

**ANTH5708: Special Topics  
Music and Conflict**

**Instructor:** Dr. Carolyn Ramzy

**Term:** Fall

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**Method of Delivery:** In-Person Lecture (3 hours per week); not suitable for online students; online students should not register.

**Course Description:**

*Music and Conflict* examines music's potential to solve or exacerbate contemporary social, political, and environmental conflicts. Through critical and interdisciplinary readings on governance, power, and agency, we will broadly investigate the question: what are the potentials of music to empower, or simply, to take power away? We will explore various issue-based case studies, and the role of music and sound cultures in various contexts: war and conflict; anti-oppression and anti-colonial activism, neoliberal capitalism, forced/voluntary migration; disease and healing; violence and poverty; and finally, climate change and environmental stewardships.

**Readings/Texbooks:**

Readings are largely drawn from the following sources. Hard Copies are also available on reserve in the MacOdrum Library and where noted, our library catalogue has free e-books that are available for your use. Any additional course materials will be made available through ARES and BrightSpace.

1. Daughtery, Martin J. *Listening to War: Sound, Music, Trauma, and Survival in Wartime Iraq*. Oxford, UK: Oxford University Press, 2015. (e-book through MacOdrum Library)
2. Fast, Susan and Kip Pegley. 2012. *Music, Politics, and Violence*. Middletown: Wesleyan University Press.
3. O'Connell, John Morgan, and Salwa El-Shawan Castelo-Branco. 2010. *Music and Conflict*. Urbana: University of Illinois Press

**Graduate Student Evaluation**

Discussion Leading & Seminar Participation 20%

Weekly Reading Guides 30%

Paper Abstract 15%

Final Presentation 15%

Final Paper 20%

Interested students can contact the instructor for the full course outline