

**SCHOOL OF FINE ART AND MUSIC**  
**Fall Semester 2017**  
**MUSC\*3820-01**



**TOPICS IN ETHNOMUSICOLOGY**  
**TOPIC: ISSUES AND PROBLEMS IN ETHNOMUSICOLOGY**

**INSTRUCTOR:** Howard Spring  
**TIME:** Tuesday & Thursday, 10:00 – 11:20am  
**LOCATION:** MacKinnon Building, Rm. 203  
**OFFICE:** Johnston Hall, Rm. 112  
**PHONE:** Ext. 58579  
**EMAIL:** hspring@uoguelph.ca  
**OFFICE HOURS:** Tuesday & Thursday, 2:30 – 4:00pm

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**CALENDAR DESCRIPTION:**

Topics for this course will normally include some combination of the following: a specific world music tradition, ethnomusicological issues, theories, or methods. Subject matter will vary according to the instructor.

*Prerequisite(s):* 7.50 credits including (MUSC\*1180 or MUSC\*2180), MUSC\*2270

**COURSE DESCRIPTION:**

This course will examine ethnomusicology as a field of research from comparative and anthropological perspectives. The issues that we will focus on have been the subject of continuing debate among ethnomusicologists. They include:

- The creative process: How do various cultures create music.
- Insiders and Outsiders: Can we ever know another culture's music?
- The different kinds of relationships between music and culture.
- Musical ethnography: What are we studying when we study a culture's music?
- Musical continuity and change: Why and how does music change?
- Oral traditions: How do oral musics differ from written musics?
- Musical Style: What is musical style and how can it best be analyzed?
- Music and Meaning: How can music mean?
- Musical enculturation: How is music transmitted over time?
- Music and Identity: Why and how do cultures and individuals construct and reflect identity through music?

**LEARNING OUTCOMES:**

1. Critical and creative thinking through the analysis of ethnomusicological theory and critical practice.
2. Literacy through the requirement of written reports that will entail extracting information from various sources, assessing their quality and validity, and writing good prose.
3. Global understanding, which is at the heart of ethnomusicology. Intercultural competence through working comparatively with the sounds, ideas, and behaviors for an array of cultures.
4. Oral and written communication skills through oral reports, discussion and written research.
5. Professional and ethical behaviour through team projects and engagement with ethical issues in research.

**REQUIRED TEXTS:**

Bruno Nettl, *The Study of Ethnomusicology: Thirty Three Discussions*. Urbana and Chicago: University of Illinois Press. 2015.

**METHOD OF EVALUATION:**

Classroom reports. At least one.	15%
Mid-term report: Thursday Oct. 26, 2017 .....	35%
Final Project. (Final exam or field research project).....	50%