

MUSC 6083: Research Methods and Materials

University of West Georgia
Fall, 2017

Instructor Information

Instructor: Dr. Molly M. Breckling

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Course Information

Course Description

This course is a study of research materials, methods, procedures, and designs in music and music education, including research and data analysis techniques and the application of findings. Students have the opportunity to explore research topics that exploit their professional interests and goals. The course includes a research project component.

Required Materials

All Students

Bayne, P. S. (2008). *A guide to library research in music*. Lanham, MD: The Scarecrow Press, Inc. ISBN-10: 0810862115.

Required Style Manual

M.M. in Music Education students:

American Psychological Association. (2010). *Publication manual of the American Psychological Association*, 6th ed., 2nd printing. Washington, DC: American Psychological Association. ISBN-10: 1433805618.

M.M. in Music Performance students:

Turabian, K. Booth, W. C., Colomb, G. G., & Williams, J. M. (Eds.). (2013). *A Manual for Writers of Term Papers, Theses, and Dissertations*, 8th ed. Chicago, IL: University Of Chicago Press. ISBN-10: 0226816389.

Bibliography of Sources

Booth, W. C., Colomb, G. C., & Williams, J. M. (2003). *The craft of Research*, 2nd ed. 344 p. 5-1/2 x 8-7/16 1995, 2003 Series: (CGWEP) Chicago Guides to Writing, Editing, and Publishing

Gottlieb, J. (2009). *Music library and research skills*. Upper Saddle River, NJ: Pearson Prentice Hall.

Sampsel, L. J. (2009). *Music research: A handbook*. New York: Oxford University Press.

Wingell, R. J. (2009). *Writing about music*, 4th ed. Upper Saddle River, NJ: Pearson Prentice Hall.

Learning Outcomes

In producing research in music education and/or performance, the student will:

1. Examine principles, methods, and designs of music research.
2. Identify and evaluate music research sources.
3. Employ critical thinking skills in oral and written communication.
4. Apply appropriate standard style, format, and citation procedures.

Course Evaluations – Method of Grading

Unit Discussions: 20%

- Student Introductions
- Disc I: Critical thinking and writing about music
- Disc. IIa: Journal Report
- Disc. IIb: Scholarly article
- Disc. IIIa: Peer feedback on research topics
- Disc. IIIb: Empirical and quantitative research
- Disc. V: Peer feedback on abstracts

Preparatory Stages of Research: 40%

- Topic Proposal
- Preliminary annotated bibliography
- Cleaned-up annotated bibliography
- Paper outline

Assessments: 10%

- Orientation quiz
- Unit I quiz
- Unit II quiz
- Citation quiz
- Unit VI quiz

Final Project: 30%

- Final draft of annotated bibliography
- Final presentation
- Modified paper

GRADE BREAKDOWN

- **A= 100 – 90**
- **B= 89 – 80**
- **C= 79 – 70**

- D= 69 – 60
- F= 59

UNIVERSITY POLICIES

[University Policies Common Language](#)

FERPA

Due to the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) of 1974, instructors cannot discuss any information pertaining to a student's grade via email or telephone unless the student signs an 1126 form waiving his or her FERPA rights

Discussion/work from assigned readings

You will be expected to stay current on assigned readings and participate actively in our discussion/work sessions on writing style and format. Your preparation and participation in these discussions will account for a significant portion of the final grade.

Synchronous Class Meetings

There will be four scheduled synchronous class meetings (dates and times TBA). You are required to participate in three of the four classes. Expectations include active participation during the class. Specific requirements will be provided in *CourseDen*. Classes may be recorded and for attendance credit, you must be present at the beginning of class and throughout the scheduled time.

Assignments and Annotated bibliography

One of the final projects for MUSC 6083 is an annotated bibliography (50 entries minimum) of sources on a topic of your choice and approved by the instructor. On the day the bibliography is due, you should be prepared to give a report of procedures used and answer questions on the process. Peer and self reviews will be assigned. An outline of the paper will be required.

Assessments

Throughout the course, students will complete online assessments.

Final Project (paper and presentation)

The final project for MUSC 6083 is a paper and presentation on the topic of your annotated bibliography. This paper should be properly formatted, with proper bibliographical format using APA style (MM Music Education candidate) or Turabian (MM Performance candidate). The paper should be as long as necessary to thoroughly and completely discuss your topic. Peer and self reviews may be assigned.

Course Schedule:

This schedule is subject to change at the instructor's discretion.

Introductory Unit: August 9-19

Orientation

By August 12:

Read over the following items on CourseDen

- Orientation Module Overview Page
- Course Syllabus and Schedule
- Welcome from Dr. Breckling
- Teacher Expectations

Post initial orientation discussion on CourseDen

By August 19:

Read and Watch the following items on CourseDen

- Communication Rules
- UWG Statements Common to All Courses
- Technology Needs
- Pearls of Wisdom from a Student
- Accessibility

Post discussion responses on CourseDen

Complete Synchronous Class Time Survey

Acquire textbooks

Complete Understanding CourseDen tutorial

Complete Orientation Module Quiz

Unit I: August 20-September 2

Beginning music research

By August 26:

Read the following:

- Bayne, A Guide to Library Research in Music, Chapter 1
- (For MM Music Ed. students) APA Publication Manual, Chapter 4
- (For MM Music Perf. Students) Turabian, Manual of Style, Chapters 20-25
- Acquiring the UWG ID on CourseDen

Watch the following videos on CourseDen:

- The Research Process – beginnings of research
- Collecting Data and ideas
- Communicating Ideas & Thinking Critically
- Music Research Guide for Finding Library Resources in Music

- Search Ingram Library Catalog
- Proposing a Research Topic
- Quick Article Search
- Oxford Music Online

Post initial discussion on Course Den

By September 2:

Post discussion responses in CourseDen
 Submit Research Topic Proposal on CourseDen
 Complete Quiz I: Intro to the Library

Unit II: September 3-16

Developing research processes

By September 9:

Read the following:

- Bayne, A Guide to Library Research in Music, Chapters 2-7, 16-18
- (For MM Music Ed. students) APA Publication Manual, Chapter 6-7
- (For MM Music Perf. Students) Turabian, Manual of Style, Chapters 15-19

Watch the following videos on CourseDen:

- Other sources and their citations
- Special issues in writing about music
- From bibliographic citations to footnotes and endnotes
- Introduction to Research Ethics and citing Sources
- (For Music Ed. Majors) APA Style Part 1, APA Style Part 2, and APA Style Part 3
- (For Performance Majors) Chicago Style Part 1 and Chicago Style Part 2
- Types of Music Research/Other Resources
- World Cat and Iliad
- Academic Search Complete
- Classical Music Library
- Ingram Library's Journal Locator
- Music Index
- Blackboard Collaborate Ultra tutorial

Post initial discussion for Discussion IIb on Course Den and select a journal for Discussion IIa

Attend the Synchronous Class I (Date and time TBA)

By September 16:

Post discussion responses for Discussion IIb in CourseDen

Post initial discussion for Discussion IIa in CourseDen
Complete Quiz II

Unit III: September 17-30

Finding and citing sources

By September 23:

Read the following:

- Bayne, A Guide to Library Research in Music, 8-15
- (For MM Music Ed. students) APA Publication Manual, Chapter 2-3
- (For MM Music Perf. Students) Turabian, Manual of Style, Chapters 5-11

Watch the following videos on CourseDen:

- Other sources and their citations
- Special issues in writing about music
- From bibliographic citations to footnote and endnotes
- Music Research Guide for Finding Library Resources in Music

Post discussion response IIa on Course Den

Post research topic for peer review

Post initial Discussion III on Empirical and quantitative research

By September 30:

Post research topic feedback in CourseDen

Post discussion response IIIa

Complete Citations Quiz

Unit IV: October 1-21

Responding to Sources and Cultivating Critical Thinking

By October 14

Our focus has now shifted from learning how to do research to actually doing research. By now, you should have collected a sizable number of sources on your research topic, using the techniques we have learned.

Submit Preliminary Annotated Bibliography on CourseDen

By October 21:

Submit Cleaned Up and Expanded Annotated Bibliography on CourseDen

Attend Synchronous Class II (time and date TBA)

Unit V: October 22-November 11

Writing the Topic Paper and Abstract

By October 28

Read and Watch the following:

- Writing Abstracts
- Bibliography and Paper Process

Write and post abstract as Discussion V CourseDen

By November 11:

Respond to peer abstracts on Discussion V

Submit Project Outline on CourseDen

Unit VI: November 12-December 1

Presenting Research to the Public

By November 18

Submit PowerPoint for Final Presentation

Attend Synchronous Classes III and IV (times and dates TBA)

By December 1:

Submit complete package (topic proposal, annotated bibliography, abstract, outline, and modified paper) CourseDen