Copyright and Intellectual Property


11/30 **Final Presentations**

**Week Sixteen**

12/5 **Final Presentations**

12/7 **Final Presentations**