MUHL 570: Research Materials and Techniques
Fall 2020
Online

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Office Hours by appointment

Course Objectives
- ➢ To learn the basic principles of music information literacy and research
- ➢ To develop skills for using music library resources effectively
- ➢ To become familiar with different types of music scholarship
- ➢ To refine abilities for effective writing and proper bibliographic citation
- ➢ To understand and follow USC's standard for academic integrity

Recommended Text
Gottlieb, Jane. *Music Library and Research Skills*. 2nd ed. New York: Oxford University Press, 2016.

Attendance
Attendance is required for every class meeting and will be noted. Unexcused absences will result in the subtraction of 10 points from your final grade for each absence. Extreme tardiness (more than 15 minutes) will be considered an absence. If you need to miss a class, please notify me at least 24 hours in advance to make your absence excused.

Grading
The final course grade will be based on a scale of 1000 points:

Assignments (total of 4 @ 100 points each)	400
Class participation	100
Final project	500

Academic Integrity
The USC Academic Integrity standard outlines procedures and outcomes; any instances of cheating or plagiarism in this class will result in the initiation of a complaint per the standard, which may result in a failing grade for the course and/or appropriate disciplinary action from the university.

Americans with Disabilities Act
USC complies with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) in making reasonable accommodations for qualified students with disabilities. If you have an established disability as defined in the ADA and would like to request accommodation, please contact me as soon as possible.

Course Schedule (subject to change)

August 18-19	Course overview, Libraries website introduction	
August 25-26	Methods of research, bibliographies	*Assignment 1 due*
September 1-2	Encyclopedias and dictionaries	
September 8-9	Academic writing and bibliographic citation	*Assignment 2 due*
September 15-16	Periodicals	
September 22-23	Thematic catalogs and critical/complete editions	*Project topic due*
September 29-30	Manuscript sources, printing and publishing	
October 6-7	USC Libraries Special Collections	*Assignment 3 due*
October 13-14	Ethnomusicology, jazz, and pop music scholarship	
October 20-21	Sound recordings and discography	*Assignment 4 due*
October 27-28	Presentations	
November 3-4	Presentations	*Project draft due*
November 10-11	Presentations	

Assignments

Designed to either assist with understanding academic research and dialogue or offer experience in honing professional skills, you will receive prompts or instructions for each:

1. Musical scholarship in the age of Black Lives Matter
2. Library "scavenger hunt"
3. Program notes for a performance or liner notes for a recording
4. Grant proposal for a potential arts-related project

Final Project

The goal of the final project is to reflect your understanding of research techniques and music resources, as well as the craft of writing and formatting a quality bibliography. It is also intended to serve as a first step toward possible further research in your academic and/or professional career.

➢ Agree on a topic with me and identify at least 20 different sources pertinent to the topic
➢ Using The Chicago Manual of Style, appropriately cite and write an annotation for each source
➢ Write a 3,000-word (minimum) accompanying essay that:
   ▪ Provides an overview of the topic
   ▪ Summarizes your findings of scholarship on the topic
   ▪ Suggests possibilities for future research

During the last three class meetings, everyone will give a 15-minute summary presentation of their project to the class; accompanying materials such as slides are welcomed, but not required.

Final project topic due:	September 11
Final project draft due:	November 6
Final project due:	November 24