

Music of East Asia

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Course Description: Even before the 20th century music has acted as a marker of distinct cultural identities even as it flows freely across geopolitical boundaries. Very few cultural markers have had the global impact in such a short span of time as K-Pop has. This course examines the historical and cultural contexts of musical traditions in East Asia since 1900, culminating with a music-theoretical and cultural analysis of K-Pop music and its accompanying tidal wave of Asian philosophy, food, poetry, comics, film, and other cultural markers throughout the Western world.

Materials/Text: Readings and other electronic materials will be provided online by the professor.

Requirements: attendance and class participation, access to online materials, access to computer for typing essays

Schedule: 2022/07/12 through 2022/08/04 (Monday through Thursday), 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm

Assignments:

- Regular readings, along with short written responses and class discussion (40%)
- Two essays on cultural transmission of music between East Asia and the West—one during the colonial period, and one during the post-colonial period (40%)
- One final project chosen from these two (20%):
 - A—a research project examining a contemporary cultural exchange between East Asia and the West via music
 - B—a creative project (composing a song in the K-Pop style)

Evaluation:

- All assignments will be evaluated on one of the following rubrics (complete rubrics will be provided in class)
 - Global Learning
 - Intercultural Knowledge and Competence
 - Inquiry and Analysis
 - Reading
- Essays and the Research Project (if elected) will be evaluated on the following rubrics in addition to those listed above:
 - Written Communications
- The Creative Project (if elected) will be evaluated on the following rubrics:
 - Inquiry and Analysis
 - Creative Thinking