

## PSY387H5F – Psychology of Music

LECTURE: Tuesday 3:00pm – 5:00pm Room DH2080  
TUTORIAL: Wednesday 4:00pm – 5:00pm Room DV1147, DV1158B

### Contact Information

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### Course Description

*From the UTM calendar:* An examination of the psychological foundations of music perception and performance. Consideration of processing differences between naive and experienced listeners, biological foundations of music processing, cultural contributions to music processing, theoretical perspectives on the origins of music, music and emotion, and the non-musical implications of musical training.

PSY 387 is designed to familiarize students with scholarly research in the psychology of music, with a focus on experimental methods and results, and contentious theoretical issues and debates. The course will describe how the methods of experimental psychology can be used to further our understanding of: (1) what people perceive and remember when they listen to music, (2) how and why people respond emotionally to music, and (3) why music plays such an important role in the lives of most people.

**Term Tests:** Term tests will include some combination of short-answer questions, definitions, and multiple-choice questions. You will be tested on the material from the text and other readings (regardless of whether it was discussed in class) and on the material presented in class (regardless of whether it was discussed in the text or other readings). The first three term tests are on Wednesdays in the tutorials (September 20, October 18, November 8). These first three tests are *not* cumulative. Test 1 is on the material covered during the first three weeks (from the readings, lectures, and tutorials). Similarly, Test 2 is on the material covered in Weeks 4-6, and Test 3 is on the material covered in Weeks 7-9. The fourth and final term test is 2 hours. It will be held on November 28th and it is *cumulative*.

**Tutorials:** The tutorials will feature in-depth discussion of topics from the course. In many instances, the tutorials will also feature demonstrations of specific experimental methods, which are designed to give you a first-hand sense of how hypotheses in music perception and cognition are tested using the methods of experimental psychology. For 8 of the tutorials, an assigned journal article must be read *before* the tutorial. You are required to write and submit two discussion questions at the tutorial. Tutorial marks represent a combination of attendance, active tutorial participation, and the quality of your discussion questions.

**Project:** The project requires you to produce a 12-15 minute podcast, working in groups of 2 or 3 students. The podcast can be audio-only or audio-visual. It should ask a research question of general interest, and set about exploring this question by describing a finding—or a body of findings—from the psychology of music in a way that is accessible and interesting to a broad audience, and at the same demonstrating that you have a firm grasp of what the researchers did, why they did it, what they found, and what it means. The podcasts are due by 5PM, Friday, November 17<sup>th</sup> (electronic submission). A typed transcript of the text should be submitted along with the podcast. A brief proposal (max. 1 page, double-spaced) describing your podcast is due by 5 PM, Friday October 20<sup>th</sup>. Swathi will provide feedback within a week.

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## Reading Material

Text: Thompson, W. F. (2015). *Music, thought, and feeling: Understanding the psychology of music* (2<sup>nd</sup> ed).

Journal Articles: see "Required Readings" in the course outline

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## Course Evaluation

1. Term Test 1	14%
2. Term Test 2	14%
3. Term Test 3	14%
4. Term Test 4	23%
5. Project Proposal	3%
6. Project	20%
7. Tutorials: participation/attendance, discussion questions/comments	12%

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## Course Webpage

The website associated with this course is accessible via <http://portal.utoronto.ca>

**Note:** You don't need to create a new login for Blackboard; it already knows who you are. You just need your UTORid and password. This is the same login that gets you onto the wireless network with your laptop, and the same one that you use to check your email. If you're confused about your UTORid or don't remember your password, go to: <https://www.utorid.utoronto.ca/>

In order to access course material, monitor course information, and view your grades you must log into Blackboard. If you have any general questions regarding Blackboard, please visit the following help site:

<http://www.portalinfo.utoronto.ca/content/information-students>

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## IMPORTANT COURSE POLICIES \*\*PLEASE READ\*\*

### Missed Test Special Consideration Request Process

#### No make-up tests are provided in this course

Students who miss a test due to circumstances beyond their control (e.g. illness or an accident) can request that the Department grant them special consideration. Students must present their case to the Department (NOT the Instructor) by submitting a request via the online Special Consideration Request form at:

<https://utmapp.utm.utoronto.ca/SpecialRequest>.

Students are to submit original supporting documentation (e.g., medical certificates, accident reports, etc.) to the Psychology Academic Counselor or drop it in the drop box located outside the Psychology office, Deerfield Hall, 4th Floor. Students have up-to one week from the date of the missed test to submit request. Late submissions will NOT be considered without a letter of explanation specifying and documenting the reasons for the lateness.

Medical certificates or physician's notes must be completed by the Physician and MUST include the statement "This Student [name] was unable to write the test on [date(s)] for medical reasons". This documentation must show that the physician was consulted within one the day of the missed term test. A statement merely acknowledging a report of illness made by the student to the physician is NOT acceptable. For further information on this procedure please see:

<http://www.utm.utoronto.ca/psychology/undergraduate-studies/missed-testslate-submissions>

If you missed your test/assignment deadline for a reason connected to your registered disability, please be advised that the department will accept documentation supplied by the UTM AccessAbility Resource Centre.

**IMPORTANT:** The Department of Psychology verifies the authenticity of medical certificates by contacting medical offices. Students are NOT to make any changes or alteration to completed medical certificates. Students who submit forged or altered documentation are subject to severe academic penalties.

**If your request is approved by the department, your grade on the missed test will be estimated from your grades on the other tests.**

## **Extension of Time Special Consideration Request Process**

Students who seek to be granted more time to complete their term work beyond the due date without penalty, owing to circumstances beyond their control (e.g., illness, or an accident), must do so by submitting a request directly to the Instructor for the period up to and including the last day of the term. The decision as to whether or not to apply a penalty for the specified period rests with the Instructor.

Students who seek to be granted more time to complete term work beyond the last day of the term must submit their request directly to the Department. This request covers the period following the last day of classes and ends the last day of the exam period. This is done by submitting a request via the online Special Consideration Request form at <https://utmapp.utm.utoronto.ca/SpecialRequest>.

**You are advised to seek advising by the departmental Undergraduate Counsellor prior to the deadline.**

Original supporting documentation (e.g., medical certificates, accident reports, etc.) must be submitted to the Psychology Academic Counselor or dropped off in the drop box located outside the Psychology office Deerfield Hall, 4th Floor. Students are expected to submit requests to the Department before the last day of the term, unless demonstrably serious reasons prevent them from doing so. In the event of an illness, medical certificates or doctor's notes must confirm that student was ill on the due date of the assignment (for a one-day extension). For a longer extension, documentation must specify the full duration during which academic work could not be carried out. For extensions of time beyond the examination period you must submit a petition through the Office of the Registrar. <http://www.utm.utoronto.ca/registrar/current-students/petitions>.

## **Penalties for Lateness**

A penalty of 10% per calendar day (i.e., including week-ends and holidays, during which students are not able to submit term work) up to and including the last day of classes, will be applied by the Instructor. After the last day of classes, the penalty of 10% per calendar day will be applied by the Undergraduate Counsellor on behalf of the Department. No penalty will be assigned if request for special consideration, described above, was successful.

## **Academic Guidelines**

It is your responsibility to ensure that you have met all prerequisites listed in the UTM Calendar for this course. If you lack any prerequisites you WILL BE REMOVED from the course up until the last day to add a course. Further information about academic regulations, course withdrawal dates and credits can be found in the University of Toronto Mississauga Calendar at: <http://www.erin.utoronto.ca/regcal/>.

You are encouraged to read this material. If you run into trouble and need advice about studying, preparing for exams, note taking or time management, free workshops and advice are available from the Robert Gillespie Academic Skills Centre at 905-828-5406.

## **AccessAbility Services**

Students requiring academic accommodations for learning, physical, sensory, or mental health disabilities or medical conditions should contact the AccessAbility Office (2037B Davis Building), 905-828-3847. <http://www.utm.utoronto.ca/accessability/>

## **Academic Honesty and Plagiarism**

Honesty and fairness are considered fundamental to the university's mission, and, as a result, all those who violate those principles are dealt with as if they were damaging the integrity of the university itself. When students are suspected of cheating or a similar academic offence, they are typically surprised at how formally and seriously the matter is dealt with -- and how severe the consequences can be if it is determined that cheating did occur. The University of Toronto treats

cases of cheating and plagiarism very seriously. Please take the time to review the Academic Integrity website: <http://www.utm.utoronto.ca/academic-integrity/students>.

Common trends in academic offences:

- Plagiarizing/concocted references
- Collaboration/unauthorized assistance
- Purchasing work
- Recycling work - "double-dipping"
- Resubmitting of altered work for re-grading
- Electronic devices (cell phones) or any unauthorized aids
- Altering medical certificates and UofT documents

From the Code of Behaviour on Academic Matters: "It shall be an offence for a student to knowingly: represent as one's own any idea or expression of an idea or work of another in any academic examination or term test or in connection with any other form of academic work, i.e. to commit plagiarism. Wherever in the Code an offence is described as depending on "knowing", the offence shall likewise be deemed to have been committed if the person ought reasonably to have known." All students must refer to this website to obtain information on what constitutes plagiarism. <http://www.writing.utoronto.ca/advice/using-sources/how-not-to-plagiarize>.

If questions arise after reading the material on the website, consult your instructor.

**Plagiarism will not be tolerated.**

## Equity Statement

The University of Toronto is committed to equity and respect for diversity. All members of the learning environment in this course should strive to create an atmosphere of mutual respect. As a course instructor, I will neither condone nor tolerate behaviour that undermines the dignity or self-esteem of any individual in this course and wish to be alerted to any attempt to create an intimidating or hostile environment. It is our collective responsibility to create a space that is inclusive and welcomes discussion. Discrimination, harassment and hate speech will not be tolerated. If you have any questions, comments, or concerns you may contact the UTM Equity and Diversity officer at [edo.utm@utoronto.ca](mailto:edo.utm@utoronto.ca) or the University of Toronto Mississauga Students' Union Vice President Equity at [vpequity@utmsu.ca](mailto:vpequity@utmsu.ca).

## Academic Rights

You, as a student at UTM, have the right to:

- Receive a syllabus by the first day of class.
- Rely upon a syllabus once a course is started. An instructor may only change marks' assignments by following the University Assessment and Grading Practices Policy provision 1.3.
- Refuse to use turnitin.com (you must be offered an alternative form of submission).
- Have access to your instructor for consultation during a course or follow up with the department chair if the instructor is unavailable.
- Ask the person who marked your term work for a re-evaluation if you feel it was not fairly graded. You have up to one month from the date of return of the item to inquire about the mark. If you are not satisfied with a re-evaluation, you may appeal to the instructor in charge of the course if the instructor did not mark the work. If your work is remarked, you must accept the resulting mark. You may only appeal a mark beyond the instructor if the term work was worth at least 20% of the course mark.
- Receive at least one significant mark (15% for H courses, 25% for Y courses) before the last day you can drop a course for H courses, and the last day of classes in the first week of January for Y courses taught in the Fall/Winter terms.
- Submit handwritten essays so long as they are neatly written.
- Have no assignment worth 100% of your final grade.
- Not have a term test worth 25% or more in the last two weeks of class.
- Retain intellectual property rights to your research.
- Receive all your assignments once graded.

- View your final exams. To see a final exam, you must submit an online Exam Reproduction Request within 6 months of the exam. There is a small non-refundable fee.
- Privacy of your final grades.
- Arrange for representation from Downtown Legal Services (DLS), a representative from the UTM Students' Union (UTMSU), and/or other forms of support if you are charged with an academic offence.

### Course Outline

Date	Topic	Required Readings
Sept. 5	Introduction	Thompson Ch. 1
Sept. 6	Tutorial	Wallentin et al. (2010)**
Sept. 12	Music and Evolution/Origins of Music	Thompson Ch. 2
Sept. 13	Tutorial	Cirelli et al. (2014)**
Sept. 19	Musical Building Blocks	Thompson Ch. 3
Sept. 20	<b>TERM TEST 1</b>	
Sept. 26	Perceiving Music Structure/ Abstract and Surface Features of Music	Thompson Ch. 4
Sept. 27	Tutorial	Weiss et al. (2015)**
Oct. 3	Music Acquisition	Thompson Ch. 5
Oct. 4	Tutorial	Pilgrim et al. (2017) **
Oct. 9-13	<b>READING WEEK</b>	
Oct. 17	Music and the Brain Music and Emotion	Thompson Ch. 6
Oct. 18	<b>TERM TEST 2</b> <b>PROJECT PROPOSAL DUE 5 PM OCT. 20</b>	
Oct. 24	Music and Emotion	Thompson Ch. 7
Oct. 25	Tutorial	Vanden Bosch der Nederlanden et al. (2015)**
Oct. 31	Music and Well-Being	Thompson Ch. 8
Nov. 1	Tutorial	Linnerman et al. (2015)**
Nov. 7	Performing & Composing Music	Thompson Chs. 9-10
Nov. 8	<b>TERM TEST 3</b> ( <i>Last day to drop without penalty or to select Credit/No Credit</i> )	
Nov. 14	Music Listening and Nonmusical Abilities	Thompson Ch. 11 Schellenberg (2012)
Nov. 15	Tutorial <b>PROJECT DUE 5 PM NOV. 17</b>	Slater et al. (2015)**
Nov. 21	Musical Ability and Nonmusical Abilities	Thompson Ch. 11 Schellenberg (2016)
Nov. 22	Tutorial	Holochwost et al. (2017)**
Nov. 28	<b>TERM TEST 4 (2 hours, cumulative)</b>	
Nov. 30	No Tutorial	

\*\*Two discussion questions must be printed, and handed in at the tutorial.