

**ANTH/MUSC 2025 Intro to World Music (3 credits)**

Spring 2020 • MW • 1:00-2:15 PM

Whitney 130 • Music Department • Fine and Performing Arts Division

course site: [proferickson.com](http://proferickson.com)

**Instructor and Contact Information**

Dr. Christian Erickson

Office: Whitney 140-J

Office hours: MTWThF 10:30 AM - 11:30 AM (additional hours by appointment)

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**Course Description**

This course explores various aspects of music from a global perspective. The focus is on music styles and traditions from outside of the Western canon. Students will actively study music in its cultural context from a variety of geographic areas of the world.

**Prerequisites**

None

**Co-requisites**

None

**Purpose**

Introduction to World Music expands students' knowledge and appreciation of the musical and social aspects of non-Western music. The course fulfills the Global Diversity requirement for the Associate of Arts and Associate of Science degrees, and the Cultural Context requirement for the Associate of Fine Art in Music.

**Course Format**

Lecture

**Grading**

Letter

## **Texts/Materials**

- Alves, William. *Music of the Peoples of the World* (3rd edition). Boston, MA: Schirmer, 2012. ISBN-13: 978-1-133-30794-5
- Pens, pencils, erasers, notebook, etc.
- Access to a computer with an internet connection, a browser, and media player software
- USB Flash Drive (2GB or larger)

## **Minimum Student Outcomes**

Upon completion of ANTH/MUSC 2025 Intro to World Music, the student will:

- Recognize the cultural differences between music of the Western tradition and systems which lie outside that tradition.
- Describe the prominent features of musical styles from around the world.
- Employ a basic technical vocabulary for describing and writing about music.
- Distinguish between musics of different world cultures and different sub-types within those cultures.
- Assess the effects of globalization, mass mediation, and electronic communication on world cultures and their musical traditions.

## **Approximate Final Grade Evaluation**

- 40% — Culture Exams
- 20% — Presentation
- 15% — Quick Quizzes
- 10% — Listening Exercises
- 10% — Fundamentals Quiz
- 5% — Fundamentals Activities

## **Course Structure**

Four major cultural regions will be explored. This semester, we will examine music of **the Middle East/North Africa, Central Asia, India, and Japan**. Concepts and key information will be made available to you through lectures, demonstrations, audio-visual aids, handouts, and your textbook.

## Abbreviated Course Calendar (full calendar can be found at the end of this syllabus)

January 20 - February 5	Music Elements/Fundamentals
February 10	Quiz on Music Fundamentals
February 12 - 24	The Middle East and North Africa
February 26 - March 11	Central Asia
March 9	Exam I
March 23	Exam II
March 25 - April 8	India
April 13	Exam III
April 15 - May 4	Japan
April 20 & 27	Student Presentations
May 6	Exam IV

## Descriptions of Graded Course Components

- **Culture Exams:** [Four total, each worth 10% of your final grade] An exam will be administered at the conclusion of the study of each culture. Exams may cover any material from the text, handouts, class activities, videos, assignments, and lectures. Please make immediate note of exam days on our attached course schedule and resolve any conflicts you may have ASAP.
- **Quick Quizzes:** [14 total, each worth around 1% of your final grade] Timed quick quizzes based on the prior meeting's reading, viewing, or listening assignment will be administered daily during the first five minutes of class meetings (except for exam days). These quizzes cannot be made up, and they will be collected at five minutes after the hour. Therefore, please be punctual for our meetings.
- **Presentation:** [Worth 20% of your final grade] Toward the end of semester, students will give a short in-class presentation over an assigned topic related to world music. The actual length of the presentation will depend on the size of the class, but will probably be somewhere in the 10- to 15-minute range. Details regarding the specific requirements of this assignment will be handed out later in the semester.
- **Listening Exercises:** [6 total, each worth about 2% of your final grade] Short exercises covering assigned listening will be distributed periodically (see course schedule). These will

help you prepare for unit exams and quick quizzes, and will help gain a better musical understanding to some of our core repertoire.

- **Fundamentals Quiz:** [Worth 10% of your final grade] Upon completion of our unit over the elements and fundamentals of music, a quiz will be administered to evaluate understanding of these basic concepts. It is essential that students have a grasp on this material before undertaking study of musical cultures.
- **Fundamentals Activities:** [Worth 5% of your final grade] To assist you in preparing for the Fundamentals Quiz, we will complete several short activities that reinforce concepts explored in the first chapter. These activities will be completed in class and the results discussed in class. This will be partly a participation grade, so please be sure to attend the meeting preceding the Fundamentals Quiz!
- **Attendance & Participation:** While not directly factored into your grade (with the exception of the Fundamentals Activities described above), attendance and participation are vital to learning. Students are expected to attend class regularly, arrive on time, and stay for the entire session. Students are also expected to answer questions when called on during discussions. Excessive unsatisfactory responses or unwillingness to participate may result in a penalty applied to your homework grade. Likewise, consistent correct responses and regular participation may be awarded bonus points in the case of borderline grades at the end of the semester. You are responsible for learning all material covered in class whether you are present or not. If you do miss a meeting or a portion of one, please ask a classmate if you may review his or her notes.

### **Course Website**

Our class companion website for this course is available at [proferickson.com](http://proferickson.com). Here you'll find printable documents (such as the syllabus and other handouts), links to useful sites, and audio files.

### **Late and Incomplete Assignments**

Just as regular practice for lessons and ensembles is vital for the growth of musicianship, so too is consistent reinforcement of concepts and skills explored and developed in academic music classes. Therefore it is the policy of the Sheridan College Department of Music to expect our students to complete assignments by prescribed due dates. Assignments submitted after the due date will NOT be accepted. In the event of a documented emergency, late work may be accepted at the discretion of the instructor. Note: As the course officially ends after the administration of the final exam, no late work will be accepted after our scheduled final exam time concludes.

## **Absences and Make-up Policy**

In cases of school-sponsored activities or illness resulting in an absence by the student, it is the student's responsibility to notify the instructor in advance of the missed class. Absences with advance notice are considered "excused." Students are responsible for all reading, listening and other homework assigned during the absence. Absences without prior notification to the instructor ("unexcused") will automatically result in forfeiture of any possible points associated with the missed class. Quick Quizzes are exempt from this policy as they must be completed in class and cannot be made up or taken in advance.

## **Course Withdrawal/Petition for Incomplete Grade**

On occasion, unforeseen circumstances may interfere with a student's ability to complete a course or to accomplish a satisfactory level of personal academic achievement. If you find yourself in this situation, I encourage you to visit with me to evaluate your options. Rarely is a grade unsalvageable if a student is willing to take the steps necessary to rectify it. If, however, a student is ever unable to fully devote his or her energies to the coursework, withdrawal may be the best option. Consult the college's academic calendar for the withdrawal deadline. Paperwork for withdrawals can be obtained from the Office of Records and Admissions.

A temporary grade of "I" or "incomplete" is available to students who cannot finish the course due to an emergency situation that arises late in the semester. The administration of an incomplete is at the instructor's discretion. Although I can be flexible depending on the circumstances of the student, my general policy is that the student should have at least 75% of the course completed and have a current grade of C or better at the time of the request for the incomplete grade. The incomplete portion of the course must be completed by the end of the semester following the request (summer sessions excluded) or the "I" will revert to an "F."

## **Northern Wyoming Community College District Policies**

**Academic Honesty Statement:** Students are expected to maintain the highest standards of academic honesty and integrity. Academic honesty means performing all academic work without lying, cheating, deceit, plagiarism, misrepresentation, or unfairly gaining advantage over any other student. Violations of academic honesty are in violation of District standards for student conduct and shall result in disciplinary action.

**Disability Statement:** Students with disabilities who believe they may need accommodations in this class are encouraged to contact the Student Success Center as soon as possible to ensure such accommodations may be implemented.

A complete list of official college policies can be found on the NWCCD website by pointing your browser to this shortcut: [bit.ly/scpolicies](https://bit.ly/scpolicies)

# Course Calendar

Subject to revision. All graded assignments are due at beginning of the next class meeting unless otherwise noted. Quick Quizzes are over the previous day's assigned reading. Graded items in **bold**.

Meeting 1, January 20

- **Topics:** Syllabus formalities; What is Music?; What is "World" Music?; Film: *Melody, Part 1*
  - **Reading:** Chapter 1
  - **Assignment: Musical Identity Profile (Extra Credit)**
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Meeting 2, January 22

- **Topics: Quick Quiz 1 (over previous lecture/reading assignment);** Pitch and Melody; Film: *Melody, Part 2*
  - **Reading:** Chapter 2, pp.9-16 (up to "Motives and Themes")
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Meeting 3, January 27

- **Topics: Quick Quiz 2;** Rhythm and Loudness (Dynamics); Film: *Rhythm\**
  - **Reading:** Chapter 3
  - **Fundamentals Review and Practice Activities Nos. 1 and 2**
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Meeting 4, January 29

- **Topics: Quick Quiz 3;** Texture; Film: *Texture\**
  - **Reading:** Chapter 4
  - **Assignment: Immersive Listening Exercise**
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Meeting 5, February 3

- **Topics: Quick Quiz 4;** Timbre and Musical Instruments; Film: *Timbre—The Color of Music\**
  - **Reading:** Chapter 5
  - **Assignment: Fundamentals Review and Practice Activity No. 3**
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Meeting 6, February 5

- **Topics: Quick Quiz 5;** Structure and Form in Music; Film: *Form—The Shape of Music\**
  - **Reading:** Chapter 2, pp. 16-18
  - **Assignment: Fundamentals Review and Practice Activity No. 4**
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\*Access Part 2 via our Canvas shell.

Meeting 7, February 10

- **Quiz on the Fundamentals of Music**

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Meeting 8, February 12

- **Topics:** The Middle East & North Africa: Introduction, Elements & Instruments; Film: *Sound, Music, and the Environment, Part 1*
  - **Reading:** Chapter 7, pp. 78-87 (up to “Arabic Music Theory”)
  - **Assignment:** Listen to *Dastgah Mahur*
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Meeting 9, February 17

- **Topics: Quick Quiz 6;** The Middle East & North Africa: Arabic Music Theory & Performance; Film: *Sound, Music, and the Environment, Part 2*
  - **Reading:** Chapter 7, pp. 87-92
  - **Assignment:** Listen to *Wasla* in *Maqam Huzam* (excerpt); **Listening Exercise: *Waslah (Suite) in Maqam Huzam***
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Meeting 10, February 19

- **Topics: Quick Quiz 7;** The Middle East & North Africa: Iranian Classical Music/Popular Music of the Middle East; Film: *The Transformative Power of Music, Part 1*
  - **Reading:** Chapter 7, pp. 93-98
  - **Assignment:** Review *Dastgah Mahur*
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Meeting 13, February 24

- **Topics: Quick Quiz 8;** The Middle East & North Africa: Jewish Music; Review for Exam I
  - **Reading:** Chapter 7, pp. 99-105
  - **Assignment:** Listen to *A Rumenisher Doyne*; **Listening Exercise: *A Rumenisher Doyne***
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Meeting 14, February 26

- **Topics:** Central Asia: Elements of Central Asian Music; Tibetan Music; Film: *The Transformative Power of Music, Part 2*
  - **Reading:** Chapter 12 (pp. 226-236)
  - **Assignment:** Listen to Invocation from *Mahakala Puja* (excerpt)
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Meeting 15, March 9

- **Exam I over The Middle East & North Africa**
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Meeting 16, March 11

- **Topics: Quick Quiz 9;** Central Asia: Mongolian Music; Review for Exam II
  - **Reading:** Chapter 12 (pp. 237-242)
  - **Assignment:** Listen to “*Hoyor Bor*” [“Two Dark Horses”]; **Listening Exercise:** “*Hoyor Bor*” [“Two Dark Horses”]
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**SPRING BREAK — March 16 - March 20**

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Meeting 17, March 23

- **Topics: Exam II over Central Asia**
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Meeting 18, March 25

- **Topics:** India: Elements & Instruments of Indian Music; Film: *Music and Memory, Part 1*
  - **Reading:** Chapter 13 (pp. 244-243 up to “*Raga—The Melodic Dimension of Indian Music*”)
  - **Assignment:** Listen to Raga *Khamaj* (beginning)
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Meeting 19, March 30

- **Topics: Quick Quiz 10;** Raga: Melodic Concepts in Indian Instrumental Music; Film: *Music and Memory, Part 2*
  - **Reading:** Chapter 13 (pp. 244-259 up to “*Tala—The Rhythmic Dimension of Indian Music*”)
  - **Assignment:** Listen to Raga *Desh* and Raga *Khamaj* examples
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Meeting 20, April 1

- **Quick Quiz 11;** *Tala*: Rhythmic Concepts in Indian Instrumental Music; Film: *Transmission: Learning Music, Part 1*
  - **Reading:** Chapter 13 (pp. 259-265)
  - **Assignment:** Listen to *Tabla* examples and Raga *Khamaj* (review beginning and listen to ending); **Listening Exercise: Raga Khamaj**
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Meeting 21, April 6

- **Topics: Quick Quiz 12;** Vocal Music in India; Film: *Transmission: Learning Music, Part 2*
  - **Reading:** Chapter 13 (pp. 266-271)
  - **Assignment:** Listen to “*Ninnada Nela*” (“Why Should I Blame You?”); **Listening Exercise: “Ninnada Nela” (“Why Should I Blame You?”)**
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Meeting 22, April 8

- **Topics: Quick Quiz 13;** Indian Pop Music & Western Cross-Fertilization; Review for Exam III
  - **Reading:** Chapter 13 (pp. 272-280)
  - **Assignment:** Listen to “*Dil Cheez Kya Hai*” (“What Is a Heart?”)
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Meeting 24, April 13

- **Topics: Exam III over India**
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Meeting 25, April 15

- **Topics:** Japan: Elements of Japanese Music; Film: *Composers and Improvisors, Part 1*
  - **Reading:** Chapter 15, pp. 308-314 (up to “Gagaku: Ancient Court Orchestral Music”)
  - **Assignment:** Listen to *Daiwa gaku*
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Meeting 26, April 20

- **Topics:** Student Presentations I
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Meeting 27, April 22

- **Topics: Quick Quiz 14;** Japan: *Gagaku*; Film: *Composers and Improvisors, Part 2*
  - **Reading:** Chapter 15, pp. 314-319
  - **Assignment:** Listen to *Etenraku, Nokorigaku Sanben*; **Listening Exercise: Etenraku...**
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Meeting 28, April 27

- **Topics:** Student Presentations II
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Meeting 29, April 29

- **Topics: Quick Quiz 15;** Japan: Instrumental Music; Film: *Music and Technology, Part 1*
  - **Reading:** Chapter 15, pp. 320-324 (up to “Music of the Japanese Theater”)
  - **Assignment:** Review *Daiwa gaku*; Listen to *Rokudan no shirabe* (excerpt)
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Meeting 30, May 4

- **Topics: Quick Quiz 16;** Japan: Theatrical, and Popular Music; Course Wrap-Up: “The Shrinking Musical Planet”; Film: *Music and Technology, Part 2*
  - **Reading:** Chapter 15, pp. 324-332; Chapter 11, p. 224
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Meeting 31, May 6

- **Topics: Exam IV over Japan**
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