Spring 2016
College-Conservatory of Music, Department of Composition, Musicology, and Theory
MUHS 8067: Buddhist Music.
This course fulfills the history requirement for pre-1750; A final project with 26 pages paper is required by the college.
Meeting: Tuesday/ Thursday 11:00 am to 12:20pm.


Week 1
- 1/12- Introduction to Buddhist music and music in Buddhism
  ✓ Music: Parsifal by Wagner.
  ✓ Assignment: Reading: App, Urs. “Richard Wagner and Buddhism.” UniversityMedia. 2011. (Read First chapter only)

- 1/14- Contemporary composers with Buddhist influences
  ✓ Video and discussion 1: Herbie Hancock lecture at Harvard.
  ✓ Discussion 2: Music of Phillip Glass and Tekemitsu
  ✓ Assignment: Research on Western classical composers with Buddhist influences and bring the music to the next class

Week 2
- 1/19- Contemporary composers with Buddhist influences
  ✓ Music and discussion: examples from students.
  ✓ Assignment: Hershock, Peter D. “Chan Buddhism.” 2004. Chapter one only.

- 1/21- History of Buddhism and music in Buddhism
  ✓ Discussion: Christian music and other religious music vs. Buddhist music.
  ✓ Music: music of Bach and Sufi.
  ✓ Activity: Learn cipher notation and sing foqu.

**Week 3**

- **1/26** Primary Buddhist texts on music and reference work
  ✓ Discussion: Buddhist arts about music, e.g. Dunhuang painting.

- **1/28** Project meeting
  ✓ Assignment: Study Indian classical music and instruments (sitar, tabla, and veena)

**Week 4**

- **2/4** Overview of Indian classical music
  ✓ Reference and music: in textbook

- **2/6** (a) Buddhist music and dance in India; (b) between Indian and Tibetan
  ✓ Discussion: Drum syllables (rhythms indicated by syllables and Tibetan mandala theory)
  ✓ Activity: practice drum syllables
  ✓ Music: Gyānmālā Bhajan Khala (Nepal)

**Week 5**

- **2/9** Tibetan Buddhist music and instruments
Music: Music at Tashi Lhunpo (founded in 1447 by the 1st Dalai Lama)


Week 6

- 2/11 Interaction with Mongolian (Buddhist) music
  - Presentation 1: Tibetan Buddhism Chanting (theory, techniques, and demonstration).

- 2/16 Buddhist music in Sri Lanka
  - Music: Sinhalese music

- 2/18 project meetings (topic must be confirmed)
  - Assignment: Study Chinese music in the textbook.

Week 7

- 2/23 Chinese music and instruments.
  - Reference and music: from textbook
  - Discussion: Chinese drama and instruments transmission.

- 2/25 Chan Buddhism; Influence from/ to Confucianism and Daoism
  - Music: Wutaishan wind ensemble, Beijing Zhihuasi music
✓ Assignment: Li, Qiancheng. *Fictions of Enlightenment: Journey to the West, Tower of Myriad Mirrors, and Dream of the Red Chamber*. (University of Hawaii Press, 2004) Chapter 3 only.

Week 8

- **3/1 Buddhism on stage**
  ✓ Video in class: excerpts from different genres of *Journey to the West*
  ✓ Discussion 1: Story of Xunzhang and Chan Buddhism.
  ✓ Discussion 2 and presentation 3: *Journey to the West* (court performance to folk traditions, including movie, TV drama, cartoon, video games etc...).
  ✓ Assignment: Video of Mulian performance

- **3/3 Performance in temples**
  ✓ Discussion 1: Story of Mulian, and its implications.
  ✓ Presentation 4: Other performances in temples (e.g. Mulian Xi, Youliudian, and Yulanpenjing, etc.)
  ✓ Discussion 2: Lion dance and Tin-thau (history and custom)
  ✓ Assignment: Study Japanese classical music in textbook

Week 9

- **3/8 Japanese Zen Buddhism and music**
  ✓ Music and discussion: Gagaku music in Tennoji Osaka and Kokufuji Nara, Heike biwa.

- **3/10 Music as practice**
  ✓ Music: Shomyo
  ✓ Discussion: How does shomyo different than Chinese Faiba (chanting)?


Music: Zen Shakuhachi


Week 10
- 3/15 Buddhist performance
  - Presentation 5: Nor opera
  - Presentation 6: Puppet theater

- 3/17 Korean Buddhist chanting, pompae
  - Discussion 1 and Presentation 7: Chanting (history, analysis, demonstration)
  - Discussion 2: Dance, Bongsan tal chum
  - Assignment: Study Gamelan in the textbook

Week 11
- 3/29 Southeast Asian
  - Discussion and Music: Javanese Gamelan
  - Assignment: Movie: A bright moon- Great master Hong Yi

- 3/31 Project meeting (first 15 pages due)

Week 12
• 4/5 Buddhist music in contemporary
  ✓ Discussion 1: Movie A bright moon- Great master Hong Yi
  ✓ Discussion 2: Buddhism in the early 20th century
  ✓ Music: Three jewels

• 4/7 Buddhism in popular music
  ✓ Music 1: Chanting the Heart Sutra by a pop singer Wong Fai.
  ✓ Music 2: the “new age” music
  ✓ Discussion: musical analysis: new and old ideas?

Week 13
• 4/12 Buddhist practice by immigrants
  ✓ Music 1: Daxi (Chinese drama) in Malaysia
  ✓ Music 2: Shakuhachi music in Kona, Hawai’i.

• 4/14 Buddhism beyond Asia
  ✓ Music: Buddhist music by Zulu, South Africa

Week 14
• 4/19 Project Presentation
• 4/21 Project Presentation (Paper due)