COURSE SYLLABUS
Techniques of Research in Music and Music Education

PREFIX AND NUMBER: MUS 6793 Section 001
CREDIT HOURS: 3 credit hours
MEETING TIME: Class Time: Thursday 4:00 PM – 6:40 PM (10-minute break)
INSTRUCTOR: Sang-Hie Lee, Ph.D. Ed.D. M.M. Associate Professor of Music
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OFFICE HOURS: Tuesday & Thursday 2:00 – 3:00 PM and by appointment
LIBRARIAN: Drew Smith: amsmith@lib.usf.edu  813-974-3492
Ilene Frank: ilene.frank@gmail.com
REQUIRED TEXTBOOK: Lee, Sang-Hie (2011) with chapter contributions by Janet
Sturman, Juan Chattah and Ilene Frank. Scholarly Research
Available at ProCopy, 5219 East Fowler Avenue, Tampa. FL
33617. 813-988-5900. Procopy1@aol.com
ATTENDANCE: 100% attendance is expected. In any event of absence, be sure to
let me know your emergency circumstance and follow up by
posting in the blackboard Discussion Board the course learning
of the week.

ACADEMIC DISHONESTY AND DISRUPTION OF ACADEMIC PROCESS:
Refer to the online catalog:
http://www.ugs.usf.edu/catalogs/0405/adadap.htm
Plagiarism Tutorial:
http://www.cte.usf.edu/plagiarism.htm

LEARNING DISABILITIES: See College Associate Dean Barton Lee
Student Responsibilities: http://www.asasd.usf.edu/students.htm
Faculty Responsibilities: http://www.asasd.usf.edu/faculty.htm
PHILOSOPHY:

I believe learning takes place best (1) when the learner deems the concepts and content meaningful to his/her experience and purpose, and (2) when the learner takes an active role in the process. This course is all about you. I encourage you to use this course as an opportunity to think about how you view the world, what is important to you, how you learn more about what is important to you, and how you go about building a theoretical framework from the literature, how to design a research plan, and how to express your findings in scholarly presentations (PowerPoint presentation and formal written paper).

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This course is a graduate seminar that provides introductory tools for scholarly research work for master's-level music students, whose focus of study may be performance, composition, conducting, music education, or other interdisciplinary pursuit. You will learn techniques involved in philosophical, historical, experimental, descriptive (social science), and ethnographic studies. You will learn principles of quantitative (statistical) and qualitative (content) data collection and analysis.

Research is ultimately about you: Doing research can clarify and strengthen your own interests and beliefs; and research experience can guide your course of study and future direction. This course is student-centered and project-based. By using concepts and techniques introduced in the course, you will select a research topic, compile and analyze content of the related literature, develop a theoretical framework, and write a complete formal research proposal. The proposal is developed through five stages. See detailed project descriptions and due dates under PROJECTS section below.

OBJECTIVES:

- To understand the rationale and purpose of research.

- To know various research agendas, concepts, and techniques involved in research with quantitative and qualitative data.

- To learn how to use USF virtual library system to conduct focused literature search.

- To analyze published research papers by identifying the problem, critically assessing the appropriateness of the methods and design, and relating the material to one’s focused research.

- To develop a formal research proposal with a theoretical framework, detailed research design, and projected outcomes.
INCIPIENT LEARNING: Additionally, you will improve in the following broader areas through research experience and knowledge.

- Rational thinking
- Open and fair mindedness
- Organizing thoughts and materials
- Analyzing ideas, readings and data
- Discerning validity of information
- Discerning reliability of information
- Valuing subjective ideas of his or her own and of others
- Knowing how to separate subjective opinions from objective observations
- Develop a particularly important aspect for artists to separate emotion and reasoning
- Collaboration and leadership skills
- Increased Self efficacy
- Cultivate Professionalism

TOPICS, CONCEPTS, TECHNIQUES:

- Research question(s)
- Theoretical framework
- Research plan
- Historical research
- Philosophical research
- Naturalistic inquiry
- Ethnographic study
- Case study
- Experimental research
- Survey (descriptive) study
- Qualitative data collection and content analysis
- Quantitative data collection and statistical analysis
- Interpretation of data (after the analysis)
- Validity and reliability in quantitative study
- Validity and reliability in qualitative study
- Sampling techniques: rationale and types
- Building a survey questionnaire
- Principles of descriptive statistics
- Principles of inferential statistics
FORMAT:

Seminar is a format in which students take a major role in the course content by reading & understanding course materials. The learning takes a real shape through class discussion, in your own study groups, and through collegial support and critique. Active engagement in the process of developing your own as well as classmates’ projects in a supportive collegial environment gives you an opportunity to share your thoughts and knowledge. By writing a formal research proposal, you will master scholarly process. Class presentation using an audio-visual presentation program gives you an opportunity to be on the podium to guide the audience through your research material. You will have opportunities for individual sessions with the instructor.

THE IMPORTANCE OF CLASS ATTENDANCE AND CONTRIBUTION:

This class is NOT about WRITING the Final PAPER. The collaborative learning that happens during class meetings and discussions are the KEYS to increasing your capacity to think and to understand the concepts, and to apply the live knowledge to your life and work as a musician and citizen of the learned community. There will be emergency situations, e.g., mandatory extra choral rehearsal, family emergency, school function, your own performance, disability issues, etc. Within the frame of NO absence policy, the missed learning can be made up at an individual meeting with me, but no more than twice.

PROJECTS:

**Project 1:** Topic and Research Question(s): Due Week 3

- Start by brainstorming a possible topic of interest, check library sources, and select a topic closely related to your field of study and/or one that you feel enthusiastic about.
- Change the topic into a researchable question with possible sub questions. Word your question(s) precisely and clearly.

**Project 2:** Summary Report on critical reading of two pieces of research (research article, a book, a book chapter): Due Week 5

- Read and summarize two pieces of closely-related literature to your topic; summarize each piece by describing the research problem, method, findings, and relevance to your topic.
- One page in length for each piece, double spaced. Font choices include Arial or Times New Roman, or something similar, font 12.
- Be sure to include your topic, your name, and full bibliographic information of the two pieces of the related literature.
Project 3: Theoretical Framework based on the related literature: Due Week 8 & 9

- Theoretical framework is a formal paper with references and citation in correct format. In this paper, you will organize and develop a full description of all relevant issues and factors on your topic/research question gleaned from the literature analysis.

- In this paper, you will introduce your topic and research question(s), and describe why it is important or significant. In this introduction you will also make a statement of the problem and context (or background) of your research topic.

- In the main body of the paper, you will describe various concepts, issues, and other substantive matters about your research topic and question, ending with a summary, conclusion, and a narrowed or revised research question yet unanswered.

- This paper will inform the audience systematically the known knowledge on your topic as they focus on your research question(s) ending with a newly derived research question.

- In this paper, you will have a minimum 15 pieces of literature and a minimum of 15 up to 25 pages of written paper that includes context and content, double-spaced in APA format.

Project 4: Class Presentation: Due Weeks 14 & 16

- Class Presentation of your completed research: Introduction and Theoretical framework (i.e., the problem, significance of the topic, research question(s), literature analysis), and add the rest of the research proposal (i.e., research design with method of data collection and analysis, timeframe, budget, expected outcome(s), projected impact(s) of the study, and possible future project(s)).

- You MUST use PowerPoint or Keynote computer presentation program.

- About 20-minute presentation; about 20 slides.

Project 5: Formal Paper: Research Proposal: Due Week 16

- The final project is a cumulative, complete formal research proposal that expands project 3, and every item described in the above project 4. Follow the outline described in Chapter V.

- This final paper will have a minimum of 21 pages, a minimum 15 pieces of related literature, double-spaced, 12 point font. References (not bibliography) pages do not count in page numbers.
• Project 5 is a final paper (a formal research proposal), that includes the revised project 3 and continues with a detailed follow-up research plan. After the introduction in which you will present the research question, statement of the problem, significance, the context, and theoretical framework, conclusion with a rephrased research question. (YOU MUST INCLUDE THE REVISED PROJECT 3 in PROJECT 5.)

• In the second part of the final project, you will develop and describe a detailed research plan, that demonstrates your understanding of the techniques of research, in particular the technique that you select to use to conduct your follow-up research. Describe the method of data collection, method of data analysis, interpretation, impact, who will benefit from your research, timeframe, and projected budget, and future research and recommendation.

All final papers produced in this class will be archived in my library for future classes and may be listed an upcoming textbook. Your authorship remains with your paper.

HOW TO STAY HEALTHY AND HAPPY IN THIS CLASS

• Be consistent with weekly lessons, assignments, and discussions.
• Keep close contact with the class by participating in the class discussion.
• Make an individual appointment to further brainstorm your project topic, on-campus, online, or via telephone.
• Communicate often with your classmates about your topic, solicit their help, and share problems and joys in doing research.
• You will experience foggy times; but eventually you will develop clear reading, thinking, writing, and research skills.
• If you are lost in the forest, please talk out your thoughts with your instructor and classmates.
• You must go to the library!! Internet gives you the map, not ALL the substances!!

GRADING:

- Class Attendance and Participation/Contribution: 40 points
- Project 1 Topic & Research Question(s): 5 points
- Project 2 Two Articles: 5 points
- Project 3 Literature Review and Theoretical Framework: 15 points
- Project 4 PowerPoint Presentation: 15 points
- Project 5 Complete Research Proposal: 20 points

Total 100 points
SOURCE READING:


Electronic reserve: PAST STUDENT RESEARCH PAPERS AVAILABLE ONLINE and in MY OFFICE Archive!
### Weekly Schedule

#### Week 1 (August 25)
- Welcome and Introduction
- Syllabus. Schedule. Projects
- Lee Chapters 1-II
  - “What is research?”
  - “What do I want to know and why?”
  - “Where do I go to find out?”
  - “Why and to whom do I tell?”

#### Week 2 (September 1)
- Chapter III Overview and Terminology
- Guidelines on research topics and questions
Week 3 (September 8)  
**PROJECT 1 RESEARCH TOPIC DUE**
- Blaxter Chapter 4 Reading for research
- Bell Chapter 4 Keeping records, making notes and locating libraries
- Chapter V Conceptual Framework, Research Plan, Tips on Writing
- Discuss Project 1

Week 4 (September 15)
- Virtual Library Guide by Drew Smith and Ilene Frank: LIB 309  4:00-6:30 PM
  - Chapter IV Using the Library

Week 5 (September 23)  
**PROJECT 2 DUE**
- Discuss Project 2. Summaries of two pieces of related literature
- Responses to classmates’ Project 2
- Chapter VI Philosophical Research
- Chapter VII Music Theory Research

Week 6 (September 30)  
**Individual appointments begin**
- Chapter VIII Historical Research
- Project 3 progress report
- Chapter IX Naturalistic Inquiry

Week 7 (October 6)  
**Reminder, work on Projects 3**
- Project 3 progress discussion
- Chapter IX Naturalistic Inquiry/Qualitative Studies Continues
  - Ethnographic study
  - Focus group
  - Interview techniques
  - Validity and reliability in qualitative study
  - Significance in qualitative study
  - Qualitative data: Collecting and analysis
- Chapter X Research Method in Ethnomusicology
Week 8 (October 13) **Reminder, Projects 3 due this week or Week 9**

- Chapter XI Experimental Study
  - Purpose & background
  - Validity questions
  - Reliability questions
  - Experimental study designs: Managing validity and reliability problems

Week 9 (October 20) **PROJECT 3 last DUE day (Put them in my box or send via e-mail)**

Week 10 (October 27)

- Chapter XII Descriptive (Survey) Study
  - Description and background
  - Sampling Techniques
- Chapter XIII Making Questionnaire
  - Making questionnaire from theoretical framework:
  - Ex: Faculty vitality study

Week 11 (November 3)

- Chapter XIV Principles of Descriptive Statistics
- Lee Descriptive Statistics Tables
- Chapter XV Correlation Matrix

Week 12 (November 10)

- Chapter XVI Principles of Inferential Statistics
- Factor Analysis & Regression Analysis
- Lee Inferential Statistics Tables

Week 13 (November 17)

- Chapter XVI continue
- Chapter XVII Review
- Course Evaluation
Week 14 (November 18)  PROJECT 4 CLASS PRESENTATION
Week 15 (November 24)  HAPPY THANKSGIVING DAY !!!
Week 16 (December 2)  PROJECT 4 CLASS PRESENTATION
                      PROJECT 5 DUE.

Congratulations!! Nice work well done!!