

## First Things First

- If you would like to schedule an advising appointment with me, and you can make any of my office hours. You do not need to email me or make an appointment. You can just go ahead and come see me during my office hour.
- I prefer the Sunday office hour (since it is set aside especially for you).
- Come see me for any concerns.

## FTS-100-349

First Term Seminar  
It's Just Noise/Music

## Advising Homework (5 points)

- Due (in hardcopy) at the start of class on Monday, 9/12/2016.
- They will be graded (out of 5 points)
- Semester Goal Setting:

### **Preparatory Assignment:**

Students will bring with them to class a copy of a freewriting assignment (the professor can decide how formal or informal the written response must be and how/if it will be graded) responding in around 500 words to the following prompt:

- What three goals would you like to meet during your first semester in college?
  - Why are these important goals for you?
  - What do you think will be most challenging about meeting your goals?
  - What resources (skills, abilities, traits, friends, support network, etc.) do you have that will help you meet these goals?
  - What concrete steps might you take to achieve these goals?

## A Little Exercise

- I'll play you 5 songs.
- Write down your thought as you listen to each song. How does each song make you feel?
- What messages is each song trying to convey?
  - Good time, fun
  - Partying
- Write down the word that comes into your head as you listen to each song.
  - Mountain
  - Sky
  - Slow
- Your thought could be immediate or not:
  - Happy/sad
  - Excited
  - "It sounds like a bunch of cats being tortured"

## A Little Exercise

- Organize your post-it notes into 5 piles.
- Put each post-it note on a section of the board when you are done.
- Let's talk about them.
- What can we draw from this listening experience?
- What am I trying to say? What's my point?

## Questions

- What can you appreciate when you listen to music?
- Do you always have to understand music? Does the message always have to be crystal clear to you?
- Have you given it a chance? How would preconceived notion effect your judgment in music?

## Questions

- Does music HAVE to make you feel good?
  - Is “makes me happy”, “got a good beat” automatically a good thing in music.
  - Is “I don't get it”, “It angers me”, “It confuses me” automatically a bad thing in music?
  - To answer that, we need a definition
- What is Music then?
- What do you want from music? What can music do for you?

## Discussion 1

- Write each of the question you have gotten on a word document. Let's discuss each one of them.
- A huge part of critical thinking is asking these questions.
- If you ask good questions, and try to address the question (with thoughtful answers). And you organize these answers well, then you'll have the start of a great paper.

## Homework

- Listen to each song again, the track list is available on the course web page
- <http://homepages.gac.edu/~lyu/teaching/fts100-f16/9-7-2016.html>
- For each song, write your impression in point form on the posted-note (so at the end you will have 5 posted notes).
- For each song, try to justify your answer even further on a piece of paper (i.e., write an elaboration on the corresponding post-it note).
- Try to ask questions and think about things thoroughly as you write your impression. I will discuss them with you on Friday.

## Everything's been done

- Style wise it is a similar situation. Every musicians in the popular music genre has very obvious influences from an older musician. There is no "originality".
- I often hear people judging other people's music taste by listing older bands of similar variety. For example:
  - "Oasis sucks, the Beatles has done it already".
  - The Killers -> U2, Joy Division, New Order
- **Argument: because of this logic, there is no point listening to modern music, since one can trace every style of modern music to an older genre (and ultimately, and musically, trace most things back to classical music). Literately, everything has been done.**

## Discussion 2

- <http://qz.com/767812/millennial-whoop/>
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2B8QjpW3n4w>
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JdxkVQy7QLM>
- **So, is classical music ultimately "superior" to other music genres?**
- Form two groups, one for this statement and one against it.
- Write down arguments supporting or arguing against the argument.