**MUS 2108 Research Methods in Music, Dance and Drama**

*Description:*

Students are introduced to library, fieldwork and research methodologies in the performing arts (music, dance and drama). The course has a strong practical component; students will develop practical skills including preparing for research, data collection, archiving and storage. Students will be given intensive training in the use of audio and video recording in the field. Special skills for collecting music for archiving will also be offered. Students prepare a research proposal, with guidance from the course instructor, based on a topic of his/her choice within the fields of music, dance and drama and how these performing arts interact with culture. A research proposal is presented as a project.

***Objectives:***

1. To equip students with skills in field and library research
2. To equip students with skills to handle research in music and collection of music materials
3. To develop practical skills including interviews and eliciting techniques and the use of audio and video technology as tools of research

*Course Outline*

Topic 1: Introduction

* Course Requirements and Expectations
* Definitions and Concepts in Fieldwork and Research Methodologies

Topic 2: Types of Research: Qualitative, Quantitative, Experimental, Survey, and Historical

Topic 3: EthnomusicologicalResearch Methods

Topic 4: Ethnochoreological Research Methods

Topic 5: Specialized Research Methods in Drama

Topic 6: Basics of Field Research

* The Phases of Fieldwork and the Roles of a Fieldworker
* Planning a Field Research
* Choosing a Research Topic

Topic 7: Review of Literature

* Sources of Literature Review
* Relevance of Reviewing Literature
* How to Review Literature
* Citation of Reviewed Literature

Topic 8: Discussion of Students’ Topics

Topic 9: Sections of a Research Proposal

* Front Matter
* Introduction
* Background
* Statement of the Problem
* Objectives
* Scope
* Methods
* Data Analysis
* Ethical Considerations
* Time Frame
* Budget
* Bibliography

Topic 10: Tools of Research

* Interviews
* Participant Observation
* Questionnaire
* Performance
* Media
* Library
* Photography and Audio-Visual Recording
* Workshops

Topic 11: Skills of Writing A Research Proposal

* Basic Writing Skills
* Writing Style and Formatting

Topic 12: Data Collection

* Sampling
* Creating Rapport
* Ethics of Research
* Preparing Consent Forms
* Guidelines to Conducting An Interview
* Practical Experience of Conducting an interview
* Participant Observation
* Writing about Field Experience (Making Field Notes)

Topic 13: Research and Technology

* Recording in the Field
* Sound Recording
* Video Recording
* Taking Photographs
* Documentation of Recordings

*Learning Outcomes*

1. Ability to internalize the basic techniques of research
2. Competence in writing a good Research Proposal
3. Acquired skills of recording sound in the field
4. Equipped with skills to gather data from the field
5. Ability to retrieve information in the library, including online sources

*Methods of Teaching/Delivery*

Lectures, assigned readings, group projects, demonstration, class discussions and presentations

*Modes of Assessment*

Coursework

* Attendance and participation in class discussions: 5%
* Group presentations: 10%
* Written assignments: 15%

Final Examination

* Research proposal (project): 20%
* Written examination: 50%

*Selected Readings*

Berliner, Paul. 1993. The Soul of Mbira: Music and Traditions of the Shona People of Zimbabwe. Chicago and London: University of Chicago Press.

Booth, C. Wayne, Gregory G. Colomb and Joseph M. Williams. 1995. *The Craft of Research* Chicago and London: University of Chicago Press.

Jackson, Bruce. 1987. *Fieldwork*. Urbana and Chicago: University of Illinois Press.

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