FW 2024-25

AP/EN 4000 3.0A (F) Music, Sound and Vibration in Literature Course Director: Prof. Marcus Boon Office Atkinson 722 Ext. x 40675 e-mail: mboon@yorku.ca Time: Thursdays 11:30 a.m. – 2:15 p.m. Delivery Format: SEMINAR Description: This course offers an introduction to sound studies, i.e. the study of the way that sound impacts and shapes our lives, notably in literature and in music. We will study key texts in the field of sound studies along with relevant literary texts, recordings and films, exploring the ways in which new forms of collectivity emerge from an engagement with sound and vibration. Topics to be addressed include: soundscapes; different types of listening; the Black radical tradition and sound; music, sound and vibration and their relation to philosophy; decolonial and queer approaches to sound studies; subculture, mass culture and counterculture in the digital era; spirituality and healing in music and sound. Examples discussed may include the Kendrick/Drake beef, Taylor Swift and sound studies, emergent queer/trans raving scenes across the globe, AI and sound/music. Literature discussed will include work by Franz Kafka, James Baldwin, Virginia Woolf, Hideo Furukawa and Tanya Tagaq. By the end of the class students will think about sound differently and with greater awareness! Category: N/A
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Historical Requirement: N/A
Requirements: 2000 word term project w. creative component and brief in class
presentation (50%)
20 minute class presentation on course materials (20%)
Participation (15%)
End of semester exam (15%)
Reading List: Daphne Brooks, <i>Liner Notes for the Revolution: The Intellectual Life of</i>
Black Feminist Sound
Franz Kafka, "Josephine, the Mouse Singer"
Hazrat Inayat Khan, <i>The Mysticism of Music and Sound</i> Honri Lofeburg, <i>Phythmanalysis</i>
Henri Lefebvre, <i>Rhythmanalysis</i> Clarice Lispector, <i>Agua Viva</i>
Pauline Oliveros, Sonic Meditations
Jonathan Sterne, ed., <i>The Sound Studies Reader</i>
Tanya Tagaq, <i>Split Tooth</i>
McKenzie Wark, <i>Raving</i>
Virginia Woolf, The Waves
Open To: Yr 3,4 (EN, ENPR, CRWR students only)