Ethnomusicology 68N/168N; 68O/168O

Music of the Balkans

Fall 2018 Syllabus

Instructors: Tzvetanka Varimezova and Ivan Varimezov
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COURSE SCHEDULE
Mondays
68N  6:00pm to 8:00pm:   Room 1420 SMB   Choir with Tzvetanka
68O  6:00pm to 8:00pm:   Room 1440 SMB   Instrumental Music (incl. Drums) with Ivan

Mondays
168N  8:00pm to 10:00pm:   Room 1420 SMB   Choir with Tzvetanka
168O  8:00pm to 10:00pm:   Room 1440 SMB   Instrumental Music (incl. Drums) with Ivan

COURSE DESCRIPTION
This course focuses on the traditional music of Bulgaria in three forms: (1) women’s choral singing, (2) mixed choral singing, (3) instrumental music for dances (including drums). The women’s and mixed choirs sing traditional and arranged versions of songs from the villages of Bulgaria, a tradition made famous on the world-music charts under the name le mystère des voix bulgares. The instrumental dance ensemble features Western instruments such as saxophone, clarinet, accordion, violin, electric guitar, piano, and bass, in a style made famous by the virtuoso Bulgarian clarinetist Ivo Papazov.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS
For the instrumental dance ensemble, you should be able to play a standard Western musical instrument and be able to read music, but all levels are welcome. Singers need to be able to sing in tune, but all levels are welcome. Drummers don’t need previous experience, but need to have good rhythm.

GRADING
Regular attendance at once-a-week rehearsals is required. Other small-group rehearsals may be arranged on an ad hoc basis. Attendance at the final performance during class time in the 10th week is required.

Grades are based solely on prompt attendance at weekly rehearsals and the final performance during class time in the 10th week.

Absences will affect your grade as shown below (except for legitimate cases of emergency, reported promptly and in advance to the instructors, in person, or by email or phone). There are no makeup assignments.
Attendance grade scale (note: 2 tardies = 1 absence):
0 absences: A+
1 absence: A
2 absences: A-
3 absences: B+
4 absences: B
5 absences: B-
6 absences: C+
7 absences: C
8 absences: C-
9 absences: D+
10 absences: D

If you have more than ten absences, you will receive an automatic failing grade (F) for the entire course.

CLASS RULES
1) No unnecessary talking and disruptive behavior
2) No eating, chewing gum, doing homework
3) Turn off all cell phones, laptops, and other devices