

**SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY  
FALL SEMESTER 2008**

**EDUC 469-4  
MUSIC EDUCATION AS THINKING IN SOUND  
(E100)**

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Wednesday 4:30-8:20 in EDB 7619

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**PREREQUISITE:** 60 credit hours

**DESCRIPTION:**

This course will provide students with the opportunity to examine critically key issues associated with music psychology and education. Music plays an important role in all human societies. It is an essential component of most rituals, ceremonies and gatherings, whether they are religious, festive, sporting, educational or political. Most people spend considerable periods of time every day listening to music. School children often learn to play a musical instrument, or sing in a choir. A piece of music can put you in a good mood, or it can move you to tears. It can make you want to sing and dance, or send you into a deep state of relaxation. It can sound orderly or chaotic, consonant or dissonant, interesting or boring, familiar or strange. Music affects people's lives in innumerable ways. It can help you to identify with, or cause you to feel rejected by, a particular social group. This course will explore these issues through readings and discussion on wide-ranging topics such as: development of musical recognition; cognitive representations of music; perception of musical structure; motivation and music performance achievement; the 'Mozart effect'; musical identities; gender issues in music education; contemporary issues in music education and technology. All these phenomena impact on music education in a variety of ways. As such, the course will assist teachers in developing their understanding of music education practice, the cognition of musical structure, and the development of musical skills and knowledge.

**PURPOSE:**

Reading, listening and viewing activities should develop an awareness of the aesthetic complexity of sound and its implications for music and aesthetic education.

**REQUIRED TEXT:**

The Mozart Effect by Don Campbell ISBN#0340824379

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[http://www.educ.sfu.ca/ugradprogs/student\\_resources/index.html](http://www.educ.sfu.ca/ugradprogs/student_resources/index.html)

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