

MUH 4930/6935 – Listening to Narrative: Music and Storytelling in Film and Television

Spring 2026 – T 4:05-7:05pm (period 9-11)

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Classroom location: MUB 0146
Student Hours with Dr. Mosley: TBD, [see below](#)
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A note about this semester

Before we get started, *how are you?* These are objectively (still, god yes still even in 2026) weird times for all of us and while I am so excited to teach you this semester, I am fully aware of what is before us. Your health (mental, physical, & emotional) and safety are paramount, and I will do my best to place grace, kindness, and understanding at the forefront of this class (I hope you will extend the same to me as well as to your fellow classmates). Prepare for changes, reworkings, and hiccups — do your best to center flexibility in your academic practice. If there are ever any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me — I can only help with things if I am aware of them. I hope that that our class meetings are a respite from what is the current insanity of the world and give you something to look forward to.

How to use this syllabus

This syllabus provides you with information specific to this course, and it also provides information about important university policies. This document should be viewed as a course overview; it is not a contract and is subject to change as the semester evolves. Any changes to the syllabus will be communicated to students via email and new syllabi.

General course description

The purpose of this course is to discuss the way music and sound are used in film and television to display, highlight, and provide narrative. This is not a film music course *per se*, where we discuss the history of film music. This course will cover narrative theory and film theory and, through specific examples, examine how sound and music can be used as tools for extramusical storytelling. As a disclaimer, this class will include watching of various types of media, including media that may be graphic in nature. That media will be marked in advance on the syllabus, and I am happy to discuss any issues or concerns on an individual basis. But it is crucial to this class that the media be engaged with.

Requirements and Grading

Final grades will be calculated according to the system below. Rubrics and supplemental documents pertaining to the assignments are available on Canvas.

Attendance	10%
Contribution	20%
Online Journal	35%
Final Paper	35%

Grading Scale for UF Music History Classes:

94-100	A	74-76	C
91-93	A-	71-73	C-
87-90	B+	67-70	D+
84-86	B	64-66	D
81-83	B-	61-63	D-
77-80	C+	0-60	F

Attendance, Discussion, Papers and Projects

Okay, so everything is weird, right? Right. And I understand that there will be illness and other things that may make attendance difficult. As such, I will evaluate attendance as we go along. However, participation is crucial.

This is a graduate seminar, and everyone will get the most out of it by participating. There will be an online journal that you will contribute to throughout the course and a final paper at the end of the semester. For the online journal, you need to create an account on Letterboxd (www.letterboxd.com; it's free) where you will log all of your films. More information about how you will write about them will be provided in a prompt at the beginning of the semester. There will also be a final paper about which you will receive a prompt later on in the semester.

Academic Policies and Resources

Information about university-wide policies and resources can be found here:

<https://syllabus.ufl.edu/syllabuspolicy/uf-syllabus-policy-links/>