

**UNITED STATES INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY – AFRICA**  
**School of Arts & Sciences**  
**Course Outline**  
**FAR 3000: MUSIC OF THE WORLD**  
**CREDIT: 3 UNITS**  
**SEMESTER:**

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**USIU COURSE CATALOGUE DESCRIPTION**

Comparison of melodic, harmonic and rhythmic theories of Eastern and Western cultures; historical and contemporary listening skills developed; compositional and improvisational practices experienced through individual creative projects and excursions.

**COURSE OBJECTIVES**

- ♪ To describe the roles and functions of music.
- ♪ To study basic theories in music.
- ♪ To learn composing music.
- ♪ To listen, watch and perform music discriminatively.
- ♪ To compare and contrast music of various countries of the world.
- ♪ To learn: techniques of playing musical instruments, dance and singing skills.

**COURSE CONTENT**

**WEEK 1**

**AN OVERVIEW OF MUSIC OF THE WORLD**

- ♪ Roles and functions of music in life.
- ♪ Differentiating: Composer, Performer & Audience.

**WEEK 2**

**BASIC TERMINOLOGIES IN MUSIC**

- ♪ The language of Music: common terms: rhythm, melody, harmony etc.
- ♪ Performance considerations: posture, embouchure, diction, dynamics etc.

**WEEK 3**

**MUSICAL CLEFS & NOTES**

- ♪ Treble & Bass clefs: alphabetical names of notes on the lines and spaces.
- ♪ Solfa notation.

## **WEEK 4**

### **KEY SIGNATURES**

- ♪ Major Keys with Sharps.
- ♪ Major Keys with Flats.

## **WEEK 5**

### **TIME SIGNATURES**

- ♪ Simple Time signatures: Duple, Triple, and Quadruple.
- ♪ Techniques in composing short tunes.

## **WEEK 6**

### **MUSIC NOTATION**

- ♪ Musical notes and rests; number of beats, fractional values.
- ♪ Staff notation.

## **WEEK 7**

### **SCALES**

- ♪ The Diatonic scale, The Chromatic scale.
- ♪ Modes, The Pentatonic scale.

## **MID SEMESTER EXAM**

## **WEEK 8**

### **VOCAL MUSIC COMPOSITION**

- ♪ Critical analysis of vocal tunes.
- ♪ Composing vocal tunes.

## **WEEK 9**

## **HISTORICAL DEVELOPMENT OF WESTERN MUSIC**

- ♪ Medieval, Renaissance, Baroque.
- ♪ Classical, Romantic, 20<sup>th</sup> & 21<sup>st</sup> century.

### **WEEK 10**

#### **AFRICAN MUSIC**

- ♪ General features of African Music.
- ♪ African ethnomusicology.

### **WEEK 11**

#### **KENYAN MUSIC**

- ♪ Songs, Dances and Instruments of Kenya.
- ♪ Characteristics of Kenyan Music.

### **WEEK 12**

#### **AFRO-AMERICAN MUSIC**

- ♪ Characteristic features of Afro-American music.
- ♪ The Band.

### **WEEK 13**

#### **MUSICAL COMPARISONS OF SELECTED MUSIC OF THE WORLD**

- ♪ Africa, USA, Asia.
- ♪ Europe, Middle East.

### **WEEK 14**

#### ***FINAL EXAM***

#### **TEACHING METHODOLOGY**

Lectures, discussions, group work, demonstrations, analysis, trip, drills, performances.

#### **COURSE TEXT**

Machlis, J. (1963). **The Enjoyment of Music**. New York: W.W. Norton and Company Inc.

#### **COURSE EVALUATION**

Attendance and participation	5%
Assignments	15%
Stage Performance	20%
Term Paper	20%
Mid-Semester Exam	20%
Final Examination	<u>20%</u>

**TOTAL**

**100%**

**ATTENDANCE GRADE ANALYSIS**

<b>Absence (s)</b>	<b>Marks (out of 5)</b>
0	5
1	4
2	3
3	2
4	1

**5 and above**

**0 = (F)**

**GRADING**

A	90 - 100
A-	87 - 89
B+	84 - 86
B	80 - 83
B-	77 - 79
C+	74 - 76
C	70 - 73
C-	67 - 69
D+	64 - 66
D	62 - 63
D-	60 - 61
F	0 - 59