Instructor: Tracy Russell  (713) 283-9889, cell (713) 294-7357  
Music Office (713) 294-3009 (leave a message)  
Messages etc. may be left in my mailbox in the Music Office  
Email: tracypopmusic@hotmail.com  
Office Hours: Questions regarding class material, grades, tests, etc. are welcomed. As I do not have an office at school please contact me by phone or email or speak to me after class in order to set up an appointment.

Course Description: This course will introduce you to music from many parts of the world. We will look at the characteristics of the music itself, the social forces that shape and affect the music as well as the musicians who create it. Many of the musical traditions covered in the textbook are now easily encountered here in Houston and many other parts of North America. We will look at how the contexts and meanings of the music have changed along with its migration. Listening to music is an important part of the class and you will expand your listening skills throughout the semester as well as increase your knowledge of the musical terminology used to describe audible musical characteristics. Finally, we will examine the many “soundscapes” found in Houston and the role that music plays in your own life.

Learning Outcomes:  
• Identify characteristics of a diverse musical repertoire  
• Write clearly and effectively about music from an analytical, historical, and cultural perspective  

Readings and Listening Examples:  
2) CD set that accompanies the above text. (Make sure you get the second edition.) ISBN: 0-393-10684-5.  
3) Articles from Grove Music Online database, available online through the University of Houston’s Library website. Instructions on how to access this database will be provided in class.  
4) Listening examples and liner notes from the Smithsonian Global Sound database, available online through the University of Houston’s Library website. Access the examples for class via the course folder link.
MUSI 3301
LISTENING TO WORLD MUSIC

Coursework:
- Quizzes (3 quizzes, 25 points each) 15%
- Exam 1 (Midterm) 20%
- Exam 2 (Final) 20%
- Paper 1: Evaluation of Internet Sources 15%
- Paper 2: Ethnographic Description 20%
- Attendance, participation and other assignments 10%

Grading Scale

- A 94-100
- A- 90-93
- B+ 87-89
- B 84-86
- B- 80-83
- C+ 77-79
- C 74-76
- C- 70-73
- D+ 67-69
- D 64-66
- D- 60-63
- F 59 or below

Guest Speakers: As time and availability allows, several guest speakers will be scheduled to talk to the class about music and real life experiences. As guest speakers are generously giving of their time and expertise it is expected that students do their best in welcoming them and follow classroom decorum as discussed below.

Listening Examples: We will spend time during each class listening to musical selections. Many of them are included on the CD that comes with the textbook but there will be additional examples as well. These examples will be played in class and are available through the Smithsonian Global Sound database or on Reserve in the Music Library (on the 2nd floor of the Music Building). You will need to be familiar with the general characteristics of the examples and with the social contexts of the music for the exams.

Paper 1: Evaluation of Internet Sources. This is a four page paper in academic style in which you search for web sites on a topic related to a specific type of non-Western music and compare the information found to print sources. You will be graded on your writing style, search methods and how you evaluated the sites you found. A bibliography must be included.

Paper 2: Ethnographic Description. You are to attend a performance of non-Western music and write about the experience including the setting, performers, audience the music itself etc. You must also research the type of music you are observing by reading articles in journals or reference sources. You are to present your findings in an academic paper with a bibliography (due 10/19). Four pages minimum.
Turn in your work on time!!! Late papers will be penalized one half grade for every day past the due date. Failure to complete any major component of the course puts you in jeopardy of failing. You cannot pass the course if you do not complete it.

**Attendance and participation:** Each student will be allowed four absences. With each subsequent absence your grade will be lowered. Students are responsible for information presented in lectures they missed. We will be discussing issues relating to popular music in class and it is important that you keep up with all of the readings and participate in discussion. There will be some small assignments to be completed in class, those not in attendance will not be able to make up in-class assignments.

**Exams and quizzes:** Though only three quizzes are scheduled, there may be additional pop quizzes as well so always be up to date with the readings. Material for the exams is taken from the readings as well as lectures and films shown during class. The final exam is cumulative. Exams consist of short answer, matching, multiple choice and essay questions. Exams can only be made up in the case of medical emergency, verified by a doctor’s signed letter, or if there is an institutional religious holiday that conflicts with the exam.

**Classroom decorum:** Please arrive on time and turn off your cell phones as soon as class begins. Late arrivals, text messaging and vibrating cell phones are very disruptive both to your fellow students and to the professor. Please come to class ready to participate.

**Academic honesty:** The University of Houston’s *Student Handbook* describes the definitions of and procedures to be followed in cases of academic dishonesty. It is my responsibility to inform you of these policies and to take preventative measures so as to discourage you from attempting to commit such acts. Among other things, academic dishonesty is defined as plagiarism, copying from another student’s paper, using crib notes or other unauthorized aids during a test and changing answers on a paper or test already graded and returned to the student. The University subscribes to Turnitin.com, a service that compares student paper to “billions” of pages on the internet and full-text databases in order to discover work that is not original. Instructions on submitting papers to this service will be given at a later date.

**Inclement weather:** In the event of inclement weather tune into local television and radio programs for news. If unsafe conditions develop overnight, the decision on whether to close the University is made by 5 a.m. so that it can be announced on the 5-7 a.m. newscasts. If conditions develop during the day, the decision is ideally made by 2 p.m. in order to make the 5-6 newscasts.

**Students with special needs:** If you have any special needs due to a disability please inform me so that appropriate arrangements can be made.