

Second Ethnographic Writing Assignment

“Anthropology of Music and Sound,” MUS/ANTH 448/548

Dr. Jacobsen-Bia, Spring 2015

Due: Thursday 4/09/15, hard copy in class with proof of attendance attached, STAPLED

This assignment is worth 100 points, or 10% of your total grade.

1) Identify a musical event that you would like to attend. After attending this event, and based on your “field notes” taken during the event, describe the sonic and social features of this event. What were the social interactions before, during and after the event which help to characterize the event itself? What were key cultural characteristics embedded in the performance from your perspective? Use the ethnographic readings done in class thus far as an inspiration and model for this assignment. Paper should include both a descriptive portion (1/3) and an analytic portion (2/3rds).

2) For this assignment, and in contrast to your first ethnographic writing assignment, you also need to both describe and analyze the event from a social scientific perspective. This means you will go beneath the surface of observed phenomena rather than simply describing the event at face value. Please consult the detailed **grading rubric** provided on the next page, and be sure to go through each grading category as a checklist before submitting (13/13 points=100%).

You must attach proof that you attend the event to the front page of your paper (this could be a concert bill, a ticket, or the equivalent). **2 pages (500 words), minimum, 3 pages (750 words), maximum.**

Grading Rubric	
Emphasizes analysis (your ideas) over description	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 3: Essay is driven by ideas, and they are integrated into an overarching and sustained argument 2: Essay includes ideas throughout, but they are not integrated into an overarching argument 1: Essay includes a few ideas but is mostly descriptive 0: Essay is purely descriptive
Structure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2: Strong introduction and conclusion; cohesive paragraphs; logical relationship between paragraphs 1: Paper is basically well organized, but introduction or conclusion is weak or logical flow is not always clear 0: Paper is disorganized; weak introduction and conclusion
Relationship between evidence and interpretation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1: There is strong empirical evidence supporting interpretations 0: The empirical evidence supporting interpretations is weak or missing; there may be a disjuncture between evidence and interpretations
Creativity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1: The essay's topics, descriptions, or ideas are fresh, original, or unusual 0: Essay mostly includes ideas or descriptions we read about or discussed in class or that would be immediately apparent to most observers
Citations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1: Citations, when needed, are specific and accurate 0: Citations are needed and inadequate
Error free	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1: Essay has no more than three grammatical and mechanical errors 0: There are more than three errors in the essay
Analyzes social, cultural, and sonic/musical dimensions of topic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2: Addresses a wide range of social, cultural, and sonic/musical dimensions 1: Addresses several dimensions but omits other important dimensions 0: Addresses a narrow range of dimensions, ignores major dimensions
Critical analysis	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1: Goes beneath the surface of observed phenomena; investigates topic from a social scientific perspective 0: Takes the described phenomena at face value; does not advance a social scientific interpretation
Narrowly focused, not broad and general	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1: There is a single topic that is narrow enough to allow some depth of analysis 0: The essay covers multiple topics superficially; its focus is too broad to allow for deep analysis