

MUSI 404: Film Music: An Introduction to Music, Media, & the Moving Image Fall 2023

Room: PCAC, M-223

Times: Tues-Thurs 11:10 am–12:30 pm

Office: PCAC Room M-202

Office hours: In person, Tuesdays, 12:35-1:10, Thursdays, 5:15–6:15 PM,; via Zoom Wednesdays, 11:00 AM–12:00 PM or virtually by appointment as arranged with the instructor on M-W-F.

Instructor: Professor Pruiksmas

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Course Description:

Through selected readings, attentive listening and viewing, writing assignments (both analytical and interpretive), and discussion of a variety of films and multi-media productions, students develop and use a common vocabulary for analyzing music accompanying moving images. Students develop an understanding of the western and non-western musical conventions that work, often at a subconscious level, in conjunction with images to shape and cue audience responses to, and interaction with, visual cues. Media include canonic Hollywood films, independent and foreign cinema, with explorations of non-Western films, television, animation, and video game scores.

Attributes: This course is part of the [UNH Discovery Program](#) and it fulfills **Discovery in Fine & Performing Arts** (FPA).

From the Discovery Program Page:

General

The Discovery Program provides the intellectual framework for students in any major. It represents the faculty's collective belief in what constitutes and contributes to essential knowledge of the world. Together, students and faculty attempt to understand fully and use ethically that knowledge, both in the present and as a reservoir from which to draw in the future. These intellectual skills, knowledge, and ethical grounding will help prepare students to contribute to the creation of a more sustainable, healthy, just, and prosperous world."

Fine & Performing Arts

The arts communicate through the intellect, the emotions, and the body, sometimes all at once, in ways simple and subtle, direct and subliminal, gentle and soul shaking. Understanding and appreciating the arts enriches our lives and preserves our cultural heritage for the future.

- As a Fine & Performing Arts Discovery course with a music and moving image focus, the content will facilitate students as they develop an understanding and appreciation of the ways music works in general and how it works with moving images to convey a variety of types of non-verbal information to film viewers and gamers in visual narrative contexts.

Course Learning Outcomes:

Upon completion of this course students will be able to

- Identify, explain, and apply new terms and concepts related to music in order to develop a common vocabulary for discussing music in analytical terms (based entirely upon aural perceptions—no ability to read music is expected or required to succeed in this class, nor is any prior experience with studying music necessary—just a willingness to learn, ask questions, and persist).
 - Students will practice using and aurally recognizing that vocabulary on elements of music modules and quizzes, in-class discussion, in-class assignments, and the midterm and final exam assignments, gaining mastery of this vocabulary by using it regularly.
- Recognize and apply some basic film vocabulary to go along with musical vocabulary and practice using that vocabulary on in-class discussion & assignments, and the midterm and final exam take-home assignments.
- Explain and analyze musical cues as they work with images and actions in multi-media productions (film, television, video games, advertising).
 - Students will build these skills through in-class discussions and informal responses, audio-viewing assignments, and in the midterm analysis exercise.
- Compare, critique, and analyze music in media through close listening and viewing.
 - Guided in-class work will facilitate students' development of these skills and modes of thinking, and the midterm and final exam exercises will assess mastery.

- Apply strategies for observing, analyzing and articulating the relationships between sounds and images in the media we study and critique multi-media that they encounter in the course of their every-day experiences.
- Identify and evaluate musical conventions, film music topics, and film music tropes as they have been developed and used in film music and their role alongside visuals in generating powerful, if subconscious, responses in the viewer/listener.
 - Students will learn and practice doing this through in-class work, readings, discussions, and will apply this in the final exam exercise.
- Observe and evaluate how filmmakers, composers, and musical directors rely on, subvert, invent, and reinterpret film music conventions.
 - Students will practice doing this through in-class exercises, guided audio-viewing, and responses and in the final exam exercise.
- Explain Mark Slobin’s application of “superculture”—in particular Hollywood superculture—vernacular music and ethnomusicology and film subcultures, and apply and use these concepts as an intellectual framework for understanding and discussing the power of cultural norms that are transmitted in audiovisual media.
- Identify and critique some of the assumptions that go along with living and operating within the Hollywood superculture as developed by the Hollywood studio structure already in the 1930s, and the ways musical elements of that structure have retained their ability to communicate broad cultural assumptions even today, and the response of subcultural and non-Hollywood filmmakers to these conventions.
 - Students will explore and apply these ideas through in-class reflections and exercises and through assigned reading and viewing.

The readings, films, soundtracks and topics and the various in-class assignments, and take-home exam exercises are intended to give you space to try out new ideas and exercise analytical and observational skills along the way, so that you deepen your ability to pay close attention to things that might otherwise register only on a subconscious level, and to analyze and interpret the intended and unintended interactions of audio and visual content in both familiar and unfamiliar materials and media.

Time Commitment:

To succeed in this class, students will need to work consistently throughout the semester, taking time to work through the *Elements of Music* modules, regularly attending class and actively participating in class, coming to office hours, and asking questions and getting additional help as needed in learning new concepts and terminology. In addition, students will get the most out of the class and achieve course learning goals most effectively by doing the regular reading assignments before class (number of pages will range from 10–25 pages per class), assigned audio viewing, and listening to any associated sound clips.

This is a 4-credit class in a 15-week semester (14 weeks of instruction plus one week of Spring Break). Consistent with UNH’s credit hour policy and Federal guidelines, **for each credit hour**, the university requires at a minimum, the equivalent of **three hours of engaged time each week** (4 x 3=12 hours). This time includes our regularly scheduled course meetings, assignments (reading, viewing, listening, elements of music modules), formative assessments, and the midterm and final take-home assignments, and coming to office hours. Note that this means an average of **9 hours outside of class per week** of the semester as a minimum requirement. You should aim for averaging about **4-5 hours** of time outside of class per week, which should give you ample time to read, listen to, and view assigned materials and complete all work to be submitted. This is an estimate. I expect that some of you may need to put in more time while others complete the work in less time, as each of us processes and assimilates information at different paces. All assignments have been created with this workload in mind Student work reflects intended learning outcomes and is verified through evidence of student achievement. For more information, please see:

[From the Provost’s webpage, section 6.10:](#)

The University of New Hampshire is in compliance with the federal definition of credit hour. **For each credit hour, the University requires, at a minimum, the equivalent of three hours of student academic work each week.** Academic work includes, but is not limited to, direct faculty instruction, e-learning, recitation, laboratory work, studio work, field work, performance, internships, and practica. Additional academic activities include, but are not limited to, readings, reflections, essays, reports, inquiry, problem solving, rehearsal, collaborations, theses, and electronic interactions. Student work reflects intended learning outcomes and is verified through evidence of student achievement.

Class Recording

Except for reasons of accommodation as approved and negotiated with the instructor, recording of class is not allowed. Should we switch instruction modalities, this policy is subject to change.

Plan for Fall 2023 Semester

The overall instructional plan will remain the same across the semester with three exceptions as described below:

- *Two weekly in-person class meetings* on **Tuesdays and Thursdays from 11:10–12:30 pm**, in the PCAC, room M-223. Students may mask or not as they are comfortable, unless COVID numbers on campus rise and the University policy changes, in which case, we may need to return to masking; students will otherwise follow all COVID protocols for the good of the whole community, including testing as needed and isolating if ill.

Documented absences due to COVID isolation will be treated as excused absences. In the case of illness or COVID isolation, students may attend class via Zoom if they email me **before 9:00 AM** on the day of class so that I can set up and send them a Zoom link.

Exceptions:

- **October 19** no class, as I will be away for an academic conference.
- On **November 7** UNH classes will follow a **Friday** schedule.
- We **will have class on November 21**, but not on **November 23 (Thanksgiving)**
- Any inclement weather that prevents me (or you) from safely driving to campus will be treated as a synchronous Zoom class (presuming no power or internet outages, in which case, I will make up the material via additional recorded instructional video segments that I will post on Canvas, as soon as conditions allow.)
- In-class individual & small-group work, including real-time analysis of select scenes & discussion, and exit tickets and other reflective responses.
- Regular reading and audio-viewing assignments for which you are responsible.
- Three in-class responses to the three required films that you will watch outside of class, and an introductory discussion board post, two reflective responses (these can be done as a short video or audio recording or as written text), and the Elements of Music modules, and regular formative assessments (short online quizzes). These formative assessments will cover material from the assigned readings and materials from class presentation and discussion.
- Two summative assessments to be done outside of class time and submitted electronically.

Required Materials and Resources

Textbook, Readings & Materials: Kathryn Kalinak, *Film Music: A very short introduction* (Oxford University Press, 2010). This text is available via the Dimond Library as an electronic text; either via our course reserve list, where there is a direct link, or if you search by keyword “film music” via the UNH library, [this link](#) will take you to the catalog entry, which has a link directly to the e-book. If you are on campus, you should have open access. If you are off-campus, you should be prompted to log in with your UNH username and password.

All other assigned readings will be posted online, either as live links to journal articles via JSTOR, pdf copies of essays, or live links to on-line journal articles. For those who prefer books that you can hold in your hand, this book is also available at the Durham Book Exchange and campus bookstore.

Three Required Films: While we will not view complete films during class time, you will be expected, as part of your homework, to watch the following three complete films as directed by the dates indicated over the course of the semester, and you should expect to block out time to do this via a streaming media service such as Amazon or YouTube as most are available for a small rental fee for instant streaming (GooglePlay, itunes, YouTube or Amazon for \$3.99 per film). All films are also on reserve on DVD in the Dimond Library, if you are on campus, and the library is open, and you have access to a DVD player.

This service helps you find where you can stream movies, although the information is not always up-to-date <https://www.justwatch.com/> . You do not need to sign up to search films and follow links.

1. *Vertigo* (1958) to be viewed by **Tuesday 10/10/23**, is available via streaming rental via a variety of sources.

2. *Selma* (2014), to be viewed by **Thursday 11/02/23**, will be available via the UNH library website for streaming (see Course Reserves, Multi-Media for the link—if you choose to watch this while you are off campus, you will be asked to log in to the library proxy server); and
3. *Gully Boy* (2019) to be viewed by **Thursday 11/21/23** (streaming on Amazon Prime and, also streaming rental from YouTube, GooglePlay, and AppleTV).

You will need a computer, or access to a computer, that meets the requirements for using [Kaltura](#) (note that Kaltura does not work reliably on Safari, & requires allowing “cookies”), and Canvas. The IOS and Android interface with Canvas does not always show feedback for grading (rubrics or comments) and often does not reliably play clips from Kaltura).

Canvas is the primary means of delivery of assigned listening and assigned readings. It is also the primary means of communication for the class, as well as the place where you will submit all work, and find additional materials supplementing the lectures. It is vital that you check it regularly. **It is also vital that you check your UNH / Canvas email** regularly, as this, along with Canvas, is the primary means of communication in this course. It is **your** responsibility to check your email and to pay attention to the course notifications, to read the weekly announcements and to use the course calendar for due dates and deadlines. Remember that ***you*** are the only one who can control what shows up in your notifications. There is no control on the instructor’s side for what notifications Canvas chooses to send or not send.

The course material is all organized into Modules by Week on Canvas (at the beginning of the semester, a single week may have two modules, but they are all clearly labeled by Week.)

Expectations:

Our in-person classes will include presentation of new material informed by the assigned reading, viewing of film clips, listening to sound, in-class analytical and reflective exercises, sometimes done individually, and sometimes done in small groups. Your active engagement is vital aspect of the learning process and our classroom learning community.

We will not be screening whole films in class, although you will be expected to watch three complete films on your own, as described below. For the films we will be studying, only short clips will be posted on our course website, but all of the films for this class are available on DVD on reserve in the Dimond Library (ask at the front desk), except for *Gully Boy*, which is only available here via AmazonPrime. It is included with Prime, and also available for rental. DVDs can be played on library equipment.

Our classroom is a space of safe encounter with each other, and in keeping with a respectful environment that allows for open and honest discussion, I will listen to you, and I expect that you will listen to me and to each other. I want you to feel free to ask questions and also to respond to questions that I pose in class. If you are someone who is anxious about talking in class, please let me know in advance and I will not call on you. My goal is to have as many students as possible participating actively in classroom discussion, and I will provide multiple opportunities for this, including some think-pair-share activities and small group work, so that if you do not want to speak yourself, your ideas can still end up in the general discussion. I do not expect that we will all agree and have the same interpretations of either the film scenes we work with or the reading; the goal is not that we always agree, but that we always listen with openness and respect, accepting differences in each other’s perspectives and ideas.

Assignments:

Independent Work:

Reading, Audio-viewing & Listening: Assigned reading from the Kalinak book at the beginning of the semester, and other materials as posted on Canvas (usually as pdfs or live links) and the accompanying listening and film clips (available via course website) are a vital part of this class, allowing you to fill in some of the background needed to gain the most benefit from lecture and to contribute to class discussion. You should plan enough time to read the assigned chapters and articles for understanding (this may involve an initial skimming and then a deeper reading process), and the questions you answer in the online accountability exercises will give you a chance to synthesize the material and gain greater understanding of the concepts and ideas presented in the readings and discussed in class.

Note that there is **nothing to submit** for the individual **Reading & Audio-viewing/Listening assignments**; these will benefit you by providing context, information, and vocabulary that we will use in the

class presentations and discussions, and they will impact your ability to complete the midterm and final assignments well.

You should also make sure to plan time for watching, on your own, the three films (*as described above*) that I am asking you to watch in full this semester, via a streaming service. Most of the films I will be asking you to watch in full before class are also available via streaming media for a small rental fee —usually \$3.99.

Elements of Music Modules /Quizzes, 5% of the final grade—these are clustered in the first three weeks of class. For each of these quizzes, you work through the given module and then take the quizzes as they come. I have provided multiple attempts, and while it is possible to game the system, the intent is that, if at first you do not succeed on identifying a concept, you may review the module content and then retake the quiz. If you run out of attempts, you may ask for more. It is my goal that you use these quizzes to become more comfortable and confident in your ability to both understand and aurally recognize the basic elements of music (Quality, Pitch, Duration, & Texture) and apply the terms under each category correctly in real time to different excerpts of film music.

Individual Reflective Responses & In-Class Reflective responses to three required films (15% of the final grade): There will be about 5 such assignments over the semester. These include a brief introduction to yourself on the course discussion board, a metacognitive reflection on your learning (submitted via Canvas) and on-paper **Individual In-class Reflective Responses** to each of the three films you are asked to watch in full to be submitted in person during class time.

For each film, guiding questions — things to watch and listen for— will be provided in advance of your viewing. At the beginning of the class for which the film is assigned, students will be given 15 minutes to respond to one to three brief questions or prompts provided by the instructor that will draw from the guiding questions provided on the viewing assignment. These three films are *Vertigo* (1958) for **10/10/23**, *Selma* (2014) for **11/02/23**, and *Gully Boy* (2019) **11/21/23**.

Formative Assessments / Practice Quizzes (10%): Online practice quizzes that give students the opportunity to practice applying concepts from the weeks' material. These will open up Thursdays after class starting in Week 3 (once you've completed the elements of music modules), and they will provide low-stakes opportunities to interact with the materials and get immediate feedback & there will be 6–10 of these across the semester..

Submitting Independent work: Elements of Music Modules, your discussion board Introduction, your Metacognitive Reflection on learning, and Formative and Summative (Midterm & Final) assessments will be submitted electronically via our course website, using the “assignments,” “discussion board,” or “quiz” functions of Canvas. Specific directions are posted on the individual assignments. For all writing, I expect you to submit college-level, polished, prose, free of grammatical errors and typos, clearly written, with solidly structured paragraphs with topic sentences, logical flow from one idea to the next, and supporting detail. In all contexts, you should use quotation from other sources sparingly, and always explain and elaborate on any quotation in your own words, giving credit to your sources. Grading guidelines and expectations are included on Canvas as part of the specific assignment directions and in the attached assignment rubrics.

Summative Assessments:

1. The take-home **Midterm** assignment (**20% of your final grade**), a close, detailed audio-visual analysis of a selected two-minute clip, as given and described with detailed directions on Canvas, is due by **23:59 on Saturday October 21, 2023**. The grading **rubric** is attached to the assignment and its directions and you should read through to make sure you understand how points are assigned and what elements are expected (these match up with the directions). You may work in **pairs** on this assignment, in which case, you will need to analyze one more minute of the clip (3 minutes rather than 2), as specified on the assignment, and, **after putting yourself in a Midterm Analysis group**, you should **submit one assignment for your group of two**, and **you must each submit an individual statement regarding your working process and division of labor**. It's fine if you each put your statement at the very end of your joint submission. If you choose to work with a partner, this means you are committing to work *together* and share ideas and discuss what you see and hear as you assemble your detailed account of the film clip you've chosen. Dividing the clip in half and having one person do one half and the other do the other half is not an acceptable division of labor, and generally results in lower scores for both students, since you effectively worked separately rather than together. The goal of collaboration is that you will work together and share your different perspectives and discuss what you are observing which usually results in a stronger final product.

2. The take-home **Final Exam** exercise (**25% of your final grade**) involves working from a set of given clips and the concept of film music Topics and Tropes. You may work **in pairs** on this assignment. **Read all directions on Canvas** carefully for a full description of this assignment and **read the grading rubric**. This assignment will be due by **23:59 on the scheduled date for our final exam, Wednesday December 13, 2023**.

In-Class Active Learning & Engagement (25%):

Engagement & Active Learning: As a member of this class, you are signing up to be part of a learning community and your questions, comments, perspectives, and active engagement will form an important part of our collective learning and conversation around film music. We will practice applying concepts to film clips, discussing and analyzing clips, working with ideas & there will be some in-class small group & think-pair-share work as well. This will most often be assessed based on either the students' contributions to their shared physical paper (scribed by a designated group member) or via a shared Google.doc (each student in a group should make sure their name is included on the document or on the scribe's paper submission) that gives some sense of your discussion. If you are routinely engaging with your cell phone, or other distracting behavior, you can expect to receive a lower score.

Grading Weights:

Reflective Responses (3 of these in-class, for each required film, & outside of class)	15%
* In-class engagement, small group work, & reflective exit tickets	25%
Elements of Music Module quizzes & review exercises	5%
Formative Practice Assessments (online practice quizzes, approximately 6-10 of these)	10%
Midterm Film Music Analysis Exercise	20%
Final Exam Film Music Topic/Trope Assignment	25%
**Extra Credit, tally of extra credit assignments, adds 1.5% on top of your final grade	+1.5%

*There will be at least 26 of these across the course of the semester; I will drop the two lowest of these (effectively giving you a cushion of 2 unexcused absences)

****Extra Credit (worth a total of 1.5% on top of the 100% of your final grade):** any extra credit given will be equally available to **all** students. I also regularly award a small amount of extra credit for exceptional contributions to the discussion board or in reflective responses. Extra credit cannot be used to make up for missing work.

Grading Scale="UNH Letter Grade" (from UNH scale built in to LMS)—using decimal points out to 2 places, without rounding (in other words, your grade will correspond to the schema below with no rounding)

A=93.99 & above	C= 76.98 – 74
A-=93.99–90	C-= 73.99–70
B+=89.99–87	D+=67–69.99
B=84–86.99	D= 66.99–64
B-=80–83.99	D-= 63.99–60
C+=77 79.99	F= 59.99 and below

The [University of New Hampshire](http://www.unh.edu) defines A work as “Excellent” — work that exceeds expectations; the grade of B is defined as “Superior” which indicates very good work that more that meets expectations; the grade of C is defined as “Satisfactory, competent,” which means that the work has demonstrated basic competency and met basic expectations; a D is described as a “marginal” grade and indicates work that does not meet basic expectations, while an F indicates “Failure, academic performance so deficient in quality as to be unacceptable for credit.”

Course Policies:

1. Attendance: Being present in class and engaging actively with the material and other students is a key part of your learning experience as a member of the learning community we form as a class; therefore, regular attendance is expected and 25% of your grade will be based on an index of your in-class engagement in the form of reflective or task-based exit tickets, small group work with a wrap up submission, or some other form of engagement (including participating by responding to questions or offering comments or asking questions during class). If you have an **excused absence** you may make up the in-class work in an alternative manner or simply be excused for that work. The lowest two scores in this category will be dropped, meaning that you have **two unexcused absences** that you can use for the semester without them impacting your grade (they will, however, be part of your total tally of unexcused absences).

2. Excused Absences: An excused absence may be an absence a) excused by the dean's office (death of a close family member, extended illness, documented personal emergency), b) due to participation in official intercollegiate events, c) due to

an instructional trip for a UNH class, d) illness e) jury duty, f) required military service and g) important religious holidays and/or observations.

In all cases, students should, ideally, **notify** the instructor via email **in advance** of the impacted class meeting time, even if they have also notified the instructor in person; if this is not possible, then, ideally, discussion / notification should take place **within 24 hours** of an absence.

In the case of an emergency hospitalization, your instructor understands that it may not be possible to do this within 24 hours, but this would be the perfect case in which the student should **consult with the Dean of Students office as soon as possible**.

If a student is ill in any way, they should not come to class. Students do need to **communicate** this with the instructor in order to have the absence register as excused, but there is no need to provide extensive detail of symptoms.

If a student is quarantined but feeling otherwise fine, or still contagious but feeling up to attending class via Zoom, email the instructor **by 9:00 AM on the day of class** and the instructor will create a Zoom link and email it to them so that they can attend class virtually. If a student attends class via Zoom, they should expect to participate actively throughout the class via the chat function on Zoom, responding to instructor questions and so on.

If you are dealing with **an unexpected, extenuating circumstance that will keep you out of class or affect your performance for more than a day or two**, reach out to the **Dean of Students** (dean.students@unh.edu) to request a letter be sent to all your faculty.

If you are required to miss significant class time, you will be provided temporary academic supports so that you can continue to make satisfactory progress in this course. Please contact your course instructor to discuss the specific types of supports that will be implemented during your absence. Possible options you may be provided in this class include:

- Class notes from a peer
- Virtual office hours
- Synchronous remote access for class, if your circumstances allow, (**with advance notification**).
 - Recording of class via zoom. If your circumstances do not allow for synchronous Zoom, again, **with advance notification**, I will record the class session via Zoom. It will not replicate the full classroom experience, but it can be useful in conjunction with the lecture slides and virtual office hours meetings, but I will only record sessions as requested individually.
- Lecture slides are provided for all students without asking, both before and after class.

Extended absences due to illness, mental health issues, or family issues should be dealt with through the **Dean of Student's office** and if a student needs further accommodations, or if they are missing more than 2 weeks of, or 4 classes in a row, a student should also work with [Student Accessibility Services](#).

Addressing the Needs of Students of all Faiths

In the event that a student needs accommodation for a religious or cultural holiday/observance, that student is encouraged to make that request as early in the semester as possible.

3. Excessive Absences: If you miss **4** classes and you have not been in contact with the Dean of Students' Office or the Dean of your college in charge of student academic issues, whether these are excused or unexcused, I will make contact with the Dean of Students' Office.

If you're missing **4 or more** classes due to illness or other non-academic life circumstances, you should consider working through Accommodation procedures for temporary accommodations with [Student Accessibility Services](#).

If you miss 6 or more classes in this course, **as unexcused absences, you will earn a failing grade for the semester.** In the case of documented medical or mental health, or other life issues, I will support your late-drop petition for academic variance or petition for medical withdrawal.

If your challenges are such that you are missing class regularly due to such issues, it is likely that you would benefit from a full medical withdrawal to allow you the time and space to address those issues rather than trying to push through the semester.

The Dean of Students Office, and the Academic Deans of your specific college or school within UNH will listen to you with compassion and offer you support and advice as you consider your options and help you to determine what is best for you as a whole person.

4. In-class etiquette & expectations

Being present means more than simply having your body in the classroom, it means being present in mind, prepared and attentive to the lecture & listening examples. Come to class on time and ready to actively participate in the classroom community.

- Show up prepared for class.

- Be on time. Coming in late or leaving early disrupts the classroom, leaves you missing information or context, and is not respectful to others in our learning community, and while sometimes it cannot be avoided, it is polite, in those cases, to inform your instructor in advance.
- If you need to leave class early, please let the instructor know ahead of time, and make sure you sit near a doorway and that you leave with as little disruption as possible.
- Take care of your physical needs before class (water, bathroom, etc.) and **do not treat audio and video examples as a time to take a break**, listening to music and attending to the sounds and doing real-time aural analysis in the classroom is central to the learning. The instructor will regularly take time for a five-minute break somewhere between the 35 and 45 minute mark.
- Be respectful of those around you in the classroom. Listen to what others say in response to questions and to the questions others ask.
- Be kind.
- Being present in mind means focusing on the material, class discussion, audio and video excerpts and asking and answering questions about the course material. Take notes by hand, ask questions when you have them, or write your questions down to ask later

Be kind and respectful of others, and willing to question your assumptions. Our classroom is a space where diverse perspectives are welcome and encouraged. Honest and respectful dialog is expected. Disagreement and challenging of ideas in a supportive and sensitive manner is encouraged. Hostility, personally directed attacks, and disrespectful behavior or language are not acceptable.

Practice radical empathy and grace in your interactions with each other, as you exercise critical thinking. Support your responses with evidence from the film material and reading. Be willing to listen to others, even when you disagree and remember that part of our goal in this class is to explore how film music works and what it communicates within specific films that are each products of a particular society at a specific historical moment; a number of these films present stories and perspectives will be different from those that may be comfortable and familiar to you, and part of our work together will be to explore these works and the issues they present as curious scholars rather than in defending points of view we have formed outside the classroom. Part of learning and part of the work of this kind of engagement and discussion is making mistakes and learning from them and graciously correcting or being corrected by each other. Be patient with yourself and with each other. Learning new terms and new modes of analysis and processing of information takes time and practice.

5. Technology Policy: Use of cell phones and other electronic device use such as laptops and tablets, unless the tablet is being used with a stylus for note-taking, or if the device is part of a students' assistive note-taking or listening technology, **is not permitted in this class by Faculty Senate rule unless by instructor permission or direction.** **All earbuds** should be removed from your ears during class time and hoods should not be used to hide them. It is both disrespectful and not acceptable.

Unless you have accommodations indicating otherwise and you have spoken with the instructor about those accommodations **or** you have cleared it in advance with the instructor **no devices are permitted to be used during class in this classroom unless that use has been directed by the instructor.** If you have discussed device use with the instructor, you should sit in the first three rows of the classroom, unless there are other pertinent circumstances that you have also discussed with the instructor that would make this not workable for you.

If a student is using a device for note taking (as previously cleared with the instructor), or if they are being used for a specific activity during class, **laptop screens should be closed during the instructor's presentation of all media** (video or audio) **on the large screen and** except during our break time, **phones should be placed, on silent with notifications muted, in the cup holder in front of the student or in the student's backpack or bag**, unless otherwise directed by the instructor.

Disregard of this policy *may negatively impact your in-class engagement grades.*

6. Recording Lectures: You may not make audio or video recordings of anything in the classroom without the instructor's permission; to obtain permission to do this, you need to speak with the instructor in person.

7. Make-Up policies: Many of the in-class activities cannot be made up easily, but if you have an officially excused absence (as described above in #2), I will exempt (excuse) the grade for the in-class engagement activity so that it will not count against you in the final weighting, or find a workable way for you to make up the work in a mutually agreed upon manner that fulfills the learning goals of the original in-class engagement work. In all cases, students should, ideally, **notify** the instructor via email

in advance of the impacted class meeting time. If you are unable to complete an assignment on time due to circumstances outside of your control (illness, car accident, crisis, etc.), you should discuss this with me as soon as possible.

8. Late work: *I automatically grant a 24-hour, no-penalty grace period for the Midterm and Final take-home assignments.* If you are in deadline difficulties that a 24-hour grace period will not address, **contact me via email, ideally within 24 hours of the stated due date, and otherwise, within the grace period**, and depending on circumstances, you are very likely to receive an extension, after which late penalties will apply. Work that is simply handed in late after the 24 hour period with no discussion with the instructor will have 5% of its point value deducted for each day late (so if the assignment is worth 100 points, and it's a B paper [i.e. 85 points], but you turned it in three days late without talking to me in advance of the deadline, your grade will be a 70.)

The Elements of Music modules allow for repeated taking of the assessments; you should aim to complete the first submission on time, and subsequent submissions can be made after the deadline and the whole will be considered as being on-time as long as the first submission has been made before class.

Submission of *Elements of Music* or Formative Assessments during class time will receive a zero regardless of your score and will result in a zero for the assignment with no option for credit.

You may still submit late work, with a penalty that becomes larger up to fifth day late, but if you communicate with me that you are dealing with compelling life circumstances, you may be granted an extension.

Except in extraordinary circumstances, the in-class reflective responses to a film must be submitted on time; under extenuating circumstances, you may ask for an extension; *ideally* you should ask **before** the work is due. Ideally, you will plan time, in advance, for watching each of the three required films & taking notes as you watch, based on the guiding questions provided on the assignment and reminder.

9. Online Submissions: All work not done in paper during class should be submitted **ELECTRONICALLY** via our course website on Canvas.

For file submissions of midterm and final exam assignments, please include your last name & the class number in the name of your file: eg. Lastname404.01Midterm.docx , etc.

In order for your submission to count, you must use file formats that I can read, namely: **.docx, .pdf, or xlsx or, where specified, in mp3, mp4, or Kaltura media format. Submissions not in one of these formats will be considered incomplete or unsubmitted.** If in doubt about acceptable file formats, please ask me at least two days before the deadline.

10. Academic Integrity: UNH values [academic integrity](#) and I expect academic honesty in the classroom and on all written work. Your work must be your own work, whether written outside of class time or in class—this includes any AI-generated text, or other third-party source, and if you paraphrase or quote from any other source (which should not be necessary for either the midterm or final) you always need to cite your sources, especially when you are paraphrasing or quoting, whether from an online or printed source—see COLA plagiarism tutorial— <https://cola.unh.edu/academics/plagiarism-tutorial>. For a full description of what constitutes violations of Academic Integrity, see [this section](#) of *Student Rights, Rules, Responsibilities*:

All members of UNH share responsibility for promoting and protecting the highest standards of integrity in scholarship and professional practice. The value of honesty and the expectation of conduct that goes with it are intended to reinforce a learning environment where students and faculty can pursue independent work without unnecessary restraints. At the same time, the University recognizes its responsibility to encourage and inculcate values and standards of conduct that will guide its students throughout their careers.

This means that each member will adhere to the principles and rules of the University and pursue academic work in a straightforward and truthful manner, free from deception or fraud. Students are expected to complete independent, original work for each academic activity unless otherwise specified by the faculty member. Students should seek clarification when in doubt. Any attempts to deviate from these principles will be construed as acts of academic dishonesty subject to disciplinary action.

Both the midterm and the final exam assignments use Canvas's online plagiarism tool, **Turnitin**, which allows you to see your results before I have graded the assignment, and which is also now flagging possible AI-generated content.

Violations of Academic Honesty are serious; if there is evidence of a violation of UNH's Academic Integrity policy, the student will be notified in writing, via email and will have 7 days in which to respond. The student will be invited to attend a meeting with the instructor to discuss the alleged violation. Depending on the circumstances and the severity of the violation, the resolution may be informal or formal, as described in the *Student Rights, Rules, Responsibilities* handbook.

11. Accommodations: UNH is committed to providing students with documented disabilities equal access to all University programs and facilities, in accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (as amended, 2008). Each student with a disability has the right to request services from UNH to accommodate their disability. If you are a student with a documented disability or believe you may have a disability that requires accommodations, please contact Student Accessibility Services (SAS) at (603) 862-2607, 227 Smith Hall, or sas.office@unh.edu

Accommodation letters are created by SAS with the student. Please follow up with the instructor as soon as possible to ensure timely implementation of your identified accommodations. Faculty have an obligation to respond once they receive official notice of accommodations from SAS, but are under no obligation to provide retroactive accommodations.

In addition, I am aware that each individual's learning process is not the same, and I will do my best to work to find ways to accommodate different styles of learning; if you are having difficulties, the best way of helping me help you is to contact me directly, either during office hours or via e-mail.

For more information, contact SAS: 227 Smith Hall, www.unh.edu/sas, 603.862.2607, 711 (Relay NH) or sas.office@unh.edu.

12. Support Services for Emotional Distress or Mental Health Distress: Your academic success in this course is important to me, as is your personal well-being. If, during the semester, you find emotional or mental health issues are affecting that success, please contact the University's [Counseling Center](#) (3rd fl, Smith Hall; 603 862-2090/TTY: 7-1-1), which provides [counseling appointments](#) and other [mental health services](#).

If possible, seek help before things become too overwhelming; the Dean of Students office can also help direct you to appropriate resources.

13. Title IX Confidentiality and Mandatory Reporting

The University of New Hampshire and its faculty are committed to assuring a safe and productive educational environment for all students and for the university as a whole. To this end, the university requires faculty members to report to the university's Title IX Coordinator (Laura Buchs) any incidents of sexual violence and harassment shared by students. If you wish to speak to a confidential support service provider who does not have this reporting responsibility because their discussions with clients are subject to legal privilege, you can [find a list of resources here](#). For more information about what happens when you report, how the university considers your requests for confidentiality once a report is made to the Title IX Coordinator, your rights and report options at UNH, including anonymous report options, please [visit the student reporting options page](#).

14. Email/Office Hours: Office hours are held in my office, M-202 in the PCAC.

My official office hours are Tuesdays (in person) from 12:35-1:10 PM, and Thursdays 5:10-6:10 pm, and virtually on Wednesdays from 11:00 AM-12:00 PM, or virtually, via Zoom, by appointment at other times on W, or F. I will answer email as quickly as I can. Please remember that there are many of you and only one of me; I will not get back to you as quickly on weekends as during the week, but I will do my best to respond to you within 24 hours. If I do not respond within 24 hours, please send me a brief reminder.

15. Hearing Health & Safety: The Department of Music adheres to the National Association of Schools of Music Health and Safety Standards. You can find information relating to this subject on our web page: <https://cola.unh.edu/music/academics/health-safety>. Click on the link to the Hearing Health document.

Course Outline: (details subject to change at the instructor's discretion)

Part 1—Weeks 1–2: Beginnings: What does film music do & How does it do it?

Notes: **readings, listening and audio-viewing listed on a particular day are to be done *before* class on the day they are listed, except for the very first day of class

Week 1: Introductions & orientations and Building vocabulary for describing film music:

August 29: Getting started—overview, central questions, looking forward.

Reading: (the only case where reading will be done *after* rather than *before* class)

Kalinak (2010), Chapter 1

Audio-Viewing / Listening: Clips as posted on Canvas (in Modules)

August 31: How does (film) music work? Elements of Music, part 1: Quality or *Timbre*

Reading: Kalinak, Chapter 2

Audio-Viewing/Listening: Clips as posted & Elements of Music Module: Quality.

First Elements module quizzes (Quality) due by 11:10 am (before our class meeting).

Full Class Introductions Discussion Board & Reflection on your learning goals and anticipated challenges due by end of day on Sunday September 3

Week 2: *Building Vocabularies & Concepts for Music & Moving Images*

September 5: Thinking musically—pitch, themes, motives & melody & perceptions of time (duration).

Reading & Listening—material as provided online, supplementing Kalinak, Chapter 2;

Elements of music Module & Quizzes for Pitch.

September 7: Elements of Music, Perceptions of Time, Duration, Texture and Visual Elements of film (*mise en scène*, shots, editing).

Reading & Listening: Elements of Music —Duration module — read through; you can do a first pass on the quizzes if you want, but they are not due until after class.

Elements of music Module & Quizzes Duration

Week 3: *Theories of film music, why does film music work? Analyzing visual and audio elements together*

September 12: Why does film music work? Analyzing sound/image relationships and thinking about conventions.

Reading: Kalinak, Chapter 3 & Juan Chattah, “From Topic to Troping in Film Music,” Conference Proceedings from International Conference on Music Semiotics in Memory of Raymond Monelle, The University of Edinburgh, 2012.

Audio-Viewing: Clips as posted on Canvas. **Elements of Music Module on Texture + Quiz.**

September 14: Listening to and looking at *Grand Budapest Hotel*

Reading: David Bordwell, <http://www.davidbordwell.net/blog/2014/03/26/the-grand-budapest-hotel-wes-anderson-takes-the-43-challenge/>

This reading is primarily focused on the visual elements; what we will do in class is to consider how and what the music contributes to our experience of Anderson’s distinctive visual style.

Audio-Viewing/Listening: Clips as posted.

Formative Assessment due by end of day Saturday September 16

Part 2—Film Music Supercultures: Hollywood

Week 4: *Forming the Sounds of the Hollywood Superculture—Max Steiner from the 1930s–1950s*

September 19: **Reading:** Mark Slobin, Introduction, vii–x & Chapter 1 “The Steiner Superculture,” in *Global Soundtracks*, 1–18, PDF as posted.

Audio-Viewing / Listening: clips, as posted in the Module on Canvas.

September 21: Focus on *The Searchers*, music, representation, community, identities.

Reading: Slobin, Chapter 1 from page 18–33.

Audio-Viewing: Watch and listen to the three short clips as posted on Canvas to accompany the Slobin reading.

Listening: source music clips as posted.

Formative Assessment due by end of day Saturday September 23

Week 5: *Early Jazz & Early Film Sound —diegetic performance & Hollywood superculture*

September 26: Jazz, race, representations & sound film technology in live action film and cartoons

Reading: PDF on Canvas of Daniel Goldmark, “Jungle Jive” from *Tunes for ‘Toons*.

Audio-Viewing/Listening: select clips & cartoon shorts as posted (Fleischer brothers, Cab Calloway in *Minnie the Moocher* & Louis Armstrong in *I’ll Be Glad when You’re Dead, You Rascal, You*)

September 28: Jazz soundtracks from diegetic to non-diegetic

Reading: Slobin, Chapter 2 “The Superculture Beyond Steiner,” up to top of page 48.

Audio-Viewing/Listening: Film short, *Black and Tan Fantasy* (Duke Ellington, 1929) and selected scenes from *Streetcar Named Desire* (Alex North, 1951), *Man with the Golden Arm* (Elmer Bernstein, 1953) and *Anatomy of a Murder* (Duke Ellington, 1959)

Formative Assessment due by end of day Saturday September 30

Week 6: Jazz on film from the 1960s to *La La Land*

October 3: Jazz on film, into the 1960s, Henry Mancini & *Breakfast at Tiffany's* (1961) & Jacques Demy & Michel Legrand's *Young Girls of Rochefort* (1967).

Reading: PDF Blas Payri, " 'Moon river and Me': The film-song as leitmotif in *Breakfast at Tiffany's*," *The Soundtrack*, 4, 2 (2011): 137–152.

Audio-Viewing: excerpts, as posted, from *Breakfast at Tiffany's* and other films as selected.

October 5: *La La Land* (2016) — representing jazz in contemporary film musical

Reading: <http://www.davidbordwell.net/blog/2017/02/11/la-la-land-singin-in-the-sun/>

Audio-Viewing: excerpts as posted in Week 6 Module.

Formative Assessment due by end of day Saturday October 7

Week 7: *New Sound/Image/Narrative relationships Alfred Hitchcock & Bernard Herrmann, 1950s & the 1960s (Kubrick & Leone/Morricone)*

October 10: **Reading:** Alex Ross, <http://www.therestisnoise.com/2006/07/vertigo.html>

Audio-Viewing /Listening: Watch *Vertigo* (1958), directed by Alfred Hitchcock, before class. You may use the DVD from the library or view it via Amazon streaming video from \$3.99. **(the 1st of the 3 required films).**

In-class Reflective Response to be completed at the beginning of class.

October 12: Experiments in sound & image, Leone-Morricone & *The Good, the Bad, the Ugly* & Stanley Kubrick's *2001: A Space Odyssey*

Reading: As posted on Canvas — including a tribute to Morricone's contributions to film music on the occasion of his passing in July of 2021 and a short introduction to the Kubrick film.

Audio-Viewing: Selected clips from the films as posted.

Extra-credit, Midpoint Survey, due end of day, 10/13/23

Part 3: Reshaping the Hollywood Superculture & Going Beyond it—Subcultural filmways, Bollywood, and influential current film composers

Week 8: *Subcultural Filmways & the Hollywood Superculture &*

October 17: Introductions What is subcultural film?

Reading: Slobin, Ch 3 "Subcultural Filmways."

Audio-Viewing /Listening: clips as posted, in support of the Slobin reading, including clips from *Reel Injun* (2009).

October 19: **No class today**, Prof. Pruiksma will be away at a conference. You can use the time to finalize your midterm, which is due at the end of the day on Friday, October 20 (keeping in mind that you have a 24 hour grace period, as well.)

Friday October 20—Midterm Take-home film music analysis exercise due by 23:59.

Week 9: *Subcultural Filmways: Indigenous Voices: Reservation Dogs* (Hulu, 3 seasons) & *Black American Perspectives 1, Spike Lee's Do the Right Thing* (1989)

October 24: *Subcultural Filmways—Indigenous North American Voices in film* .

Reading: Katie Moulton, "On 'Reservation Dogs,' the raddest soundtrack on TV 'breaks expectations' for Native storytelling" *Salon* August, 2022. <https://www.salon.com/2022/08/03/reservation-dogs-music-sterlin-harjo-tiffany-anders/> and Jourdan Bennett-Begaye, " 'Make it more Mato': the music of 'Reservation Dogs,'" *Indian Country Today* September 20, 2021, <https://indiancountrytoday.com/news/make-it-more-mato-the-music-of-reservation-dogs>

Audio-Viewing /Listening: Episode 1 of *Reservation Dogs*, streaming on Hulu, if you have Hulu; if not, listen through the original soundtrack clips on the season soundtrack album on Spotify,

https://open.spotify.com/album/4cwiOzLOk0k7BOJx2Svo8H?si=b2NLwybkSrqMIZyjHJ8_vQ

October 26: Stereotypes confronted and countered in *Do the Right Thing*—listening to subcultural film.

Reading: PDF of Victoria E. Johnson, " Polyphony and Cultural Expression: Interpreting Musical Traditions in *Do the Right Thing*," originally published in Mark A. Reid (ed.), *Spike Lee's Do the Right Thing*, 50–72 (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1997) version printed in *Popular Music and Multimedia*, ed. Julie McQuinn, 87–110 (Burlington, VT: Ashgate, 2011).

Audio-Viewing /Listening: Before class & before doing the reading, at least listen to the source music clips given online and the first four clips from *Do the Right Thing* as posted.

Week 10: *Subcultural Filmways: Black American Perspectives 2, Jordan Peele's Get Out* (2017) & *Ava Duvernay's Selma* (2014)

October 31: Genre & Narrative & Michael Abels' score in Jordan Peele's *Get Out* (2017)

Reading: Interview with Michael Abels, <https://crackmagazine.net/article/long-reads/composer-michael-abels-produced-chilling-score-get/> and review of film: <https://www.npr.org/2017/02/23/516869364/get-out-offers-sharp-satire-along-with-the-scares> **Audio-Viewing/Listening:** Clips & audio as posted on Canvas in Module

November 2: Alternate perspectives: the story of the Voting Rights Act of 1965 as told in *Selma* (2014)

Reading: Links to interviews with director Ava Duvernay & composer Jason Moran.

Audio-Viewing: *Selma* (2014) directed by Ava Duvernay, full film via UNH library streaming services (**the 2th of the 3 required films**). **In-class Reflective Response to be completed in the first 15 minutes of class.**

Week 11: *Subcultural Filmways, Black Voices, mainstream audiences: Ryan Coogler's Black Panther* (2018)

November 7: **No Tuesday classes, UNH follows a Friday schedule today.**

November 9: Ludwig Göransson, Baaba Maal, & scoring Afro-futurism in the Marvel Universe: *Black Panther* (2018).

Reading: Interviews with Ludwig Göransson, <http://www.filmmusicmag.com/?p=18528>

and Baaba Maal, <http://baabamaal.com/2018/03/09/black-panther/> & drummer, Massamba Diop

<http://www.wbur.org/hereandnow/2018/04/09/drum-music-black-panther>

Listening: Soundtrack clips as posted on Canvas in Module.

Formative Assessment due by end of day Saturday November 11

Week 12: *Transnational & Global Cinema: Bollywood & Hindi Film Conventions before economic liberalization*

November 14: Introduction to Bollywood Conventions and Norms

Reading: Pages 1–top of 12 of Jayson Beaster-Jones, *Bollywood Sounds: the Cosmopolitan Mediations of Hindi Film Song*, (New York, NY: Oxford University Press, 2015) provided as PDF.

Audio-Viewing / Listening—selected clips as posted in Module.

November 16: Post-liberalization Bollywood conventions & the NRI audiences, *Kabhi Khushi Kabhie Gham* (2001)

Reading: PDF, Pages 1–11, Jayson Beaster-Jones and Natalie Sarrazin, “Introduction: Music in Contemporary Indian Film,” in *Music in Contemporary Indian Film: Memory, Voice, Identity* (New York and London: Routledge, 2017)

Audio-viewing: Excerpts from *Kabhi Khushi Kabhie Gham* (2001), playing with conventions & aiming at South Asian diaspora audiences.

Formative Assessment due by end of day Saturday November 18

Week 13: *Changing Conventions in New Bollywood*—*Gully Boy* (2019)

November 21: Hindi Cinema—reshaping, conversing with, & transcending conventions—*Queen* (2014) & *Gully Boy* (2019)

Reading: Srikanth Srinivasan “*Gully Boy*” July 30, 2019 <https://theseventhart.info/2019/07/30/gully-boy-2019/>

and interview with director Zoya Akhtar by Amanda N'Duka from the web publication *Deadline*

<https://deadline.com/video/gully-boy-zoya-akhtar-interview-awardsline-screening/>

Audio-Viewing: Full film, *Gully Boy* (**the 3rd of the 3 required films**).

In-class Reflective Response to be completed in the first 15 minutes of class.

November 23: **No class, Thanksgiving Holiday!**

Week 14: *John Williams and Hollywood conventions in film music & Hans Zimmer's impact on Hollywood film scores & Music*

November 28: John Williams, Hollywood film scoring, tradition, & innovation

Reading: Jeremy Orosz, “John Williams: Paraphraser or Plagiarist?” *Journal of Musicological Research* 34 (2015): 299–319.

Audio-Viewing: Clips as posted on Canvas

November 30: *Hans Zimmer & Christopher Nolan & playing with time*

Reading: <https://medium.com/world-of-music/the-dunkirk-soundtrack-is-way-cleverer-than-you-think-18f5dc155d91>

<https://www.nytimes.com/2017/07/26/movies/the-secrets-of-the-dunkirk-score-christopher-nolan.html>

Audio-Viewing: Clips as posted

Formative Assessment due by end of day Saturday December 2

Week 15: *Music & Moving Images in Interactive Contexts: Music in Video Games*

December 5: Music & Gaming — approaches to analysis.

Reading: Zach Whalen, “Play Along: An Approach to Video Game Music” in *gamestudies.org* (2004) online journal article, linked online. URL: <http://www.gamestudies.org/0401/whalen/>

Audio-Viewing: clips from games as posted.

December 7: Topics and Tropes in Video Game Music

Reading: Sean E. Atkinson, :“Soaring through the sky: Topics and tropes in video game music” *Music Theory Online* 25, 2 (2019).

<https://mtosmt.org/issues/mto.19.25.2/mto.19.25.2.atkinson.html>

Audio-Viewing clips of gameplay as posted and the audio clips embedded in the article.

Last Formative Assessment due by end of day Saturday December 9

Final Exam Online Assignment on Film Music Topics & Tropes Due electronically by 23:59 on the day we are assigned for our final exam, December 13, 2023. There is **no in-class final** it is an assignment you complete on your own outside of the classroom. If you need more time, please do not hesitate to ask for an extension