



**Oregon State University**

**Ecampus**

**Course Name:** Comparative Cultures

**Course Number:** ANTH 210

**Credits:** 3 Credits

### **Course Description**

Music may strike us as pleasurable, powerful, or disturbing on its own. Nothing need be known about the circumstances surrounding its making. However, if we can learn something about the way it is made; what it signifies; its cultural, political, and historical contexts; its antecedents and the activities in which it is embedded, then listening to it—not to mention playing it or dancing to it—becomes an even richer experience.

This course compares the ways music influences and is influenced by the culture, politics, and histories of several cultures around the world. This quarter we will concentrate on the musical cultures, histories and identities of Brazilians, Jamaicans, Native Hawaiians, and Cambodians. By the end of the term, you will understand the two political activities/functions music engages in:

1. How music functions as social commentary, and as a vehicle of solidarity and struggle over values, history, power, and legitimacy, and;
2. How music affirms our individual and collective humanity and thus acts as a foundation for community and identity.

We will compare the ways these two political contexts of music operate within four different cultures. By the end of the term, you will have learned to appreciate the ways people use music to establish community based on a shared sense of how they interpret its meanings, as well as how music is embedded in social practices and operates as a vehicle through which important social and political struggles take place.

### **Communication**

I am available via my Oregon State email [sageg@oregonstate.edu](mailto:sageg@oregonstate.edu), however, please use my email within the Canvas program.

I will also be holding "office hours" Tuesday's and Thursday's 2-4pm. I will be online in Canvas during those hours and available for questions and discussions. Other appointments can be scheduled. I will periodically check in on the classroom and associated emails outside of office hours during the normal business week. I will only answer emails on the weekend if you have an emergency.

Please e-mail me if you have any questions about anything class-related. If it is not an urgent situation, I will respond to email's within 2 business days, usually faster.

Graded assignments will normally be graded within 5 business days of the assignment being due.

If for some reason, these deadlines are not being met by me, please contact:

Ecampus Anthropology Advisor: Brenda Kellar

Available via email: [Brenda.Kellar@oregonstate.edu](mailto:Brenda.Kellar@oregonstate.edu)

By phone 541-737-4296 or on Oregon State's Corvallis Campus, at Waldo Hall 220.

### **Course Credits**

This 3 credit course combines approximately 90 of course instruction, online activities, and assignments to establish this credit load.

### **Technical Assistance**

If you experience computer difficulties, need help downloading a browser or plug-in, assistance logging into the course, or if you experience any errors or problems while in your online course, contact the OSU Help Desk for assistance. You can call (541) 737-3474, email [osuhelpdesk@oregonstate.edu](mailto:osuhelpdesk@oregonstate.edu) or visit the [OSU Computer Helpdesk](#) online.

- [COURSE DEMO](#)
- [GETTING STARTED](#)

### **COURSE SITE LOGIN INFORMATION**

Information on how to login to your course site can be found [HERE](#).

### **Learning Resources**

*Music of Opposition/Music of Solidarity: Case Studies in the Cultural and Political Uses of Popular Music, Course Guide for Anthropology 210: Comparative Cultures* by David McMurray.

In addition to the textbook, students will be responsible for viewing course lectures, additional readings, films, and musical examples on Canvas.

**Note to prospective students:** Please check with the OSU Bookstore for up-to-date information for the term you enroll (<http://osubeaverstore.com/Academics> or 800-595-0357). If you purchase course materials from other sources, be very careful to obtain the correct ISBN.

### **Canvas**

This course will be delivered via Canvas where you will interact with your classmates and with your instructor. Within the course Canvas site, you will access the learning materials, such as the syllabus, class discussions, assignments, projects, and quizzes. To preview how an online course works, visit the [Ecampus Course Demo](#). For technical assistance, please visit [Ecampus Technical Help](#).

## Measurable Student Learning Outcomes

Besides mastering the outcomes listed above, students in ANTH 210 are assisted in becoming better critical thinkers by developing their ability to integrate information and points of view while striving to be lucid and precise in their writing. Perhaps most importantly, students learn how to evaluate and then associate information from different locales, socioeconomic contexts, and time periods. The extent to which the students have grasped the material covered in the case studies will be assessed in the same fashion.

### Course Requirements

Grading is based on a combination of discussion board posts, journal entries, writing assignments, quizzes and final webpage.

**Discussion Board Posts (20 points each = 180 points):** During the first 9 weeks of the quarter, students are expected to participate on the Discussion Board, by responding to the weekly prompt and to each other. Each initial post (at least 350-500 words) is worth up to 15 points and your responses to classmates (at least 150-300 words) are worth up to 5 points. Please read the guidelines for posting in the "Start Here" section of Canvas before crafting your posts.

**Journal Entries (10 points each = 40 points):** At the end of Units 2-5, you will turn in your journal entry/ies for that particular unit. Journal entries provide you a way to express your personal responses and reactions to the course materials and content. These are private recordings that can only be read by the instructor. They will be graded as such, with a minimum word count of 500 words. Journal entry/ies must be posted every other Sunday by 5pm PST. Please refer to Course Schedule at the end of this document for specific dates.

**Writing Assignments (20 points each = 40 points total):** You will be given two writing assignments during the course, each offering you the chance to choose one of two prompts to compare the cultures we study. Please see the "Writing Assignments" folder in "Week by Week" of Canvas for prompt options beginning Week 2. Each essay must be 700-1,000 words (typed, double-spaced), and fully addresses the prompt. Your essay should begin with a clear introduction followed by body paragraphs that go into more detail about your topic and a clear conclusion. At least two credible outside resources must be used. You are welcome to cite the textbook, lectures, and videos to support your discussion, **but you must supplement these with at least two additional sources**. You must utilize proper Chicago Manual style bibliographic citations both in-text and in the Works Cited section. Each in-text citation must correspond to a properly formatted bibliographic entry at the end of the essay. For guidance on proper citations and bibliographic format, please visit the [http://www.chicagomanualofstyle.org/tools\\_citationguide.html](http://www.chicagomanualofstyle.org/tools_citationguide.html). Please do not include a title page or abstract.

**Quizzes 35 points each = 140 points total):** You will have a total of four quizzes covering each of the cultures we study, including material from Powerpoint lectures, readings, and assigned videos. The 4 quizzes will consist of multiple-choice questions. During the quizzing period, the quiz will be available for 24 hours (12am-11:59pm PST). You will have 60 minutes to complete the quiz during that time. You will not be able to make up a quiz if you fail to take it. The quiz times are on the Course Schedule at the end of this document.

**Final Webpage (100 points: 40 points individual progress, 30 points individual final contribution, 30 points group final grade):** For this project, each person will be responsible for creating an interactive webpage about a political or social movement and the music associated with it. The

movement needs to have taken place outside the United States. If you're unsure how to start, find a region, culture, or conflict that's always fascinated you and do some preliminary research to see what social movements have arisen from it. Please read the detailed guidelines and grading criteria in the "Final Projects" folder in "Week By Week" of Canvas.

### **Bacc Core / Slash Course / WIC**

This course is part of the OSU Baccalaureate Core and fulfills the requirement for study related to Cultural Diversity. Please see <http://catalog.oregonstate.edu/bcc.aspx> for more information.

#### **Course Outcomes and Skills Acquisition:**

By the end of the class, students will:

1. Identify and analyze characteristics of a cultural tradition outside of European/American culture.
2. Demonstrate an understanding of how perspectives can change depending on cultural or historical contexts.
3. Describe aspects of non-Western culture that influence or contribute to global cultural, scientific, or social processes.
4. Have developed an appreciation for the diversity and importance of a variety of cultural practices from around the world
5. Recognize the interconnections between history, culture, and society
6. Be able to explain what is meant by religious/cultural syncretism
7. Be able to describe the origins and functions of music
8. Know the influences on and the differences between the main musical traditions of the cultures of the world being highlighted
9. Be conversant with the musical heritage of the cultures under study
10. Understand the pre- and post-colonial influences of the cultures under study
11. Have an appreciation for the importance of African influences on New World cultures
12. Provide practice working in groups and collaborating on problem solving skills

### **Evaluation of Student Performance**

Requirements are as follows:

Discussion Board Posts (9 at 20 points each) 180 points (36% of grade)

Journal Entries (4 at 10 points each) 40 points (8% of grade)

Writing Assignments (2 at 20 points each) 40 points (8% of grade)

Quizzes (4 at 35 points each) 140 points (28% of grade)

Final Presentation (100 points) 100 points total of all assignments related to final (20% of grade)

Total 500 Points Possible

#### **Grading Scale:**

Please see the below grading scale. The class is not graded on a curve.

Total Percentage Earned Grade

93%-100% A

90%-92% A-

86%-89% B+  
 83%-85% B  
 80%-82% B-  
 76%-79% C+  
 73%-75% C  
 70%-72% C-  
 66%-69% D+  
 63%-65% D  
 60%-62% D-  
 <60% F

## Course Content

Week	Topic	Reading Assignments	Learning Activities	Due Dates
1	Course introduction; popular culture and social change; functions of music	Read: Opposition Ch. 1 Watch: Lecture; Video Segments	Discussion Post 1	First Discussion post DUE Thursday by 5pm PST.  Response Discussion post DUE Sunday by 5pm PST

2	Brazil case study – Culture and identities	Read: Opposition Ch. 2 Watch: Lecture and Video Segments	Discussion Post 2	First Discussion post DUE Thursday by 5pm PST.  Response Discussion post DUE Sunday by 5pm PST
3	Brazil case study - Continued	Read: Opposition Ch. 2 Watch: Lecture, Video Segments and Films	Discussion Post 3  Quiz 1  Journal Entry 1	First Discussion post DUE Thursday by 5 pm PST.  Response Discussion post DUE Sunday by 5pm PST  Quiz #1: open for one 24-hour period Friday  Journal Entry DUE Sunday by 5pm PST
4	Jamaica case study – Culture and identities	Read: Opposition Ch. 3 Watch: Lecture, Video Segments and Film	Discussion Post 4  Writing Assignment 1	First Discussion post DUE Thursday by 5pm PST.  Response Discussion post DUE Sunday by 5pm PST  Writing Assignment 1 DUE Sunday by 5pm PST

5	Jamaica case study – Culture and identities	Read: Opposition Ch. 3 Watch: Lecture, Video Segments and Film	Discussion Post 5  Quiz 2  Journal Entry 2  Final Project Checkpoint 1	First Discussion post DUE Thursday by 5 pm PST.  Response Discussion post DUE Sunday by 5pm PST  Quiz #2: open for one 24-hour period Friday  Journal Entry DUE Sunday by 5pm PST.  Final project checkpoint #1 due Sunday by 5pm PST.
6	Hawaii case study- Culture and identities	Read: Opposition Ch. 4 Lecture Video Segments Film	Discussion Post 6  Final Project Checkpoint 2	First Discussion post DUE Thursday by 5 pm PST.  Response Discussion post DUE Sunday by 5pm PST  Final project checkpoint #2 due Sunday by 5pm PST.

7	Hawaii case study- Culture and identities	Read: Opposition Ch. 4 Lecture Video Segments Film	Discussion Post 7  Quiz 3  Journal Entry 3  Final Project Checkpoint 3	First Discussion post DUE Thursday by 5pm PST.  Response Discussion post DUE Sunday by 5pm PST  Quiz #3: open for one 72-hour period Friday  Journal Entry DUE Sunday by 5pm PST.  Final project checkpoint #3 due Sunday by 5pm PST.
8	Cambodia case study – Culture and identities	Read: Opposition Ch. 7 Lecture Video Segments Films	Discussion Post 8  Writing Assignment 2  Final Project Checkpoint 4	First Discussion post DUE Thursday by 5pm PST.  Response Discussion post DUE Sunday by 5pm PST  Writing Assignment #2 DUE Sunday by 5pm PST  Final project checkpoint #4 due Sunday by 5pm PST.

9	Cambodia case study – Culture and identities	Read: Opposition Ch. 7 Lecture Video Segments Films	Discussion Post 9  Quiz 4  Journal Entry 4  Final Project Checkpoint 5	First Discussion post DUE Thursday by 5 pm PST.  Response Discussion post DUE Sunday by 5pm PST  Quiz #4: open for one 24-hour period on Friday  Journal Entry DUE Sunday by 5pm PST.  Final project checkpoint #5 due Sunday by 5pm PST.
10	FINAL PROJECT	N/A	Final Project	Final Project Due Sunday by 5pm

### Course Policies

See course guidelines in the modules section of Canvas

### Discussion Participation

Students are expected to participate in all graded discussions. While there is great flexibility in online courses, this is not a self-paced course. You will need to participate in our discussions on at least two different days each week, with your first post due no later than Thursday evening, and your second student response posts due by the end of each week on Sunday. See modules areas in Canvas for further guidelines.

### Proctored Exams

This course requires that you take exams under the supervision of an approved proctor, normally, this is done by Canvas. However, if other accommodations need to be made, proctoring guidelines and registration for proctored exams are available online through the Ecampus [testing and proctoring website](#). It is important to submit your proctoring request as early as possible to avoid delays.

## **Makeup Exams**

**Makeup exams will be given only for missed exams excused in advance by the instructor.** Excused absences will not be given for airline reservations, routine illness (colds, flu, stomach aches), or other common ailments. Excused absences will generally not be given after the absence has occurred, except under very unusual circumstances. Because this is an online course, generally speaking, my expectation is that there will be no need for excused absences.

## **Incompletes**

Incomplete (I) grades will be granted only in emergency cases (usually only for a death in the family, major illness or injury, or birth of your child), and if the student has turned in 80% of the points possible (in other words, usually everything but the final paper). If you are having any difficulty that might prevent you completing the coursework, please don't wait until the end of the term; let me know right away. Except for EXTREME circumstances, I will not be granting any incomplete grades.

## **Guidelines for a Productive and Effective Online Classroom**

Students are expected to conduct themselves in the course (e.g., on discussion boards, email) in compliance with the university's regulations regarding civility.

Civility is an essential ingredient for academic discourse. All communications for this course should be conducted constructively, civilly, and respectfully. Differences in beliefs, opinions, and approaches are to be expected. In all you say and do for this course, be professional. Please bring any communications you believe to be in violation of this class policy to the attention of your instructor.

Active interaction with peers and your instructor is essential to success in this online course, paying particular attention to the following:

- Unless indicated otherwise, please complete the readings and view other instructional materials for each week before participating in the discussion board.
- Read your posts carefully before submitting them.
- Be respectful of others and their opinions, valuing diversity in backgrounds, abilities, and experiences.
- Challenging the ideas held by others is an integral aspect of critical thinking and the academic process. Please word your responses carefully, and recognize that others are expected to challenge your ideas. A positive atmosphere of healthy debate is encouraged.

## **Statement Regarding Students with Disabilities**

Accommodations are collaborative efforts between students, faculty, and [Disability Access Services \(DAS\)](#). Students with accommodations approved through DAS are responsible for contacting the faculty member in charge of the course prior to or during the first week of the term to discuss accommodations. Students who believe they are eligible for accommodations

but who have not yet obtained approval through DAS should contact DAS immediately at 541-737-4098.

### **Accessibility of Course Materials**

All materials used in this course are accessible [with the exception of two videos]. If you require accommodations please contact [Disability Access Services \(DAS\)](#). [If all items are accessible in your course, please delete the orange text in this section.]

Additionally, Canvas, the learning management system through which this course is offered, provides a [vendor statement](#) certifying how the platform is accessible to students with disabilities.

### **Expectations for Student Conduct**

Student conduct is governed by the university's policies, as explained in the [Student Conduct Code](#).

### **Academic Integrity**

Students are expected to comply with all regulations pertaining to academic honesty. For further information, visit [Student Conduct and Community Standards](#), or contact the office of Student Conduct and Mediation at 541-737-3656.

OAR 576-015-0020 (2) Academic or Scholarly Dishonesty:

a) Academic or Scholarly Dishonesty is defined as an act of deception in which a Student seeks to claim credit for the work or effort of another person, or uses unauthorized materials or fabricated information in any academic work or research, either through the Student's own efforts or the efforts of another.

b) It includes:

(i) CHEATING - use or attempted use of unauthorized materials, information or study aids, or an act of deceit by which a Student attempts to misrepresent mastery of academic effort or information. This includes but is not limited to unauthorized copying or collaboration on a test or assignment, using prohibited materials and texts, any misuse of an electronic device, or using any deceptive means to gain academic credit.

(ii) FABRICATION - falsification or invention of any information including but not limited to falsifying research, inventing or exaggerating data, or listing incorrect or fictitious references.

(iii) ASSISTING - helping another commit an act of academic dishonesty. This includes but is not limited to paying or bribing someone to acquire a test or assignment, changing someone's grades or academic records, taking a test/doing an assignment for someone else by any means, including misuse of an electronic device. It is a violation of Oregon

state law to create and offer to sell part or all of an educational assignment to another person (ORS 165.114).

(iv) TAMPERING - altering or interfering with evaluation instruments or documents.

(v) PLAGIARISM - representing the words or ideas of another person or presenting someone else's words, ideas, artistry or data as one's own, or using one's own previously submitted work. Plagiarism includes but is not limited to copying another person's work (including unpublished material) without appropriate referencing, presenting someone else's opinions and theories as one's own, or working jointly on a project and then submitting it as one's own.

c) Academic Dishonesty cases are handled initially by the academic units, following the process outlined in the University's Academic Dishonesty Report Form, and will also be referred to SCCS for action under these rules.

### **Conduct in this Online Classroom**

Students are expected to conduct themselves in the course (e.g., on discussion boards, email postings) in compliance with the [university's regulations regarding civility](#).

### **Tutoring**

[NetTutor](#) is a leading provider of online tutoring and learner support services fully staffed by experienced, trained and monitored tutors. Students connect to live tutors from any computer that has Internet access. NetTutor provides a virtual whiteboard that allows tutors and students to work on problems in a real time environment. They also have an online writing lab where tutors critique and return essays within 24 to 48 hours. Access NetTutor from within your Canvas class by clicking on the NetTutor button in your course menu.

### **OSU Student Evaluation of Teaching**

Course evaluation results are extremely important and are used to help me improve this course and the learning experience of future students. Results from the 19 multiple choice questions are tabulated anonymously and go directly to instructors and department heads. Student comments on the open-ended questions are compiled and confidentially forwarded to each instructor, per OSU procedures. The online Student Evaluation of Teaching form will be available toward the end of each term, and you will be sent instructions via ONID by the Office of Academic Programs, Assessment, and Accreditation. You will log in to "Student Online Services" to respond to the online questionnaire. The results on the form are anonymous and are not tabulated until after grades are posted.

### **REFUND POLICY INFORMATION**

Please see the [Ecampus website](#) for policy information on refunds and late fees