Course Info

Professor: Juliana Gaona (she/her/hers)
Email: jgaonavill@utep.edu
Office Hours: by appointment

Teaching assistant: Leslee Becker (lbecker@miners.utep.edu)

Course Description

This course is a wide study of Latin American musical practices outside of the Western art music tradition. By employing an ethnomusicological approach to study music as culture, we will examine the various roles music plays in the lives of people in Latin America and the Caribbean, giving consideration to the ways that music represents notions of identity, religion, and politics. By exploring diverse musical traditions in Latin America and the Caribbean, we will develop critical listening skills and redefine our broad conceptualizations of music.

Course Objectives

Upon the successful completion of this course, students will be able to:
1. Identify and discern musical characteristics typical to the traditions studied.
2. Understand the sociopolitical dynamics that shape these music practices
3. Think and listen critically through expressive cultures.

Please note: No textbook is required for the course. All readings and supplementary materials will be posted to Blackboard.

Grade breakdown:

(10%) Assistance and participation
(15%) Pop quizzes (4) (3.75% each)
(15%) Discussion or Observation Reports (5) (3 each)
(15%) Cd Review
(20%) Midterm exam
(25%) Final Exam

**CD Review**: This authoring project will require you to analyze an album that could be classified as “Latin American and/or Caribbean musics” from multiple perspectives. Specific instructions will be available via Blackboard.

**Discussion or Observation Reports (DOR)**: These reports/discussions will most frequently coordinate with the assigned reading and lecture material and in general will be one to two paragraphs in length. Students will be expected to complete each DOR by responding on Blackboard to questions posted under “DOR”.

**Midterm exam**:  
A multiple-choice exam covering the content of the listening, readings and lectures

**Final exam**:  
A non-accumulative multiple-choice exam covering the content of the listening, readings and lectures.

**Attendance and Participation**: Regular attendance is mandatory. Four unexcused absences will result in the lowering of the student’s final earned grade by one letter grade.

**Grading scale**
90-100 A  
80-89 B  
70-79 C  
60-69 D  
59-below F

**Grad students taking the course for grad credit**
Two more reading responses or DOR (total of 7) are required. Additionally, the final project (CD Review) should be more substantial in regard to research, overall development, and length (at least by 50%) than the guidelines stated above. Reach out to me for details.
Course policies
Attendance and Participation: Attendance and participation are key in this course. These items constitute an important portion of your final grade. Our point of departure will be the assigned materials (readings and listenings). You should read/watch/listen these before lecture. I expect you to come with questions, critiques, and insights to foster discussion.
LISTENING: Listen to the audio selections to be covered in class once or twice beforehand.
- Jot down your immediate reaction. How does it make you feel? Does the music remind you of anything? What might the music mean?
- Think about how the music “works”

Academic integrity: Academic dishonesty in the form of plagiarizing, cheating, etc. won’t be tolerated. UTEP takes these violations seriously and they could lead to academic and administrative sanctions. All suspected violations of academic integrity at The University of Texas at El Paso must be reported to the Office of Student Conduct and Conflict Resolution (OSCCR) for possible disciplinary action. To learn more visit HOOP: Student Conduct and Discipline.

Discussion guidelines and classroom etiquette: Discriminatory vocabulary/attitudes of any kind are not tolerated in my classroom. This is a safe space to discuss, debate, and disagree.
Contact and communication: Email and regular office hours, both included at the top of the syllabus, will be our main point of one-on-one communication. Feel free to reach out to me with question or suggestions via email, office hours, or after class. I do my best to reply to emails in a timely fashion. Note that I don’t check my work email during non-working hours. If you email me Friday night, I won’t see it until the next Monday.
Late assignments: Assignments should be handed-in on time. 5% of the grade will be deducted for each day late.

Student resources
Academic materials: UTEP’s Library is your primary source of information. Get familiar with its website and search engine. The website has several tutorial videos on how to find materials as well as contact information for staff that can advise/help you. Through the library site, you can access a wide range of databases. Be sure to be connected via VPN if you are doing so off-campus. This link offers a nice introduction to using the MinerQuest search engine.
Writing Center: The University Writing Center is a great resource. Students can submit papers here for assistance with writing style and formatting, ask a tutor for help, and explore other writing strategies.
Students with disabilities: Students requesting an accommodation based on a disability must register with the UTEP Center for Accommodations and Support Services (CASS). Contact the Center for Accommodations and Support Services at 915-747-5148, or email them at cass@utep.edu, or apply for accommodations online via the CASS portal. Students are advised to take care of this as soon as possible.

UTEP Food Pantry: Click here.
UTEP Counseling and Psychological Services: Click here.
UTEP Technology Support: Click here
Course schedule (subject to change)

Week 1

Tuesday, August 22 - Introduction to the course
- Review the syllabus and work schedule
- Why do we listen to music?

Thursday, August 24 – Latin America in the world
- Talking about music
- Popular music
- Classical music
- Traditional music
- Genre

Week 2

Tuesday, August 30 – Latin American Music and Identity: *Música Vallenata and La Costa (Colombia)*
- Race and ethnicity
- LISTEN: *Ivo Díaz* “Sin ti”
  *Alejo Durán* “La Mujer y la Primavera”
  *Carlos Vives* “La Tierra del Olvido”

Thursday, September 1 – Latin American Music and Identity: *The Marimba in Central America*
- The Marimba: Organology, instruments classification
- LISTEN: *Marimba Champilandia* “Los trece”

Week 3

Tuesday, September 6 – Latin American Music and Identity: *Afro-Peruvian music: (Re)Inventing a Tradition*
- LISTEN: *Nicomedes Santa Cruz and Cumanana*: “Samba Malat”
  *Chabuca Granda*: “Land”
  *Susana Baca*: “Maria Land”
- DOR #1 due Sunday, September 11th by 11:59pm
Thursday, September 8 - Latin American Music and Identity: *Mariachi, the Charro, and Mexican Identity*

- **LISTEN:** *Mariachi de México “La Negra”*
  - *Vicente Fernández “Volver volver”*
  - *Lila Downs “Paloma Negra”*

**Week 4**

Tuesday, September 13 – Latin American Music and Identity: *Salsa: Barrio music to the world*

- **WATCH:** Latin Music USA, Hour 2: The Salsa Revolution
- **LISTEN:** Pete Rodriguez: “I Like It Like That”
  - Willie Colón and Héctor Lavoe: “Juanito Alimaña”
  - Rubén Blades: “Plantación Adentro”

Thursday, September 15- Latin American Music and Identity: *Música Llanera and regionalism*

- **LISTEN:** Reynaldo Armas “El Indio”
  - Ana Veidó “El Día que abandoné el llano”
  - Ensamble Gurrufío “Quinta Anauco”

**Week 5**

Tuesday, September 20- Latin American Music and Identity: *Brazilian Samba and Las Favelas*

- **LISTEN:** Chiquinha Gonzaga “O Abre Alas”
  - João Gilberto “Aquarela do Brasil”
  - Carmen Miranda “Disseram Que Voltei Americanizada”
- **DOR #2** due on Sunday Sept 25th by 11:59
Thursday, September 22 – Latin American Music and Identity: *Merengue and Dominican (trans) nationalism*


- LISTEN: Bienvenido Brens “Apágame la Vela”
  Luis Alberti y su Orquesta Presidente Trujillo “Compadre Pedro Juan”
  Juan Luis Guerra “Visa para un Sueño”
  Proyecto Uno “Latinos”

**Week 6**

Tuesday, September 27 - Pan-African connections: *Picó and Champeta in the Colombian Caribbean*

- WATCH: “Picó: El Documental”
- LISTEN: Elio Boom: “El Gol”
  El Sayayin: “La Suegra Voladora”
  Charles King: “Bicarbonato” (live)

Thursday, September 29- Pan-African connections: *Calypso: English speaking Caribbean*

- WATCH: Calypso Dream Documentary Pt. 1
- LISTEN: Calypso Rose “Fire In Me Wire”
  Mighty Sparrow “No Money No Love”

**Week 7**

Tuesday, October 4 – Latin American Music through the Body: *Black Musical Traditions from Bahía*

- LISTEN: Pixinguinha et al “Pelo Telefone”

- DOR #3 due on Sunday October 9th by 11:59

Thursday, October 6 – Latin American Music through the Body: *Immigrant Culture in Argentina and Tango*

- READ: Kay Kaufmann Shelemay. “Dance Styles and Their Multiple Meanings, Case Study: Tango” in Soundscapes
- LISTEN: Por una Cabeza, Carlos Gardel
  Matos Rodriguez “La Cumparsita”
  Astor Piazzolla “Libertango”
Week 8
Tuesday, October 11 – Midterm Review

Thursday, October 13 – MIDTERM EXAM

Week 9
Tuesday, October 18 – Latin American Music through the Body: Beliefs, Borders and the Body: The Yaqui Deer Dance
- LISTEN: Yaqui Music of the Deer Dance

Thursday, October 20 – Latin American Music through the Body: Son Jarocho:
- WATCH IN CLASS: The Third Root Documentary

Week 10
Tuesday, October 25 – Latin American Music through the Body: Cumbia. Guest Dr. Juan David Rubio Restrepo
- LISTEN: TBD

Thursday, October 27 – Latin American Musics through the Body: Urban Musics: Reggaeton and Hip Hop
- LISTEN: El General: “Te Ves Buena”
  Tego Calderón: “Métele Sazón”
  Ivy Queen: “Yo Quiero Bailar”
  Daddy Yankee: “Gasolina”
  Luis Fonsi & Daddy Yankee feat. Justin Bieber: “Despacito”

Week 11 NO CLASS
- DOR #4 due on Sunday, November 6th by 11:59 PM

Week 12
Tuesday, November 8 – Latin American Musics and Politics: Music and Protest in Cuba
- READ: TBD
- LISTEN: Arr. by Martí/Seeger/Angulo “Guantanamera”
Silvio Rodríguez “La Canción del Elegido”

**Thursday, November 10 - Latin American Musics and Politics: *Rock, Dictatorship, and Resistance in Chile***
- **LISTEN:** Violeta Parra: “Porque Los Pobres No Tienen”
  Vitor Jara: “Plegaria a un Labrador”
  Los Prisioneros: “La Voz de los ‘80”

**Week 13**

**Tuesday, November 15 – Latin American Musics and Politics: *Rock Nacional***
- **WATCH:** TBD
- **LISTEN:** Serú Girán “Canción de Alicia en el País”
  Serú Girán “Los Sobrevivientes”

**Thursday, November 17 – Reggae: Music of Power and Resistance Pt. 1**


LISTEN: The Specials “Ghost Town”
The Skatalites “Dynamite”
Bob Marley “Get Up, Stand Up”

**Week 14**

**Tuesday, November 22 - Reggae: Music of Power and Resistance Pt. 2**

- **WATCH IN CLASS:** Dub Echoes Documentary
- **DOR #5** due November 27th by 11:59

**Thursday, November 24:** **NO CLASS- THANKSGIVING BREAK**

**Week 15**

**Tuesday, November 29- Themes in Latin American Musics**

- Analysis on *Latinoamérica* by Calle 13

**Thursday, December 1st – FINAL EXAM review**
## Week 16

### Tuesday December 6th- FINAL EXAM

### Course Summary:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Details</th>
<th>Due</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tue Sept 6, 2022</td>
<td>Assignment DOR #1</td>
<td>due Sunday, Sept 11 by 11:59pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tue Sept 20, 2022</td>
<td>Assignment DOR #2</td>
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<td>Th Oct 13, 2022</td>
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<td>Final Exam</td>
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