

World Music

Tuesday 1:00-3:00
March 19-May 21

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Welcome to World Music! This course will provide an overview of several different styles of music of non-Western cultures. These musical traditions range from the simple to the highly complex, and represent values and practices that have developed over many centuries. We will only be able to touch the surface of these traditions, but hopefully it will spur interest for the participant to delve more deeply into the ones that resonate.

There is no musical background necessary. The presentations you will make will be those that cover the sound resources used, i.e., the instruments. In three instances, short biographies will be what is presented. For all of these, we should aim for 15 minutes for the presentations. As these instruments and performers are new to nearly all of us, any information will go a long way. We want to have as much time as possible to talk about the music - what is happening, how is it put together, why it's made, and how you respond to it. As such, the presentations need to be concise.

Presentations might include images and audio/video clips. As video materials might be lengthy, you can present a small portion, and we can have the whole clip sent to everyone so they can watch it at their leisure. Powerpoint is fine, as is Keynote. However, such programs are not required. Use a presentation format that you are comfortable with; adding stress over a new program with which you are unfamiliar is something we'd all like to avoid! Once your presentation materials are assembled, *bring the presentation to class on a Usb stick*, and please email them to me (as a backup). We'll talk more in the first class meeting about the particulars of the presentations.

The list of topics are at the end of this document, along with the week in which it would be presented. Choose one, and let me know your choice: first come, first served.

As you provide the class with the sources of the sounds, my task will be to put it into context, and to explain the music in understandable terms. Your questions are welcome, indeed essential.

Each week I will send a set of links to videos to watch and listen to for the next class meeting. Often these might be accompanied by some questions to help focus your listening. It's a good idea to listen a few times, if time allows. Again, we'll talk about this in more detail when we meet.

For each section/culture we cover the following:

- Primary instruments
- Goals of the music
- Forms/performance practice
- Professional or communal

Topics for each week:

- Class 1 How Western music works - melody, rhythm, harmony; differences between Western music and other cultures.
Introduce India
- Class 2 India
- Class 3 India continued
Qwaali
- Class 4 Indonesia
- Class 5 Iran
Middle East
Klezmer

Klezmer Assign listening - Tahkt, Klezmer
- Class 6 **On Zoom**
Subsaharan Africa
- Class 7 Africa
- Class 8 South American/Altiplano
- Class 9 Tuvan throat singing; Tibetan chant;
- Class 10 Wrap-up

World Music Topics

3/26

Sitar

Bansari

Sarod

4/2

Nusrat Fateh Ali Khan

Ravi Shankar

4/9

Gamelan

Wayang Kulit

4/16

Tar

Santour

4/23

Tahkt Ensemble

Klezmer

4/30

Kora

Mbira

5/7

LadySmith Black Mambazo

Zamponas/phukuna

Charango

5/14

Tuvan Throat Singing