

DEPARTMENT OF FINE ARTS

COURSE OUTLINE – Winter 2025

MU1860 (A3): Musical Life Today – 3 (3-0-0) 45 Hours for 15 Weeks

Northwestern Polytechnic acknowledges that our campuses are located on Treaty 8 territory, the ancestral and present-day home to many diverse First Nations, Metis, and Inuit people. We are grateful to work, live and learn on the traditional territory of Duncan's First Nation, Horse Lake First Nation and Sturgeon Lake Cree Nation, who are the original caretakers of this land.

We acknowledge the history of this land and we are thankful for the opportunity to walk together in friendship, where we will encourage and promote positive change for present and future generations.

INSTRUCTOR:	Kara Friesen	PHONE:	780-539-2979
OFFICE:	C 414	E-MAIL:	Kfriesen@nwpolytech.ca
OFFICE HOURS:	As posted on my office door and by appointment		

CALENDAR DESCRIPTION: Musical Life Today explores how people engage with music across different traditions, cultures and localities. The course considers engagements of all kinds, from practicing for a concert to whistling at the bus stop or dancing at a community drum circle.

PREREQUISITE(S)/ COREQUISITE: No prerequisites required, no musical knowledge or skills required

REQUIRED MATERIALS:

- **myClass:** You will need to visit our myClass page at <http://myclass.nwpolytech.ca/d2l/home> where you will be able to access a variety of necessary resources.
- **Required Readings** are available on myClass; these will include a mix of online documents and materials from the NWP Polytechnic Learning Commons.
- **Your own notes and writing** will become part of the course materials. The course

materials will be created and grow over the term within the community of students

and instructors.

DELIVERY MODE(S): In-person, myClass assisted

LEARNING OUTCOMES: Students will:

- Be exposed to different styles and genres of writing about/discussing music, and will reflect on the language used, as well as the authors' agendas and biases.
- Bring examples from their own musical and life experiences to shape class discussions on the issues and questions introduced during the lectures.
- Produce short pieces of reflective writing, and take part in peer-review workshops and collaborative exercises or activities meant to let students experiment with the different notions of music and approaches discussed in class.
- Acquire critical tools to engage with music across traditions.

TRANSFERABILITY:

Please consult the Alberta Transfer Guide for more information. You may check the transferability of this course at the Alberta Transfer Guide main page

<http://www.transferalberta.alberta.ca>.

** For courses with alpha (letter) grading, a grade of D or D+ may not be acceptable for transfer to other post-secondary institutions. **Students are cautioned that it is their responsibility to contact the receiving institutions to ensure transferability.**

EVALUATIONS:

Fieldwork:	20%
Assignment 1	15%
Assignment 2	15%
Presentation:	10%
Performance Reflection:	10%
Final Exam:	30%

GRADING CRITERIA:

Please note that most institutions will not accept your course for transfer credit IF your grade is less than C-.

Alpha Grade	4-point Equivalent	Percentage Guidelines	Alpha Grade	4-point Equivalent	Percentage Guidelines
A+	4.0	95-100	C+	2.3	67-69
A	4.0	85-94	C	2.0	63-66
A-	3.7	80-84	C-	1.7	60-62
B+	3.3	77-79	D+	1.3	55-59
B	3.0	73-76	D	1.0	50-54
B-	2.7	70-72	F	0.0	00-49

COURSE SCHEDULE/TENTATIVE TIMELINE:

Field work will be ongoing throughout the course. The presentation, reflection, and assignments will be paced at intervals during the course. The final exam will occur during the examination period at the end of the semester.

STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES:

- Attendance at all class sessions is highly recommended in order to succeed in this course.
- Assigned readings and need to be completed by the proposed deadlines to effectively contribute to class discussion.
- Late assignments will receive a deduction of one letter-grade increment per calendar day.

STATEMENT ON ACADEMIC MISCONDUCT:

Academic Misconduct will not be tolerated. For a more precise definition of academic misconduct and its consequences, refer to the Student Rights and Responsibilities policy available at <https://www.nwpolytech.ca/about/administration/policies/index.html>.

**Note: all Academic and Administrative policies are available on the same page.

Additional Information:

Depending on which live performance you choose to attend, there may be a ticket fee associated with that performance. Be prepared to purchase a ticket as part of your course materials. For free and paid concert listings, consult your professor.

