

MUS 501

CRITICAL STUDIES AND MUSIC I

Cultural studies and Music examines people's habits, activities and the plans according to which they have constructed their lives and interacted with their environment in relationship with musical experiences. Thus, the studies do not focus on only music, but equal importance is given to studying the formation of everyday life, of different mentalities and popular cultures. The subject aims at providing students with an understanding of the interrelations between different domains of culture and music to construct an overall picture of the contemporary and of the different historical periods. It integrates the different fields of culture in relation to the musical perspective in a universal (temporal) dimension.

MUS 502

CRITICAL STUDIES AND MUSIC II

In order to explore and comprehend the musical codes within our everyday social landscape, we need to locate the points at which political and gendered discourse intersect with musical expression. There are two critical musiological concerns at stake: first, the task of correlating musical sounds and gender and identity as social circumstances, and, second, the need to shift from pure musical description into the sphere of ideological expression and attitude. Cultural studies and recent critical theories provide us the means to analyze and revise the implications of the fixed associations we have become accustomed to in our characterization of individuals and groups.

MUS 531

Music in Contemporary Culture / Music and Popular Culture

The seminar will emphasize the study of music in contemporary culture as a social and cultural phenomenon, providing insights research into a wide variety disciplines. Students are stimulated to examine different subjects that support the interdisciplinary approach to have a critical approach and vision in the perception of contemporary culture.

Seminar-1: Music in Contemporary Culture / Music and Visual Popular Culture

The frame of that seminar is to investigate and debate the position of music within the visual popular culture in modern society. This seminar offers a wide-ranging research on the grammar and ideology of popular visual culture, attending to the dialogics of mass communication, and examining the prime role of the visual in the mass mediation of late twentieth-century culture and society tracing through musical discourses and trends. Seminar participants will examine concrete visual examples (from advertising, cinema, and television) within the music world in conjunction with arguments raised by a range of seminal critical-theoretical analyses of mass media/popular culture.

MUS 532

Music in Contemporary Culture / Music and Visual Culture

The content of that seminar is to illustrate the place of music and musical forms in visual culture and contemporary art. This seminar will survey a variety of topics, debates and theories on visual arts and performing arts in contemporary practices in relationship with the musical foundations. The role and place of music and sound will be examined through contemporary art events such as biennials, museums, exhibitions, sound installations, dance, theatre, movement theatre.

MUS 631

Music in Contemporary Culture / Music and Politics

The aim of that seminar is to examine the political, historical and ethical role of the musician and the music as foundation in contemporary culture. This seminar introduces students to critical and theoretical debates, in

contemporary culture, which have significantly informed new way of thinking such as postmodernism on visual culture, philosophy and music. Postmodernism began an impact upon music and musicology since the 80s, and in the era of the collapse of high and low through new genres and the end of grand narratives through pluralistic texture, various concerns with social and cultural processes, informed by arguments that musical practices, values and meanings relate to particular historical, political and ethical contexts. The seminar focuses on key thinkers and texts to examine the place of music in contemporary contexts and situations.