

Note:

Course content may be changed, term to term, without notice. The information below is provided as a guide for course selection and is not binding in any form, and should not be used to purchase course materials.

COURSE SYLLABUS

ETHM 513

ANTHROPOLOGY OF MUSIC

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Explore the anthropological side of ethnomusicology by examining a wide variety of theoretical and ethnographic approaches to music culture analysis.

RATIONALE

This course is designed to help the student develop an understanding of how anthropology has traditionally been used in the theory and practice of ethnomusicology. It will equip the student with the basic understanding of how anthropological methods can be utilized in the practice of Christian ethnomusicology.

I. PREREQUISITES

For information regarding prerequisites for this course, please refer to the [Academic Course Catalog](#)

II. REQUIRED RESOURCE PURCHASES

Click on the following link to view the required resource(s) for the term in which you are registered: <http://bookstore.mbsdirect.net/liberty.htm>

III. ADDITIONAL MATERIALS FOR LEARNING

- A. Computer with basic audio and video equipment
- B. Internet access (broadband recommended)
- C. Microsoft Office

IV. MEASURABLE LEARNING OUTCOMES

Upon successful completion of this course, the student will be able to:

- A. Understand various analytical processes used in determining the music culture and belief systems of selected music culture groups.
 - 1.1 Apply ethnographic processes in analyzing the music culture of a specific world music area.
 - 1.2 Break down the music culture into its most basic components.
 - 1.3 Demonstrate the relationship of ethnomusicology to other disciplines.
 - 1.4 Relate personal research to work done by other ethnomusicologists.
 - 1.5 Understand ways in which anthropology and music can fit together.

- 1.6 Be exposed to some standard readings in *The Anthropology of Music*.
- 1.7 Understand important perspectives regarding anthropology and religion.
- 1.8 Find important trends in anthropology that affected ethnomusicology.
- B. Understand the different approaches to music culture analysis based upon specific ethnographies.
 - 2.1 Distinguish between individual ethnographic approaches.
 - 2.2 Discuss dilemmas involved with specific research.
 - 2.3 Articulate the degree to which the researcher achieved goals.
 - 2.4 Consider strengths and weaknesses of the researcher's methodology.
 - 2.5 Evaluate usefulness of the researcher's theory and method to other social groups.
- C. Examine the writing strategy used in specific musical ethnographies.
 - 3.1 Explain the logic of the ethnography's organization.
 - 3.2 Assess the effectiveness of the ethnography's structure.
 - 3.3 Compare/contrast the organization structure with other ethnographies.
 - 3.4 Identify the narrative stance chosen by the author.
 - 3.5 Consider the appropriateness of the author's degree of reflexivity.
 - 3.6 Evaluate the effectiveness of the author's attempt to communicate with the reading audience.

V. COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND ASSIGNMENTS

- A. Textbook and journal readings

The student will complete the readings early in the module/week so that all threads can be added by the proper time.
- B. Course Requirements Checklist

After reading the Syllabus and [Student Expectations](#), the student will complete the related checklist found in Module/Week 1.
- C. Discussion Board Forums (8)

Discussion Board Forums will be graded by quality, frequency, and timeliness. Each Discussion Board Forum is split into threads and replies. The threads and replies must consist of well-planned postings. Threads must be 250 words in length and replies must be 100 words in length. The student will be required to post within the Discussion Board Forum 5 times during each module/week.
- D. Reflection Papers (4)

Reflection Papers should be 5–6 pages (about 1,500 words in length) double-spaced, excluding the title page and bibliography. In addition, Reflection Papers

should contain correct citations. The Reflection Papers should be written in formal style, following current Turabian format.

E. Final Paper

The student will select a topic that has been reviewed during the course, and which focuses on his/her area of interest. The student will then write a 15–20-page paper that includes: an introduction, body, and conclusion.

VI. COURSE GRADING AND POLICIES

A. Points

Course Requirements Checklist	10
Discussion Board Forums (8 at 50 pts ea)	400
Reflection Papers (4 at 100 pts ea)	400
Final Paper	200
Total	1010

B. Scale

A = 940–1010 A- = 920–939 B+ = 900–919 B = 860–899 B- = 840–859
C+ = 820–839 C = 780–819 C- = 760–779 D+ = 740–759 D = 700–739
D- = 680–699 F = 0–679

C. All papers should be submitted to the instructor via “Assignments” within Blackboard. The instructor will grade them and return them through the course email boxes. Generally, you will find comments appearing in the margins scattered throughout the paper. If there is any difficulty with receiving comments, please contact the instructor.

D. Citations will follow the Chicago Style as represented in Kate Turabian’s *A Manual for Writers of Term Papers, Theses and Dissertations*. Current edition. It is highly recommended that the author/date method be used (though the other style is acceptable also). According to this system, complete details are listed at the end of the paper. The information needed in the body of the paper is the name of the author, the year of publication and the page number(s) from which the information was derived written in parentheses, for example, (Hammond 1992, 25). If there is only one source by the author, it is not necessary to include the year of publication. This *Parenthetical Citation (PR)* refers the reader to *Reference List (RL)* entries at the end of the paper where complete publishing information is available. Reading assignments in this syllabus are given in the author-date system. Pages 187–213 in the book give examples of citations for each type of source and should prove helpful. You will use the PR and RL examples.

E. Liberty’s standards on academic integrity apply in this course. Students should make every effort to avoid plagiarism. (See *Student Expectations* link.)

F. Disability Assistance

Students with a documented disability may contact Liberty University Online’s Office of Disability Academic Support (ODAS) at LUOODAS@liberty.edu to

make arrangements for academic accommodations. Further information can be found at www.liberty.edu/disabilitysupport.

COURSE SCHEDULE

ETHM 513

Textbooks: Bakan, *Music of Death and New Creation* (1999).
 Clayton et al., *The Cultural Study of Music: A Critical Introduction* (2012).
 Friedson, *Dancing Prophets: Musicial Experience in Tumbuka Healing* (1996).
 Merriam & Merriam, *The Anthropology of Music* (1964).
 Nettl, *The Study of Ethnomusicology: Thirty-Three Discussions* (2015).

MODULE/ WEEK	READING & STUDY	ASSIGNMENTS	POINTS
1	Merriam & Merriam: Preface, Parts 1–2 1 presentation 1 website	Course Requirements Checklist Class Introductions DB Forum 1	10 0 50
2	Merriam & Merriam: Part 3 1 presentation	DB Forum 2 Reflection Paper 1	50 100
3	Nettl: chs. 16–18, 22 1 presentation 7 websites	DB Forum 3 Reflection Paper 2	50 100
4	Clayton et al.: ch. 6 1 presentation 6 websites	DB Forum 4 Final Paper Topic	50 0
5	Friedson: Preface, pp. 1–176 1 presentation	DB Forum 5 Reflection Paper 3	50 100
6	Bakan: entire text 1 presentation	DB Forum 6	50
7	Clayton et al.: chs. 8, 10, 13, 15, 21, 31 1 presentation 1 website	DB Forum 7 Reflection Paper 4	50 100
8	Independent Research 1 presentation	DB Forum 8	50
9	Independent Research	Final Paper Questions Forum	0

MODULE/ WEEK	READING & STUDY	ASSIGNMENTS	POINTS
10	Independent Research	Final Paper Questions Forum	0
11	Independent Research	Final Paper Questions Forum	0
12	Independent Research	Final Paper Questions Forum	0
13	Independent Research	Final Paper Questions Forum	0
14	Independent Research	Final Paper Questions Forum	0
15	Independent Research	Final Paper Questions Forum	0
16	Independent Research	Final Paper Questions Forum Final Paper	0 200
TOTAL			1010

DB = Discussion Board

NOTE: Each course week begins on Monday morning at 12:00 a.m. (ET) and ends on Sunday night at 11:59 p.m. (ET). The final week ends at 11:59 p.m. (ET) on Friday.