MUH 6548 section 1618: Seminar in Caribbean Music (Spring 2014)

Time: Tuesdays period 3; Thursdays period 3 & 4
Location: Music Building Room 144
Instructor: Larry Crook
Phone/Email: 273-3171/lcrook@ufl.edu
Office: 301 University Auditorium
Office Hours: W—5th Period and by appointment

OBJECTIVES/COURSE ORIENTATION
The course objective is to nurture an understanding and appreciation of the historical, cultural, aesthetic, and social dimensions of music making emanating from the Caribbean. We will focus on vernacular and popular musical traditions of the Caribbean, taking into account the impact of colonialism and the trans-Atlantic slave trade; independence, nationalist, and revolutionary political movements; cultural processes linked to creolization, hybridity, migration and diaspora; religious experience and music; and the importance of popular culture and media technology in the ongoing development and distribution of Caribbean musical styles. Class periods comprise lecture/discussion; student-led reports and presentations; seminar-style discussion of assigned readings, listening/viewing of recorded materials; and occasional hands-on demonstrations.

During the semester we will investigate the musical cultures of the primary island nation-states in the Caribbean with special attention to Cuba, Puerto Rico, the Dominican Republic, Haiti, Jamaica, and Trinidad. Some of the musical traditions we will cover include:

- African-inspired religious music mixed with Catholicism and Protestant Christianity (Cuban Santería, Haitian Vodou, Jamaican Rastafarianism)
- Hispanic-inspired song traditions (Cuban Guajiro, Puerto Rican Jíbaros)
- European-inspired dance music (danzas, contradanzas, danzas,)
- Dominican merengue, bachata
- Jamaican reggae, ska, mento
- Trinidadian steel pan, calypso, chutney
- Cuban rumba, son, charanga, changui
- Salsa and Latin jazz

TEXT:

Additional reading, listening, and viewing materials will be made available primarily through E-Learning.
**BASIC REQUIREMENTS**

Students are required to attend class regularly and 1) complete the reading, listening, and viewing assignments and come to class ready to participate in seminar-style class discussion; 2) prepare and give presentation reports on specific topics as assigned by the instructor; 3) research and write a 10-15 page term paper; 4) take two tests (mid-term and final); and 4) write one book review. Students who miss class for reasons other than medical emergencies must notify the instructor at least one week prior to the absence. Classes missed must be made up through work assigned by the instructor. Unexcused absences will be detrimental to your final course grade.

**GRADING**

Grades are based on the following percentages:

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<tr>
<th>Component</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Midterm Exam</td>
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<td>Final Exam</td>
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<td>Book Review</td>
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<td>Class Reports/Participation</td>
<td>25%</td>
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<td>Term Paper</td>
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<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
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Grading Scale:

- A 95%
- A- 90%
- B+ 87%
- B 83%
- B- 80%
- C+ 77%
- C 73%
- C- 70%
- D+ 67%
- D 63%
- D- 60%
- E 0-59%

**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

For students with disabilities—to request classroom accommodations, contact the Assistant Dean of Students/Director of the Disability Resources Program at P202 Peabody Hall or call 392-1261 (V), 392-3008 (TDD). Students requesting classroom accommodation must first register with the Dean of Students Office.

**ACADEMIC HONESTY/DISHONESTY**

As a result of completing the registration form at the University of Florida, every student has signed the following statement: “I understand that the University of Florida expects its students to be honest in all their academic work. I agree to adhere to this commitment to academic honesty and understand that my failure to comply with this commitment may result in disciplinary action up to and including expulsion for the University.” The instructor of this course fully endorses this statement and will not tolerate academic dishonesty. See UF guidelines for academic honesty: http://www.dso.ufl.edu/judicial/procedures/honestybrochure.php.