

Theoretical Perspectives in Ethnomusicology
MUH 7938

Class Period

Thursdays – 4:05pm-7:05pm

Location

MUB 0146

Academic Term

Spring 2024

Instructor

Dr. Tim Murray

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352-278-4918

Office Hours: Mondays 3:00 or by appointment

Course Description & Objectives

This course provides a broad overview of relevant social and cultural theories currently used as frameworks for describing, interpreting, and analyzing social phenomena in ethnomusicological research. Its objective is to aid musicology/ethnomusicology students in developing a more thorough understanding of social theory and its use in ethnomusicology.

Required Textbooks and Software

- **Title:** Theory for Ethnomusicology: Histories, Conversations, Insights
Author: Edited by Harris M. Berger and Ruth M. Stone
Publication date and edition: 2019. Second edition
Additional Information: This is available for free, online through the UF Libraries.

- **Title:** Routledge Handbook of Social and Cultural Theory (RHSCT)
Author: Edited by Anthony Elliot
Publication date and edition: 2020, 2nd Edition
Additional Information: This is available for free, online through the UF Libraries.

- **Title:** Sound and Sentiment: Birds, Weeping, Poetics, and Song in Kaluli Expression
Author: Steven Feld
Publication date and edition: 2012. 3rd edition (this is the newest version, but any edition will do)
Additional Information: This is available for free, online through the UF Libraries.
 - The UF Libraries has an eBook license to this via https://ufl-flvc.primo.exlibrisgroup.com/permalink/01FALSC_UFL/6ad6fc/alma990320585150306597

- Additional readings will be posted on the course Canvas page

Attendance Policy, and Class Expectations

- This course is a graduate seminar, which means attendance is mandatory, given that classes are discussion-based and student-driven. You will be expected to participate, collaborate, and initiate discussion of each week's assigned readings. Since this is an in-person class, attending class via Zoom or Canvas is not an option except in the most extenuating of circumstances.
- Excused absences must be consistent with university policies in the Graduate Catalog and require appropriate documentation. Additional information can be found in Attendance Policies.

COURSE COMPONENTS AND REQUIREMENTS

- Weekly reading assignments
- Weekly Response Papers
- Class participation and discussion
- Midterm paper proposal (counts as midterm exam)
- Final term paper of manuscript length (15-20 pages)

Weekly Reading Assignments

- Each week, student's will have four reading assignments. Students are expected to read and be familiar with each of these. Students will take turns initiating class discussion related to one of these readings.

2-part Weekly Response Papers

- As part of your participation grade, each student is required to submit a written response paper for each of the week's readings (about 500 words per reading) in PDF form to the Canvas webpage the evening before class (11:59 PM). These should include:
 1. A bulleted summary of each article that includes:
 - i. The theoretical frameworks major theorists discussed in each reading
 - ii. Clear statement of each author's primary argument(s),
 - iii. Supporting evidence and conclusions
 - iv. Observations about what you are reading. What was new to you? What did you find most interesting, and why? In your view, what aspects if this perspective are salient to your own research interests? Also, think about methods—what might the methodological implications of a particular theory be, and how might a particular theoretical perspective necessitate a distinct choice in field methods?
 2. A developed narrative summary of this outline, the purpose of which is to:
 - i. Practice scholarly writing
 - ii. Develop an ongoing body of annotated bibliographic reference material for use in the final papers
 - iii. Serve as a clear, accessible prompts for initiating in-class discussions

Class Participation/Discussion

- Students are expected to be prepared for and contribute to the discussion of all of that week's assigned readings and lead the discussion related to one of that week's assigned readings.

Midterm Paper Proposal/Annotated Bibliography (must use Chicago Manual of Style, 17th ed citation formatting)

- The midterm grade will be based on a research paper proposal outlining an original research project. This must include:
 1. A 250-word paper abstract summarizing the proposed research project that demonstrates a clear focus or statement of the subject
 2. A 3–4-page introduction with a clear statement of thesis that expands the paper abstract and includes a description of relevant literature and chosen theoretical framework.
 3. A 3-4-page annotated bibliography and references cited page. While this may include material from prior student reading observations, it must include at least 5 sources external to course readings (i.e. 5 new sources researched by student).

Conference Style Oral presentation of

- Students will present a condensed version of their final paper in the form of a 7–10-page conference-style presentation. Presentations will be 20 minutes long and followed by 10 minutes of discussion.

Final Research Paper (must use Chicago Manual of Style, 17th ed citation formatting)

- Final versions of student papers must be manuscript length (14–16-pages including References) paper based on a theoretically driven topic of their choosing, that may relate to individual areas of research interest. There is a good deal of flexibility here, but topics must be approved beforehand.

Grading

- Grades for this course are determined on a point system with 500 total possible points. The breakdown for this is as follows.

Assignment	Percentage of Final Grade
Class Participation (includes student-initiated discussion)	30%
2-Part Weekly Reading Response Papers	20%
Midterm Proposal (includes abstract, annotated bibliography and reference cited list with 5 new sources not covered in the course)	20%
Final Paper	30%

Grading Policy

Percent	Grade
94 - 100	A
91 - 93	A-
88 - 90	B+
85 - 87	B
82 - 84	B -

<i>Percent</i>	<i>Grade</i>
79 - 81	C +
76 - 78	C
73 - 75	C-
70 - 72	D+
66 - 69	D
67 - 68	D-
65 ↓	E

More information on UF grading policy may be found at:

[UF Graduate Catalog](#)
[Grades and Grading Policies](#)

Students Requiring Accommodations

- Students with disabilities who experience learning barriers and would like to request academic accommodations should connect with the [Disability Resource Center](#).
- 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.

Course Evaluation

- Students are expected to provide professional and respectful feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing course evaluations online via GatorEvals. [Click here for guidance on how to give feedback professionally and respectfully.](#)
- 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 ufl.bluera.com/ufl/. [In addition, summaries of course evaluation results are available to students here.](#)

University Honesty Policy

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 any condition that facilitates academic misconduct to appropriate personnel. Please consult with the instructor in this class if you have any questions or concerns.

Software Use

- All faculty, staff, and students are required and expected to obey the laws and legal agreements governing software use. Failure to do so can lead to monetary damages and/or criminal penalties for the individual violator.
- Because such violations are also against university policies and rules, disciplinary action will be taken as appropriate. We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to uphold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honesty and integrity.

Student Privacy

- There are federal laws protecting your privacy with regards to grades earned in courses and on individual assignments.

- For more information, please see the [Notification to Students of FERPA Rights](#).

Campus Resources

UF Libraries

The UF Libraries are probably the most valuable resource on campus. You should become familiar with the Librarians and librarians for sustained academic success at UF.

- **Using the Libraries**
 - Basics of using the UF Libraries: <https://uflib.ufl.edu/using-the-libraries/>
- **Find Help or Research Assistance**
 - List of ways to get help by phone, email, text, or in person: <https://uflib.ufl.edu/find/ask/>
- **Subject Specialist Librarians**
 - Did you know there is a librarian who provides support for nearly every single major at UF?
 - You can find librarians to help you with specific subjects/topics: <https://uflib.ufl.edu/specialists/>
 - You can call or email librarians for help and/or set up an appointment for one-on-one consultations. If they don't know the answer to your questions, they will find the person who does.
- **Overview of finding things in the Libraries**
 - Incl. books, databases, articles, tech equipment - <https://uflib.ufl.edu/find/>
- **Six Library Branches on Campus & Multiple Collection Centers**
 - **Information on locations and each UF Library Branch:** <https://uflib.ufl.edu/libraries-collections/>

Health and Wellness

- **U Matter, We Care**
If you or someone you know is in distress, please contact 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://elearning.ufl.edu/>

352-392-4357 (select option 2)

or e-mail to 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.
- **[Student Complaints Campus](#)**
- **[On-Line Students Complaints](#)**

Course Outline

The following course outline is approximate. We may spend more or less time on specific theoretical topics as class interest dictates. Exams and due dates, however, are not subject to change and will be due as scheduled.

Important Dates:

- February 29: Deadline for distributing individually chosen readings for March 7th student discussions
- March 21: Midterm Proposal for Term Paper
- Papers Due: April 27th by 5:00
- March 7: In-Class Discussion of individually chosen student readings

Week 1 (January 11): Overview

- Introductions
- Syllabus & Course Schedule

Week 2 (January 18): Theory, What it is and What it Does

- Berger and Stone: Introduction pp. 1-25
- RHST Chapter 1: The trajectories of Social and Cultural Theory
- Rice 2010: "Ethnomusicological Theory"
- Ellen 2010: Theories in Anthropology and Anthropological Theory

Week 3 (January 25): Marxist Approaches

- Berger and Stone Chapter 2: Marxist Approaches to Music, Political Economy, and the Culture Industries: Ethnomusicological Perspectives
- Routledge International Handbook of Contemporary Social and Political Theory Chapter 4: The Marxist Legacy
- Routledge Handbook of Social and Cultural Theory Chapter 2: Critical Theory of the Frankfurt School

- Stokes (in Qureshi) Chapter 7 pp. 139-166

Week 4 (February 1): Practice Theory

- Routledge Handbook of Social and Cultural Theory), Chapter 4: Structuration theories, Giddens and Bourdieu
- Bourdieu 1977
- Certeau 1984
- Turino 1990
- Also see: Berger and Stone: Textbox pp. 54 in Chapter 2

Week 5 (February 8): Theories of Gender and Sexuality

- Berger and Stone: Chapter 3
- Koskoff 2014: Chapter 12
- Meintjes 2004
- Ortner 1996: Chapter 1

Week 6 (February 15): Constructing Race and Engaging Power through Music

- Berger and Stone Chapter 4
- Crenshaw 1993
- Gilroy 1993 Chapter 1
- Gilroy 1993 Chapter 3
- Solis 2014

Week 7 (February 22): Theories of the Post-colonial and Globalization

- Berger and Stone: Chapter 5
- RHSC: The Trajectories of Social and Cultural theory: Chapter 11: Globalization Theory
- Monson 1999
- Erlmann 1999
- *Preparation for March 7th meeting*: Choose an article or book chapter that clearly aligns with a specific theoretical framework relevant to your own research interests and be prepared to lead class discussion on it. Include your classmate's readings in your response essays (you do not have to include your own). Individual readings should be made available to everyone in class by February 29th.

Week 8 (February 29): Performance Studies and Critical Improvisation Studies in Ethnomusicology

- Berger and Stone: Chapter 6
- Bateson [1954] 2000
- Turner 1969 Chapter 4 in *The Ritual Process* pp. 131 - 165
- Conquergood 2013: Section 1, pp. 15-47 (in Cultural Struggles: Performance, Ethnography, Praxis available online through the UF Libraries)
- Monson 1996: Chapter 3, pp. 73-96 (in *Saying Something: Jazz Performance and Interaction*)

Week 9 (March 7): Individual Student Articles Based on Research Interest

Week 10 UF Closed for Spring Break March 9 - 17

Week 11 (March 21): Sound Studies and Voice Studies in Ethnomusicology

- Berger and Stone: Chapter 7
- Seeger 1979
- Daughtry 2015
- Gill 2017
- Midterm Final Paper Proposal due

Week 12 (March 28): European Continental Phenomenology

- Heidegger 1962
- Blatner 1996: pp. 24-73 (Explication of the Heidegger reading - do not include in observations)
- Friedson 1996: Introduction pp. xi-37 (Prologue, Introduction & Chapter 1)
- Merleau-Ponty 1945:
 - Forward (by Taylor Carman) pp. vii-xvi

Week 13 (April 4): Semiotic Phenomenology

- Turino 2014
- Perman 2010
- Perman 2020

Week 14 (April 11): Theories of Participation

- Turner 1969: Chapter 4 in *The Ritual Process*, pp. 131 – 165
- Keil 1994: Chapter 3 “Participatory Discrepancies and the Power of Music” in *Music grooves: essays and dialogues*. By Charles Keil & Steven Feld. (Physical copy on reserve at the UF AFA Library)
- Keil, Charles.; Feld, Steven Charles Keil Keil, Charles. 96
- Turino 2008: pp. 23 – 65.
- Rahaim 2017, Chapter 7 in *Music and Empathy*, Ed. Elaine King and Caroline Waddington (available online through the UF Libraries).

Week 15 (April 18): Flexibility Theory in Medical Ethnomusicology

- Hinton 2008 (Chapter 6 in *Oxford Handbook of Medical Ethnomusicology*)
- Koen 2006
- Hinton & Kirmayer 2016
- Roseman 2008 (Chapter 2 in *Oxford Handbook of Medical Ethnomusicology*)

Final Papers (manuscript-length) due by 12:00 A.M. April 27