

**SCHOOL OF FINE ART AND MUSIC**  
**Winter Semester 2018**  
**MUSC\*4450-01**  
**HONOURS SEMINAR IN MUSIC**



**INSTRUCTOR:** James Harley  
**TIME:** Tuesday & Thursday; 4:00 – 5:20pm  
**LOCATION:** MacKinnon Building, Rm. 203  
**OFFICE:** MacKinnon Building, Rm. 214, ALEX 187  
**PHONE:** Ext. 52989  
**EMAIL:** jharley@uoguelph.ca  
**OFFICE HOURS:** Tuesday, 3-4 pm or by appointment

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**CALENDAR DESCRIPTION:**

The Honours Seminar in Music teaches advanced research methods common to a range of musical investigations: musicology (including ethnomusicology, popular music and jazz), music theory, music pedagogy, and musical creation. In addition, the Honours Seminar in Music allows students to engage in individual research with concentrated energy through a one semester/one credit course in a supportive peer environment. Students will develop a research project proposal for approval by the instructor in the semester prior to enrolling in this course.

***Prerequisite(s):*** Completion of the music core.

***Restriction(s):*** Instructor consent required.

**COURSE DESCRIPTION:**

This course is both a practical introduction to research in Music and an opportunity for you to develop an individual project/paper. First and foremost, however, the course seeks to acquaint you with the fundamental principles of rigorous and extended research, including developing a research mindset, learning to frame meaningful questions (both research questions and interview questions), and becoming aware of antithetical biases such as those long-held as “common sense”. We will approach this research from numerous music disciplines (music education, musicology, theory, etc.) and sub-disciplines (analytic, historical, ethnomusicology etc.), focusing especially on their common fundamental research methods, including: archive and library research, examination of literature, score and aural analysis, interview skills, an understanding of field recording techniques, and technological approaches to the analysis of sound.

We will spend the first part of the course in assignments that introduce and develop research and critical reading skills. You will prepare a detailed research proposal and annotated bibliography for an independent project/paper. In order to help students prepare for the course, information about focusing your research interests will be provided in November, 2012, and each student will be asked to write a draft version of their research proposal, due to Dr. Harley by January 4<sup>th</sup>, 2013. Throughout the course, you will work closely both with Prof. Harley and with a secondary advisor as you research and produce your project/paper. The course emphasises a supportive peer environment for research and analysis.

**The Honours Seminar in Music is a capstone course for the Music Major. Because it is worth 1 credit in 1 semester (the equivalent of 2 courses), it will require intensive time and independent work on the part of all participants. Please plan accordingly!**

**METHOD OF EVALUATION:**

Critical Reading – (article summaries, peer editing, musical analyses) -----	15%
Class presentations, sharing of insights-----	20%
Annotated bibliography -----	20%
Project/paper proposal -----	10%
Final draft of project/paper -----	35%

**Learning Outcomes:**

- To understand a range of research strategies.
- To have gained the ability to assess effective writing on music in your area of research interest.
- To understand how to develop an annotated bibliography in your area of research interest.
- To have accomplished an in-depth research project.
- To be able to work cooperatively.
- To be able to effectively lead discussions.