

FOOTHILL COLLEGE
Fine Arts and Communications

MUSIC 8 COURSE OUTLINE DEGREE APPLICABLE

1. Catalog Description

MUS 8 MUSIC OF MULTICULTURAL AMERICA 4 UNITS

Four hours lecture, two hours laboratory.

A comparative and integrative study of the multicultural musical styles of the United States. Includes the musics of Native Americans, European Americans, African Americans, Chicano/Latino Americans, and Asian Americans, from their historical roots to the present. Analysis of musical traditions from a technical and a cultural perspective; and sequential development of listening and descriptive skills through a variety of media including films, recordings, and computer-assisted instruction.

This course is the same, or similar to:

UC Berkeley	Music 5	Music in American Culture
UC Berkeley	Ethnic Studies 125AC	Ethnic Musics in America
Foothill College	Music 8	Music in Multicultural America
San Francisco City College	Music 26	Music in American Culture
Solano Community College	Music 13	Multicultural Music in America

2. Expected Outcomes

The student will be able to:

- A. identify musical styles from a variety of Western and non-Western cultures.
- B. describe the historical experience and musical traditions of five broad constituent groups (Native Americans, European Americans, African Americans, Chicano/Latino Americans, and Asian Americans).
- C. describe how each ethnic group's musical traditions mirror the various patterns of that group's assimilation or isolation in relation to mainstream American culture.
- D. compare and contrast this repertoire.
- E. examine and discuss the relationships of musical expression to other forms of artistic expression, and to culture generally.
- F. recognize how the social values of a given culture deeply influence its music.

3. Special Facilities and/or Equipment Needed

Access to a cassette player. Classroom sound equipment for compact discs, audiotape and records, screen, overhead projector, slide projector, VCR.

4. Expanded Description of Course Content

A. Context

1. The multicultural complexity of American music
 - a. Issues of race, ethnicity, and immigration patterns in American history
 - b. Examples of how American music mirrors the various patterns of assimilation or isolation found in ethnic mainstream and minority cultures.
2. Vocabulary for listening to and understanding music
 - a. Technical characteristics (including pitch, rhythm, melody, dynamics, timbre, texture, form, harmony)

- b. Cultural characteristics (including composition and improvisation, notation and oral traditions, functions of music in culture, role and status of musicians)
- B. Music of Native Americans
 - 1. Historical and social context
 - a. The eight major Native American culture areas (e.g., Southwest, California-Intermountain, Plateau)
 - b. Overview of Native American relations with the United States (e.g., Trade and Intercourse Acts, the mid-19th century Removal Acts and Allotment Acts, 20th century Reorganization Acts and Self-Determination).
 - 2. Native American musical style
 - a. Purpose of music, instrumental and vocal styles, use of vocables and pentatonic scales, etc.
 - b. Issues of assimilation and preservation of Native American music.
- C. Music of Early European Colonists
 - 1. Historical and social context of British colonization
 - 2. Religious music of the early settlers
 - a. Psalm singing, shape-note singing, singing schools, etc.
 - 3. Folk music of the early settlers
 - a. broadside ballads, work songs, children's songs.
- D. Music of African Americans
 - 1. Historical and social context of slave trade
 - 2. Music traditions of West Africa
 - 3. Blend of African and European musical traditions in creation of gospel music, work songs, and how these blends led to the creation and development of American blues and jazz.
 - 4. Overview of the historical development of blues and jazz.
- E. Music of Chicano/Latino Americans
 - 1. Historical and social context, including the colonization of Mexico, South and Central America, the Mexican-American War (1846-1848), the acquiring of the Mexican territories which became the states of California, Texas, New Mexico, Utah, and Wyoming.
 - 2. Music traditions of Chicano/Latino Americans
 - a. The role of the Spanish Catholic church in the shaping and suppressing of native culture from the 16th-19th centuries.
 - b. The development of nationalistic music after the Mexican Revolution
 - c. The blend of musical traditions which have created the music of Mexican-Americans.
- F. Music of 19th Century European Immigrants
 - 1. Historical and social context, including the factors which contributed to the great influx of immigrants (e.g., economic distress resulting from the transformation of industry by the factory system, shift from small-scale to large-scale farming, wars, political oppression, and religious persecution).
 - 2. Musical traditions of Jewish Americans
- G. Music of Asian Americans
 - 1. Historical and social context, including the various countries which constitute the home countries of Asian Americans: East Asia with China, Korea, Japan, Southeast Asia with Vietnam, Cambodia, Thailand, South Asia with India, Pakistan, etc., and Southwest Asia with Iran, Iraq, etc.
 - 2. Focus on experiences of immigrants from Japan as an example of Asian Americans

3. Musical traditions of Japanese Americans, including the three important Japanese instruments (koto, shakuhachi, shamisen) with illustrations of traditional and contemporary composition techniques.

4. Enormous impact and influence of Western music traditions on Japan.

H. Music in Contemporary American Society

1. Development of popular music, including the sources and influences of early American popular music and its development into Rock and Roll.

2. Effects of the media and the influence of the music industry on music and society

3. Trans-cultural developments and fusion efforts in contemporary music, such as reggae, salsa, new wave and new age music.

5. Repeatability Criteria

Not repeatable

6. Methods of Evaluation

Weekly worksheets for guided reading and listening; essays; quizzes and exams.

7. Texts

Barkley, Elizabeth. *Music of American Cultures*. Needham Heights, MA: Pearson Custom Publishing, 2000.

8. Authorized Disciplines

Music