

COURSE CONTENT

Course Code	DF2013
Course Title	Film Music in Theory and Practice
Pre-requisites	NIL
No of AUs	3
Contact Hours	39 hours studio contact

Course Aims

This course will introduce you to an analytical, historical and practical study of music and moving images. You will explore the history, theory, terminology and methods needed to analyze and interpret soundtracks. The process of planning and writing music for film will be examined as well as the role of the composer in film production. Film music form, aesthetics and genre styles will be analyzed with a focus on music and image relationships through screening examples and analysis. The learning in this course will enable greater proficiency when applying sound to creative visual media.

Intended Learning Outcomes (ILO)

By the end of the course, you should be able to:

1. Describe and discuss the functions of sound and music in relation to the moving image.
2. Critically analyze and discuss the various film music forms and genres.
3. Create or select and edit, music to support the narrative and emotional needs of a film.
4. Describe the historical trends, influential composers and developments in music for moving image.
5. Contribute to class activities, discussions and critiques using appropriate musical theory terms, language, and context.

Course Content

In this course you will explore film music from a historical and analytical perspective and while concentrating on the western film music tradition, film music from Asia will also be examined.

Film and Music

The course begins with an investigation of the origins of film music as derived from Wagner's Gesamtkunstwerk. The basic elements of drama and the elements of film will be examined. Finally the elements of music and basic functions of film music will be examined.

Film Music History

We will examine the history of film music from around 1900 to the present concentrating on, but not limited to, Hollywood films. Major movements will be discussed and trends analysed as well as important composers.

Listening and Analysis

You will learn how to listen to and critically analyse film scores from multiple perspectives. The ability to identify stylistic traits and characteristics will be developed.

Creating Film Music

We will discuss the fundamentals of how a composer creates a film score, either as an original composition or from the selection and editing of pre-existing music. Creating cues that support the mood and emotional needs of the narrative will be explored.