Music (MUSI)

Note: the majority of courses are open to non-Majors; students are advised to consult the Discipline. Priority is given to Music students.

MUSI 5000 [0.5 credit]

Music and Cultural Theory I: Intellectual Histories

Major intellectual trends relevant to cultural theory and their application to the study of music. Topics may include: Marxism and critical theory, anthropological and sociological theory, philosophical aesthetics, psychoanalysis, feminism and gender theory, post-colonial studies, and cultural studies.

Precludes additional credit for MUSI 5001 (no longer offered).

MUSI 5002 [0.5 credit]

Research Methods in Music and Culture

The research process, including the phases of conceptualization, gathering of sources, and writing up the completed research. Topics include: issues related to applying interdisciplinary methodologies to musical objects of study, conducting ethnographic research and writing for scholarly publications, conference presentations, and grant applications.

MUSI 5004 [0.5 credit]

Music and Cultural Theory II: Current Debates

Selected debates within contemporary theory and culture and their relevance to music. The focus will be on a limited range of debates and issues selected by the instructor for in-depth discussion and analysis. Topics will vary from year to year.

Prerequisite(s): MUSI 5000 or permission of the School.

MUSI 5006 [0.5 credit]

Music and Identity

Music as a medium for the construction and maintenance of cultural identities, including the relationship between music and traditional cultures, geography, the nation state, urban subcultures, gender and sexuality, race, class, and ethnicity.

MUSI 5007 [0.5 credit] Music and Visual Culture

The relationships between musical and visual cultures, including traditional arts, fine art painting, film, television, and digital gaming and interactive media, and the ways in which meanings are dependent upon the various connections between them.

MUSI 5008 [0.5 credit]

Technologies of Music

The role that technologies, including musical instruments, notation, sound recording, and digital media, play in the concepts and practices associated with music. Topics include: technology as material culture, technology and musical practices, and the increasing importance of technology in contemporary music and culture.

MUSI 5009 [0.5 credit] Music, Meaning and Representation

Theories of meaning and representation as applied to music. Major source traditions and critiques to be considered include: semiotics and structuralism, analytic philosophy, formalism, cognitive theory, and poststructuralism.

MUSI 5010 [0.5 credit] History of Genres

Theories of genre, including theories derived from literary theory and film studies, and their application to the history of music. Topics may include relationships between genre and musical style, production and reception, social contexts, markets, and the legitimization and organization of knowledge.

MUSI 5011 [0.5 credit] Music and Social Institutions

Historical relationships between music and society, including that of Western art music to sacred and secular institutions; the rise of the cultural industries (sound recording, radio and film); the relationship of science, the arts, and the academy; and state policies of arts funding and multiculturalism.

MUSI 5013 [0.5 credit] Music and Performance

Music as a form of social practice rooted in traditions of performance. The variable, multimodal character of music as understood through theories of performance and gesture drawn from the histories and literatures of music, theatre, and dance (in art, popular, and non-Western forms).

MUSI 5014 [0.5 credit]

History of Canadian Music: Notated and Liturgical Music

Selected aspects of notated Canadian music from 1600 to the present; liturgical music; social and economic conditions of Canadian musical life; regional studies; individual composers and performers.

Precludes additional credit for MUSI 5100 (no longer offered).

MUSI 5015 [0.5 credit]

Ethnomusicology of Canadian Traditions

Issues of anthropological, sociological, and analytical significance are examined in the context of selected developments in folklore and ethnomusicological research on Canadian traditions.

Precludes additional credit for MUSI 5101 (no longer offered).

Also offered at the undergraduate level, with different requirements, as MUSI 4103, for which additional credit is precluded.

MUSI 5016 [0.5 credit] Music of Canada's First Peoples

The context and significance of musical expressions of selected Canadian Aboriginal groups and the contributions of individuals in the creation of music and meaning in First Peoples' communities.

Precludes additional credit for MUSI 5102 (no longer offered).

Also offered at the undergraduate level, with different requirements, as MUSI 4104, for which additional credit is precluded.

MUSI 5017 [0.5 credit]

Music and Globalization

This course examines music's role in the multifaceted and complex processes of globalization. Drawing on case studies of "world musics" this course explores how sound and music negotiate histories of post/colonialism, cultural and economic imperialism, and constructions of sameness and difference in "world music" contexts.

MUSI 5018 [0.5 credit]

Music and Social Justice

This course explores the varied roles that music has played—and continues to play—as an agent of positive social change, offering students innovative opportunities to reflect/act on the relationships between music and human rights and to forge connections between academic work and struggles for social justice.

MUSI 5200 [0.5 credit]

Special Topics in Music and Cultural Theory

Selected topics focusing on aspects of music and cultural theory not available in regular program offerings. Topic will vary from year to year.

MUSI 5201 [0.5 credit] Special Topics in Music Genres

Selected topics focusing on specific genres of music not available in regular program offerings. Topic will vary from year to year.

MUSI 5300 [0.5 credit] Practicum in Music

Academically informed practical experience in musicspecific projects such as music recording, librarianship, concert management, research, multimedia creation at local institutions. A maximum of 1.0 credit of practicum may be used in fulfilment of M.A. requirements. Prerequisite(s): permission of the School.

MUSI 5400 [0.5 credit] Advanced Studies in Performance

Advanced study for voice or instrument in classical, traditional or popular idioms. The course requires a lecture-recital arranged in consultation with the Graduate Supervisor and the Supervisor of Performance Studies. This course is non-repeatable.

Prerequisite(s): Proposal, audition, enrolment in the MA program and permission of the Graduate Supervisor and Supervisor of Performance Studies.

Individual instruction on a bi-weekly basis. 0.5 credit for full year course.

MUSI 5401 [0.5 credit]

Advanced Studies in Composition

Advanced study in composition in classical, jazz or popular idioms. The student will be required to assemble a portfolio of work as a final project for the course. This course is non-repeatable.

Prerequisite(s): Proposal, portfolio of compositions, enrolment in the MA program, and permission of the Graduate Supervisor.

Individual instruction on a bi-weekly basis. 0.5 credit for a full year course.

MUSI 5900 [0.5 credit]

Directed Readings and Research

Course designed to permit students to pursue research on topics in music and culture chosen in consultation with a member of the faculty. A maximum of 1.0 credit of directed studies may be used in fulfilment of M.A. requirements. Prerequisite(s): permission of the School.

MUSI 5908 [1.0 credit] Research Essay

MUSI 5909 [2.0 credits] M.A. Thesis