

**Psychology of Music**  
**Summer Inter-term**  
**June 12-30, 2017**

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*“Music is a moral law. It gives soul to the universe, wings to the mind, flight to the imagination, and charm and gaiety to life and to everything.”*

~ Plato

**Course Overview**

**Meeting Place:** Argentina

**Course Description/Objectives**

Many of us would find it hard, if not depressing, to imagine a world without music. Music can brighten our mood, provide comfort, and make us move so that we become the music itself. But why is music so ubiquitous? The purpose of this course is to examine the psychological foundations of music, specifically its cognitive, socio-personality, and applied underpinnings.

From a cognitive standpoint, we ask: does music have meaning and serve a purpose? We will consider evidence suggesting that musical training can lead to cognitive and learning benefits. We will explore the expressive meaning of music, i.e., music’s ability to communicate emotive meaning that may influence visual processing and body movement.

From the perspective of social and personality psychology, music has a number of social functions, ultimately related to individuals’ sense of self and identity. We will explore why we like the music we do (i.e., why some of us may prefer certain genres, like jazz or hip hop, over other genres, like classical music). We will look at what other traits or dimensions may be shared among those who share musical tastes and preferences. We will also explore stereotypes associated with fans of particular musical genres, and whether those stereotypes are accurate.

Finally, we will look at how music is used in various applied contexts. In particular, we will concentrate on the applications of music for health and medicine.

**Required Readings:**

We will make copies of the required readings and create a class packet that we will hand to you at orientation. You are expected to read this packet before we meet in Buenos Aires. You should also bring your packet to Argentina so that you can reference it during the trip.

## Course Requirements

### Evaluation Criteria:

**1. Attendance and Participation (6 points):** Much of the learning in this class will come from group discussions. Missing any activity requires a legitimate excuse (e.g., illness) and prior discussion with the instructor, if at all possible. During our meetings and interactions with community members, participation and professional behavior are required, which includes: (a) being prepared to talk about the readings, (b) actively contributing to class discussions and other activities by posing questions and sharing insights, and (c) listening attentively and responding respectfully when other students, instructors, and community members are contributing to class discussion. Missing any class activities without prior or legitimate excuse will result in the final grade being reduced by one full letter grade (10%).

**2. Reading Q&A (4 points).** At different points during our class (see schedule), you will be asked to read articles and post discussion questions on Canvas. You will also be asked to respond to two of your peers' questions (the day after you post, you will go over your peers' questions and answer two of them). (Please note that we will meet on Canvas prior to going to Argentina).

**3. Photo Journal (60 points):** Each day we are in Argentina, you will take at least one photo of a class experience (e.g., a presentation by a guest speaker, a music event in the community, etc.). You will compile your photos (at least 12) at the end of the trip. You will share your photos with the group daily and you will upload all pictures to a blog the week following the trip. More information will be provided during our orientation meeting.

**4. Daily Written Reflections (30 points):** Every day you will write a 200 to 250-word reflection on a class experience. Your reflection will be based on one of the photos you took during the day (in other words, your reflection should serve as a caption for your photo). You will share your photo and reflection with your peers and instructors during the course of the following day, at a time especially devoted to discussion. Your reflection should incorporate what you learned at the time you took the picture, what the picture means to you, readings, class discussions, etc.

### Grading:

Points can be earned as follows, and grades will be assigned according to the scale listed below.

<u>Requirements</u>	<u>Possible Points</u>	<u>Percentage</u>
Attendance and Participation	10	10%
Discussion Q&A	10	10%
Photo Journal	50	50%
Daily Written Reflection	30	30%
Total Points in the Course:	100	100%

Percentages for this course correspond to the following letter grades.

<b>A</b>	<b>A-</b>	<b>B+</b>	<b>B</b>	<b>B-</b>	<b>C+</b>	<b>C</b>	<b>C-</b>	<b>D+</b>	<b>D</b>	<b>D-</b>	<b>F</b>
100-93	92-90	89-87	86-83	82-80	79-77	76-73	72-70	69-67	66-63	62-60	59 and below

## Class Policies

### The Learning Environment:

Please cooperate with me and your fellow students to create an environment that fosters learning and communication. Respecting diversity is an important attitude of openness for differing viewpoints and life experiences. Every viewpoint and every cultural perspective has great value for our learning in this course.

We all should be respectful in our behavior and comments, and should collaborate to eliminate distracting disruptions. Disruptions to the learning environment include (*but are not limited to*): talking while others are speaking, reading texts unrelated to class during our meetings, use of electronic devices (e.g., iPods, text messaging, etc.) for purposes unrelated to class during our meetings, etc.

We will remain professional in our interactions with peers and locals. There is no need to walk on eggshells during our trip, but, at the same time, be aware that we represent DU. We will try our best to be conscientious of what we say and do. It is impossible to know everything about a different culture's customs and etiquette, and you can be sure that everyone who has ever been abroad has unintentionally stepped on someone's toes. When in doubt, just apologize and explain that you're learning.

### ADA Policy:

Any student who may need accommodations based on the impact of a disability should contact me privately to discuss his/her specific needs. Additionally, please contact the **Disability Services Program** located on the 4<sup>th</sup> floor of Ruffatto Hall; 1999 E. Evans Ave, 303.871. / 2278 / 7432/ 2455 to coordinate accommodations related to a documented disability. The DSP is dedicated to giving students with disabilities an equal opportunity to participate in the University's programs, courses and activities. DSP provides accommodations at no cost to any student who has a documented disability as required by the Americans with Disabilities Act and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act. Information is also available on line at <http://www.du.edu/disability/dsp>; see the *Handbook for Students with Disabilities*.

### University of Denver Honor Code:

All members of the University of Denver community are expected to uphold the values of *Integrity*, *Respect*, and *Responsibility*. These values embody the standards of conduct for students, faculty, staff, and administrators as members of the University community. In order to foster an environment of ethical conduct, all DU community members are expected to discuss or report any behavior contrary to the *Honor Code* with a neutral party. Failure to do so constitutes a violation of the *Honor Code*. DU may take whatever measures it deems necessary in order to protect the safety, security, and/or integrity of a complainant, the University, and/or any member(s) of its community. Such measures include, but are not limited to, involuntary removal from a course, program, activity, or the campus pending a hearing, modifications to living arrangements, and/or reporting incidents to law enforcement or other non-University agencies. The Director of the Student Conduct, in consultation with the appropriate faculty and/or administrators, shall be empowered to impose any interim restriction. The complete *Honor Code* can be found here: [http://www.du.edu/facsen/honor\\_code.html](http://www.du.edu/facsen/honor_code.html).

### Travel Tips:

1. Familiarize yourself with local laws and customs of Buenos Aires and Argentina.
2. When in doubt, ask! I will be happy to support you when I can. We can also consult local sources, who are often a wealth of information.

3. Practice your Spanish. Although speaking Spanish is not a requirement for our class, the more fluent you are, the more you will be able to communicate with locals and benefit from the trip. Be brave and practice with peers before you leave. DU Library has materials that can help refresh your Spanish. You can also download phone apps that serve the same purpose. Last, we speak Spanish – come talk to us!
4. Pack smart and travel light. Bring only a 9” x 21” x 14” carry-on size bag (no heavier than 20 pounds!) plus a small day bag. A soft backpack plus a small day bag is the perfect combination. This gives us mobility and provides us with more people space in our vehicle.
5. At least one professional casual attire. We may attend meetings with community experts. We want to make sure we rise up to the occasion.
6. Keep a good attitude. Be mentally braced for some surprises, good and not-so-good.
7. Be open to differences and remain flexible. We will be in rural areas of Argentina at times. You will often be asked to step out of your comfort zone, by speaking with locals, adjusting to a local schedule and changes in schedule, eating local food, etc.

**Copyright Statement:**

Some of the materials in this course are possibly copyrighted. They are intended for use only by students registered and enrolled in this course and only for instructional activities associated with and for the duration of the course. *They may not be retained in another medium or disseminated further.* They are provided in compliance with the provisions of the Teach Act.

**Syllabus Change Policy:**

Except for changes that substantially affect implementation of the evaluation statement (i.e., grading), this syllabus is a guide for the course and is subject to change with advance notice.

## Itinerary

**Possible Accommodation:** TBD

	ACTIVITIES
Saturday, June 17	<p>Arrive in Buenos Aires</p> <p>Evening meeting at hotel</p> <p>21hs - Group Dinner: TBD</p>
Sunday, June 18	<p><a href="#">San Antonio de Areco</a></p> <p>Breakfast on own</p> <p>8:30AM Buenos Aires &gt; San Antonio de Areco</p> <p>10AM: Horse show at Parque Criollo Ricardo Güiraldes</p> <p>11AM: Gaucho Museum – local history and traditions</p> <p>Group Lunch: Matera del Parque Criollo Ricardo Güiraldes</p> <p>2:30PM: Folk music &amp; demonstration of gaucho skills incl. wrangling &amp; racing</p> <p>4PM: (Gaucho) Horse-drawn carriage parade</p> <p>9PM: Group dinner at Museo Las Lilas de Areco (folk music and dance)</p> <p>Lodging: Patio de Moreno</p>
Monday, June 19 (National Holiday)	<p><a href="#">San Antonio de Areco</a></p> <p>Breakfast at hotel</p> <p>Morning activity: Folk music &amp; demonstration of gaucho skills</p> <p>Group Lunch: Pulpería Lo de Tito</p> <p>San Antonio de Areco &gt; Buenos Aires</p> <p>Dinner on own (Palermo)</p>

<p>Tuesday, June 20</p>	<p>Breakfast on own (Transport by Sightseeing Bus)</p> <p>9AM- 5PM: Sightseeing Bus Palermo- Recoleta- Teatro Colón</p> <p>Group Lunch: Guerrín</p> <p>Sightseeing Bus (cont'd): Teatro Colón- Diagonal Norte- Av. De Mayo- Plaza del Congreso</p> <p>3:30PM: Café Tortoni</p> <p>18:30PM: Centro Cultural Konex (Parlante Holofónico?)</p> <p>Dinner on own (Palermo)</p>
<p>Wednesday, June 21</p>	<p>Breakfast on own (Transport by Sightseeing Bus)</p> <p>10am: Guided Tour – “La Boca: A story of immigration, football and tango” (Gob. Ciudad de Buenos Aires)</p> <p>Group Lunch: El Gran Paraíso- Caminito, La Boca</p> <p>Sightseeing Bus: La Boca &gt; Puerto Madero &gt; Palermo</p> <p>18:30PM: Tango Class (La Viruta)</p> <p>Dinner on own (Palermo)</p>
<p>Thursday, June 22</p>	<p>Breakfast on own</p> <p>10am Guided Tour – “Recoleta: The Paris of South America” (Gobierno de la Ciudad de Buenos Aires)</p> <p>Group Lunch: La Cholita, Recoleta</p> <p>3PM: Bicycle Tour: “Palermo through the Senses”</p> <p>18PM: 360 Music in the Dark (music by Theater by the Blind)</p> <p>Dinner on own (Palermo)</p>

<p>Friday, June 23</p>	<p>Breakfast on own</p> <p>10am: Guided Tour – “San Telmo: Bohemian Buenos Aires” (Gobierno de la Ciudad de Buenos Aires)</p> <p>Group Lunch: La Popular, San Telmo</p> <p>Early Afternoon: Plaza Dorrego</p> <p>18:30PM: Tango Class (La Viruta)</p> <p>~21:30hs Group Night Out: La Peña del Colorado (music and local food)</p>
<p>Saturday, June 24</p>	<p>Breakfast on own</p> <p>10am Guided Tour – “Balvanera: Tango and the Abasto market” (Gobierno de la Ciudad de Buenos Aires)</p> <p>~1pm: Lunch on Own (Palermo)</p> <p>Afternoon (on own): Explore the cafés and musical scene in Palermo Option to visit “Museo Nacional de Bellas Artes” and/or MALBA</p> <p>21hs - Group Dinner &amp; Night Out: Los Cardones (Peña- music and local food)</p>
<p>Sunday, June 25</p>	<p>Breakfast on own</p> <p>Feria de Mataderos: horsemanship, live music, &amp; folk dancing</p> <p>Lunch on own (several options at the fair)</p> <p>Dinner on own (Palermo)</p>
<p>Monday, June 26</p>	<p>Breakfast on own</p> <p>10:30 – Guided Rowing Trip: Puerto Madero</p> <p>Group Lunch: El Obrero, La Boca</p> <p>Early Afternoon: free time (Palermo)</p> <p>6PM La Bomba de Tiempo: 17-piece improvisational drum group</p> <p>Dinner on own</p>

<p>Tuesday, June 27</p>	<p>Breakfast on own</p> <p>9AM: Teatro Colón – Guided Tour</p> <p>Group Lunch: Bar de Julio</p> <p>Museo Anconetani del Acordeón</p> <p>Dinner on own</p> <p>8PM: Teatro Colón Ballet – The Taming of the Shrew</p>
<p>Wednesday, June 28</p>	<p>Breakfast on own</p> <p>9AM Mindfulness and Sound: Eco-car Tour (Costanera Sur Ecological Reserve)</p> <p>Group lunch: El Preferido de Palermo</p> <p>Early Afternoon: free time (Palermo)</p> <p>18:30PM: Tango Class (La Viruta)</p> <p>Dinner on own (Palermo)</p>
<p>Thursday, June 29</p>	<p>Breakfast on own</p> <p>Tigre</p> <p>18:30PM: Tango class (La Viruta)</p> <p>21PM: Café Vinilo (Group dinner &amp; music show)</p>
<p>Friday, June 30</p>	<p>Argentina &gt; United States</p>