

School of Music Ethnomusicology Course Proposal

Course Title and Description MU830- Contemplating Ethnomusicology 4 cr.

This graduate seminar is required for graduate students in Ethnomusicology. This course will involve in-depth reading and discussion of key areas of scholarship: music and politics, music and gender, music and religion, music and identity, and other useful paradigms. This course will broaden and deepen the intellectual horizons of graduate students in ethnomusicology and other interested graduate students. Ethnomusicology graduate students will often take this graduate seminar in their third semester, but it could also be taken earlier.

Background and Rationale

The new graduate program in Ethnomusicology will require three graduate seminars in ethnomusicology (MU828, 829, and 830) and Directed Thesis Research (MU921). This program will also require two semesters of World Music Ensemble (MU567). Additional courses will be taken in related subjects. Through in-depth reading and critical discussion students will gain a much deeper knowledge of ethnomusicological scholarship. Moving beyond ethnographies to a wide range of publications, students will critique diverse paradigms that have guided publications in this discipline. Music is often related to other disciplines of thought and students need to recognize the usefulness and complexity of these interrelations.

Grading and Class Size

Enrollments are projected to be around ten to fifteen students. The student enrollment for this seminar will be capped at 15. Grading will be based on extensive weekly readings, class discussion, regular class presentations, written assignments, and a final research paper and presentation.

Staffing

Taught by existing staff [In Fall 2008- Associate Professor Brita Heimarck will teach this course.]

Facilities and Equipment

Ideally this course will be taught in a seminar room that has a large seminar table and audiovisual equipment installed in the room.