COURSE DETAIL

MUSIC IN THE DIGITAL AGE
Country Germany
Host Institution Free University of Berlin
Program(s) European Studies
UCEAP Course Level Upper Division
UCEAP Subject Area(s) Music
UCEAP Course Number 114
UCEAP Course Suffix
UCEAP Official Title MUSIC IN THE DIGITAL AGE
UCEAP Transcript Title MUSIC DIGITAL AGE
UCEAP Quarter Units 4.50
UCEAP Semester Units 3.00

Course Description

There is hardly any musical style, genre, or context which has not been significantly affected by the pervasive digitalization of recent decades. From digital audio workstations to computer-generated music, from laptop performances to fan remixes, from cloud computing to commercial distribution channels – digital technology has profoundly changed the ways in which music is produced, performed, disseminated, and consumed. This course examines the nature of these shifts and samples salient and productive intersections of music and technology. Through specific case studies, the course tackles the following questions: How have digital technologies enabled unprecedented modes of making, using and perceiving music? In what ways has digital mediatization shaped our experiences with musical content and style? And how do we reconcile the long-established connections between music, performance and liveness in an era when the paradigm of reproduction seems to be omnipresent? In the first five sessions the course considers the impact of digital technologies on the production of music. After an introducing outline of basic shifts in music and musicianship caused by digitalization and the computer, the course looks at concrete musical examples in order to understand the influence of digital technologies both on the creative process of music making and on the aesthetic reflection on it. The second half of the course starts with exemplary examinations of digital music technologies in music-related genres and domains, such as film, video games, or sound art. At the end of the semester the course extends the scope and considers cultural issues that are entailed by digital possibilities of sharing, disseminating, and consuming music. In particular, we discuss the intertwining of digitization and commodification as well as its impact on the experience of music in everyday life.

Language(s) of Instruction
English

Host Institution Course Number
FU-BEST 29

Host Institution Course Title
MUSIC IN THE DIGITAL AGE

Host Institution Course Details
http://www.fu-berlin.de/en/sites/fubest/prog/courses/29_music_in_the_digital_ag...

Host Institution Campus
Free Univ. Berlin

Host Institution Faculty

Host Institution Degree

Host Institution Department
FU-BEST

Course Last Reviewed
2021-2022

Print