

The University of Calgary
Faculty of Arts
School of Creative and Performing Arts
Music

MUSI 308: Topics in Musical Culture
Music in Canada

COURSE OUTLINE

Winter 2021

ONLINE COURSE: Synchronous Zoom Lectures

MWF 13:00 – 13:50

Instructor

Prof. Allan Bell
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Graduate Assistant

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There will be no scheduled Office Hours. Students should direct all questions to the instructor, via their UC email.

Description

Survey of music in Canada from pre-European contact to the present, with an emphasis on the effect of geography and culture upon creation, performance, and reception.

Outcomes

Students will gain a broad understanding of the rich variety of musical activity that has occurred throughout the geographical region now called Canada including that of Indigenous peoples, the early French and British settlers, and later settlers from the Americas, Europe, Asia and Africa. Students will gain an understanding of the ways in which geographical features (landscape/soundscape) and cultural practices (spiritual beliefs, livelihood, community organization) have led to the creation and performance of a significant tradition of popular and refined music. Students will also gain an understanding of the effect of governmental, cultural and artistic institutions (education, presenting organizations, venues, funding agencies) upon the development of music in Canada. Students will gain an understanding of how colonialism has affected both Indigenous and settler musical expression and what decolonizing strategies might affect the music of the future.

Activities

Lectures, class discussions, listening tests, research papers, playlist creation

Learning Technologies and Requirements for this ONLINE course

There is a D2L site for this course which contains required readings and other relevant class resources and materials (see d2L.ucalgary.ca).

In order to successfully engage in their learning experiences at the University of Calgary, students taking online, remote and blended courses are required to have reliable access to the following technology:

- A computer with a supported operating system, as well as the latest security, and malware updates;
- A current and updated web browser;
- Webcam (built-in or external);
- Microphone and speaker (built-in or external) or headset with microphone;
- Current antivirus and/or firewall software enabled;
- Broadband internet connection.

Most current laptops will have a built-in webcam, speaker and microphone.

Listening

A complete understanding in any music course can only be accomplished through careful listening, giving complete attention to the sound. Music always becomes more familiar with repeated listening.

In addition to the technical requirements listed above, students should also download a copy of **Spotify** (free from: spotify.com > download). The instructor will create a playlist containing the pieces that are played in class as well as additional examples. The instructor will also provide an additional playlist for preparation for the Listening Tests.

Because the music will be streamed, students should listen to the music in class through a good headset or ear-buds rather than through the computer speakers. When listening to the Spotify playlists, students should use the laptop version rather than the smartphone version, because the latter behaves in an idiosyncratic manner.

Recordings

- **Course Spotify Playlist Music in Canada 2021** put the following URL in the Spotify search engine: [spotify:playlist:6yWs4KCEUC6zJlJn9mAp18](https://open.spotify.com/playlist/6yWs4KCEUC6zJlJn9mAp18)
- **Canadian Music Centre** <https://cmccanada.org> for archival recordings of performance of Canadian music (concert and jazz) on Centrestreams (select Music Library menu)
- **Smithsonian Folkways Recordings** <https://folkways.si.edu> for settler (folk and traditional) and early Indigenous music

Text

Keillor, *Music in Canada*

Additional Resources

- Canadian Music Centre <https://cmccanada.org> for biographical (composers) and repertoire information (select Music Library menu > Browse composers)
- The Canadian Encyclopedia <https://www.thecanadianencyclopedia.ca/en>

Assessment

Listening tests	(4 @ 10%)	40%
Projects		60%
Research papers	(2@20%)	
Playlist & Paper	(20%)	

The projects (research papers and the playlist/paper) will be graded under the following conditions:

- Submitted early (prior to 4:00 pm on the day before the due date) - as marked **plus** half a grade point (eg. B to B+)
- Submitted on time (prior to 6:00 pm on the due date) - as marked
- Contact the instructor **in advance** of the deadline if there is a need for an extension, which will be granted for compellingly valid reasons (health, etc). Otherwise, the instructor will not grade a late project.

Listening Tests

One week in advance of each test, students will receive a Listening List with a URL to a Spotify playlist. In preparation for the test, students should listen to the music as many times as it takes to be able to identify the piece, the composer or performer (as appropriate), some musical features (instrument, tempo, etc, all of which will be discussed in class) and then provide some comments about the state of being that the piece evokes and about the context (historic, cultural) of the piece.

Projects

Both of the Research Papers will discuss a piece of music, a musician (composer, performer), an instrument or a performing group or organization (ensemble, concert society) through the critical lens of the two primary themes for the course (land & cultures) as well as any appropriate secondary themes introduced in the lectures. The appendices in the text are a good source for topics. The text itself introduces many people without providing substantial details, yet each may prove worthy of further exploration and criticism. Consult with the instructor if you are uncertain.

Pieces that are discussed in class or that appear on the Spotify playlists for the course may not be used in any of the projects. However, a different work by the same composer/performer would be completely acceptable.

The Research Papers will be three-pages (12 pt font, 1.5 spacing) of clear prose, with bibliographic references as an addendum. The Playlist & Paper will comprise a Spotify URL to the selected recordings and a two-page paper, as above.

Research Paper 1: Pre-contact to pre-Confederation (1866) – the paper will focus on one of the following – indigenous music, folk music, or refined music

Research Paper 2: Confederation (1867) to Centennial (1967) – the paper will focus on popular music or refined music chosen from Appendix J of the text

Playlist & Paper: Contemporary music (1980 to the present): Students will provide a Spotify Playlist (URL) that contains five pieces of music in each of the following categories:

- Refined (Settler and/or Indigenous)
- Popular (Indigenous)
- Popular (Settler)

The paper will introduce the reader to these pieces and explain why they are important. The paper will also explain why the pieces belong together – how they are thematically connected.

All projects will be submitted as .pdf files (Surname_Title.pdf) to the Dropbox in the D2L for the course.

Clear prose is well-organized, so that the writer presents ideas in such a manner that the reader can easily follow the reasoning. Clear prose is free of typographical, orthographical, and grammatical errors.

Dates

February 5	Listening Test 1
February 12	Research Paper 1
March 5	Listening Test 2
March 19	Research Paper 2
March 26	Listening Test 3
April 9	Playlist & Paper
April 14	Listening Test 4

Grading

Grade	Grade Point Value	Description
A+	4.00	Outstanding performance
A	4.00	Excellent performance
A-	3.70	Approaching excellent performance
B+	3.30	Exceeding good performance
B	3.00	Good performance
B-	2.70	Approaching good performance
C+	2.30	Exceeding satisfactory performance
C	2.00	Satisfactory performance
C-	1.70	Approaching satisfactory performance.
D+	1.30	Marginal pass. Insufficient preparation for subsequent courses in the same subject
D	1.00	Minimal Pass. Insufficient preparation for subsequent courses in the same subject.
F	0.00	Failure. Did not meet course requirements. Several Faculties utilize an F grade that does not carry weight in calculating the grade point average. This will be noted in the calendar description as "Not Included in GPA" where applicable.
I	0.00	Incomplete. Sufficient work has not been submitted for evaluation, unable to adequately assess. May also be used when a final exam is not submitted.
CR		Completed Requirements. Carries no weight in calculating the grade point average. This will be noted in the calendar description as "Not Included in GPA" where applicable

Guidelines for Zoom Sessions

Zoom is a video conferencing program that will allow us to meet at specific times for a “live” video conference, so that we can have the opportunity to meet each other virtually and discuss relevant course topics as a learning community.

To help ensure Zoom sessions are private, do not share the Zoom link or password with others, or on any social media platforms. Zoom links and passwords are only intended for students registered in the course. Zoom recordings and materials presented in Zoom, including any teaching materials, must not be shared, distributed or published without the instructor’s permission.

The use of video conferencing programs relies on participants to act ethically, honestly and with integrity; and in accordance with the principles of fairness, good faith, and respect (as per the [Code of Conduct](#)). When entering Zoom or other video conferencing sessions (such as MS Teams), you play a role in helping create an effective, safe and respectful learning environment. Please be mindful of how your behaviour in these sessions may affect others. Participants are required to use names officially associated with their UCID (legal or preferred names listed in the Student Centre) when engaging in these activities. Instructors/moderators can remove those whose names do not appear on class rosters. Non-compliance may be investigated under relevant University of Calgary conduct policies (e.g. [Student Non-Academic Misconduct Policy](#)). If participants have difficulties complying with this requirement, they should email the instructor of the class explaining why, so the instructor may consider whether to grant an exception, and on what terms. For more information on how to get the most out of your zoom sessions visit: <https://elearn.ucalgary.ca/guidelines-for-zoom/>.

If you are unable to attend a Zoom session, please contact your instructor to arrange an alternative activity for the missed session (e.g., to review a recorded session). Please be prepared, as best as you are able, to join class in a quiet space that will allow you to be fully present and engaged in Zoom sessions. Students will be advised by their instructor when they are expected to turn on their webcam (for group work, presentations, etc.).

The instructor may record online Zoom class sessions for the purposes of supporting student learning in this class – such as making the recording available for review of the session or for students who miss a session. Students will be advised before the instructor initiates a recording of a Zoom session. These recordings will be used to support student learning only and will not be shared or used for any other purpose.

<p>Academic Accommodation</p>	<p>It is the student's responsibility to request academic accommodations according to the University policies and procedures listed below. The Student Accommodations policy is available at https://ucalgary.ca/student-services/access/prospective-students/academic-accommodations. Students needing an accommodation based on disability or medical concerns should contact Student Accessibility Services (SAS) in accordance with the Procedure for Accommodations for Students with Disabilities (https://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/procedure-for-accommodations-for-students-with-disabilities.pdf). Students who require an accommodation in relation to their coursework based on a protected ground other than Disability should communicate this need in writing to their Instructor.</p> <p>SAS will process the request and issue letters of accommodation to instructors. For additional information on support services and accommodations for students with disabilities, visit www.ucalgary.ca/access/ .</p>
<p>Academic integrity, plagiarism</p>	<p>Academic Misconduct refers to student behavior which compromises proper assessment of a student's academic activities and includes: cheating; fabrication; falsification; plagiarism; unauthorized assistance; failure to comply with an instructor's expectations regarding conduct required of students completing academic assessments in their courses; and failure to comply with exam regulations applied by the Registrar.</p> <p>For information on the Student Academic Misconduct Policy and Procedure please visit: https://ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/student-academic-misconduct-policy.pdf and https://ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/student-academic-misconduct-procedure.pdf. Additional information is available on the Academic Integrity Website at https://ucalgary.ca/student-services/student-success/learning/academic-integrity.</p>
<p>Internet and electronic communication device</p>	<p>The use of laptop and mobile devices is acceptable when used in a manner appropriate to the course and classroom activities. Please refrain from accessing websites and resources that may be distracting to you or for other learners during class time. Students are responsible for being aware of the University's Internet and email use policy, which can be found at https://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/electronic-communications-policy.pdf</p>
<p>Intellectual Property</p>	<p>Course materials created by instructors (including presentations and posted notes, labs, case studies, assignments and exams) remain the intellectual property of the instructor. These materials may NOT be reproduced, redistributed or copied without the explicit consent of the instructor. The posting of course materials to third party websites such as note-sharing sites without permission is prohibited. Sharing of extracts of these course</p>

	materials with other students enrolled in the course at the same time may be allowed under fair dealing.
Copyright	All students are required to read the University of Calgary policy on Acceptable Use of Material Protected by Copyright (www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/acceptable-use-of-material-protected-by-copyright.pdf) and requirements of the copyright act (https://laws-lois.justice.gc.ca/eng/acts/C-42/index.html) to ensure they are aware of the consequences of unauthorised sharing of course materials (including instructor notes, electronic versions of textbooks etc.). Students who use material protected by copyright in violation of this policy may be disciplined under the Non-Academic Misconduct Policy https://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k.html .
Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy	Student information will be collected in accordance with typical (or usual) classroom practice. Students' assignments will be accessible only by the authorized course faculty. Private information related to the individual student is treated with the utmost regard by the faculty at the University of Calgary.
Student Support	Please visit this link for important information on UCalgary's student wellness and safety resources: https://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/registration/course-outlines