**MUS 1207 Performing Ethnic Music and Dances from Central Uganda**

***Description:***

This course offers skills for performing ethnic music and dance from Central Uganda.In this course, Central Uganda will refer to Buganda. Following up from MUS 1101, each student will continue with the melodic instrument performed in the first semester for mastery. However, the student learns to play the same instrument in a style existing in Central Uganda. This course will focus on drumming styles and dances from central Uganda including: *baakisimba, nankasa, muwogola, mbaga and maggunju.* These dances will be taught in the context of their social, occupational, and religious functions.Studentsare required to participate in the Departmental performances as part of course work.

***Objectives****:*

1. To introduce the student to different musical instruments and dances of Central Uganda
2. To equip students with skills of performing musical and dance from Central Uganda
3. To offer an understanding of the social cultural and religious contexts of musical instruments and dances from Western Uganda

*Course Outline*

Topic 1: Cultural contexts of musical instruments

Topic 2: Handling, repairing and storage of instruments

Topic 3: Tuning and basic playing techniques and Learning to play a Piece

* Xylophone (madinda/Mbaire)
* Lyre (Ndongo/ntongoli)
* Bowl harp (adungu)
* Lamellaphone (akogo/ likembe/ akadongo)

Topic 4: Playing Drums

* Playing Techniques for Baakisimba Drums
* Playing Techniques for Nankasa Drums
* Playing Techniques for Muwogola Drums
* Playing Techniques for Mbaga Drums
* Playing Techniques for Maggunju Drums

Topic 5: Social Relevance, Philosophy and Societal Intentions of a Dance

Topic 6: Instruction on Dance

* Learning Baakisimba Dance
* Learning Nankasa Dance
* Learning Muwogola Dance
* Learning Mbaga Dance
* Learning Maggunju Dance

Topic 7: Sense of Pulse and the Accompanying Music

Topic 8: Movement, Space and Body Awareness Exercises

Topic 9: Experiencing Music and Dance Symbiosis

Topic 10: Practical Experiencing Dance as Visual Music/Music as Sonic Dance

Topic 11: Dance Creativity and Improvisation

Topic 12: Principles of Choreography – Stylized Formation Dance Creation

*Learning Outcomes*

1. An understanding of the social, cultural and religious contexts of music and dance from Central Uganda
2. Ability to perform competently the drum music from the selected styles of Central Uganda
3. Ability to perform competently at least two pieces on a melodic instrument
4. Ability to perform competently at least two dances from the selected styles from Central Uganda

*Methods of Teaching/Delivery*

Lectures, video and audio recordings, practical experience, group and individual instructions, and individual work

*Modes of Assessment*

Course Work:

* Attendance and participation (5%)
* Instrumental assignments: 20%
* Participation in Departmental Performances (5%)
* Dance practical: 10%

Final Examination:

Written: 30%

Practical:

* Instrumental: 20%
* Dance: 10%

*Selected Readings*

### Cooke, Peter. 1996. “Music in a Ugandan Court.” Early Music 24(3): 439-452.

Makubuya, James. 2000. “Tube Fiddle in Uganda: Its Adaption and Significance among the Baganda.” *The Galpin Society Journal*. 53: 140-155.

Nannyonga-Tamusuza, Sylvia. 2005. *Baakisimba: Gender in Music and Dance of the Baganda People of Uganda.* London and New York: Routledge.

Wachsmann, P. Klaus. 1956. “Harp Songs from Uganda.” *Journal of the International Folk Music Council.*7:23-25.

Wachsmann, P. Klaus and M. Trowell. 1953. *Tribal Crafts of Uganda.* London: Longman.