# COURSE SPECIFICATION FORM

for new course proposals and course amendments

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Department/School:</th>
<th>Music</th>
<th>Academic Session:</th>
<th>2011-12 and thereafter</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Course Title:</td>
<td>Contemporary debates in music</td>
<td>Course Value:</td>
<td>(UG courses = unit value, PG courses = notional learning hours)</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>0.5</td>
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<tr>
<td>Course Code:</td>
<td>MU1117</td>
<td>Course JACS Code:</td>
<td>W350</td>
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<tr>
<td>Availability:</td>
<td>Autumn or Spring</td>
<td>Status:</td>
<td>(i.e.: Core, Core PR, Compulsory, Optional)</td>
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<td>Core (Level 4)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pre-requisites:</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>Co-requisites:</td>
<td>None</td>
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<tr>
<td>Co-ordinator:</td>
<td>Appointed annually</td>
<td>Course Staff:</td>
<td>Appointed annually</td>
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**Aims:**

This course will:
- Introduce students to a range of key debates and issues in contemporary musicology
- Introduce students to a range of key issues concerning music in the contemporary world
- Encourage students to think about music's relation to social and cultural context
- Introduce students to unfamiliar musical styles and repertoires as well as broaden understanding of those closer to home
- Hone students' skills in reading a wide variety of critical and theoretical writing about music

**Learning Outcomes:**

By the end of this course students should:
- be familiar with broad issues relevant to the position of music as cultural discourse
- understand particular issues, characteristics and predicaments of music as it is manifested in the contemporary world
- have broadened knowledge and understanding of familiar and unfamiliar musical territories
- have begun to develop their analytical and critical skills for dealing with primary and secondary reading materials
- have begun to develop their debating skills

**Course Content:**

This course will survey some of the key contemporary issues in music that have arisen from the changes of the modern world, as well as contemporary debates in musicology. The twentieth century in particular has seen a transformation of musical cultures across the world, and this course looks at a range of the issues and controversies that have emerged as a result. The study of music has broadened to include many more social, cultural and political. This course will introduce students to truly contemporary ways of studying music, combining approaches and issues traditionally associated with musicology, ethnomusicology and popular music studies, divisions which are becoming increasingly blurred. Lecture topics may include:
- Ideas of 'authenticity' in music
- Value judgements about music
- Protection and preservation of music
- Heritage and revivals
- Music and tourism
- New forms of fusion and hybridity
- The idea of 'world music'.
- Music and identity
- Music and gender
- Music and race
- Music and nationalism

**Teaching & Learning Methods:**

20 hours of lectures/seminars and some 130 hours of private study, resulting in the notional total of 150 hours of study for the course.

**Details of teaching resources on Moodle:**

Online resources, to include initial course outline and assessment information, to be added as appropriate

**Key Bibliography:**


| Formative Assessment & Feedback: | Two pieces of coursework will be completed during the course:  
|  | • A group project completed in a group of 5-6, involving a class performance, presentation or debate. One mark is awarded to the group, unless exceptional circumstances apply.  
|  | • A essay of 2000-2200 words  
|  | The presentation will be given formative written feedback. The essay will be returned with tutorial mark and written comment on a proforma, together with annotations to the essay text where appropriate. |

| Summative Assessment: | Exam: (100%) – 2 questions from a choice of 6 (2 hours)  
|  | Deadlines: Formative coursework to be submitted by the in-course deadlines. |

The information contained in this course outline is correct at the time of publication, but may be subject to change as part of the Department’s policy of continuous improvement and development. Every effort will be made to notify you of any such changes.