Course Overview:
This course introduces Japanese culture and music through performance of an increasingly popular Japanese ensemble drumming style. The reading and listening provide a basis for understanding the origins, history, and development of this musical style, while also exploring the position of wadaiko in broader Japanese and global Asian cultural contexts. Each class will thus begin with consideration of the appropriate reading and listening assignments, followed by performance practice on the actual instruments. As such, you will gain both a sense for the general musical styles of Japan and the global movement of musical forms, while also developing performance expertise in one particular world music genre.

Required Material:
Reading and audio-visual materials will be placed on Nexus or distributed in class.

Practice Taiko:
There are practice taiko located in room 106A (code # 3140) available for use from 6pm to 8am. Given the vibrant sound of even the practice drum, please be sensitive to others who may be practicing more “delicate” instruments. And do of course politely refrain from practicing if any faculty member asks you to do so. Do remember to leave the bachi in the room.

Evaluation:
Grading will be based on the following assignments -

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignment</th>
<th>Points</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Class Participation</td>
<td>40pts</td>
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<tr>
<td>3 quizzes</td>
<td>25pts</td>
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<tr>
<td>Concert Report</td>
<td>5pts</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final Project</td>
<td>30pts</td>
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<tr>
<td>Proposal</td>
<td>5pts</td>
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<tr>
<td>Performance</td>
<td>15pts</td>
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<tr>
<td>Paper (3-5 pages)</td>
<td>10pts</td>
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All assignments must be submitted by the dates and times as indicated. Any late work will be penalized with a full grade deduction per each day late. If there is any legitimate reason that you cannot take a quiz as scheduled or turn in a paper on time, you must inform me in advance. All assignments must be completed to pass the course.

**In-class Expectations:**
Students are expected to practice proper classroom etiquette. Students must also complete reading and related listening assignments as indicated in the schedule AND be prepared to discuss them in class. Indeed, lively discussion is absolutely essential in this course, therefore please take adequate notes on your reading and listening to allow you to contribute to the group. The course will focus on hands-on instruction on *taiko* (Japanese drums), culminating in a dress rehearsal and concert at the end of the term. Required additional “sectional” rehearsals will be scheduled as necessary. Participation therefore accounts for 40pts of the final grade. If you have any questions or concerns about how to improve your discussion and/or rehearsal techniques, and in turn your class participation grade, please see me during the term. Please remember that your class participation grade is entirely separate from your grades on your written work.

Regular attendance AND participation thus are both absolutely necessary to successfully complete this course. Greater than two absences will result in failure of the course. Missing either the dress rehearsal or the final concert will also result in failure of the course.

**Students with Disabilities:**
Please note that any student with a documented disability needing academic adjustments or accommodations is requested to speak to me by the end of the second week of the term. All discussions will remain confidential, although the Dean of Students may be consulted to verify the documentation of the disability.

**Honor Code:**
Union College recognizes the need to create an environment of mutual trust as part of its educational mission. Responsible participation in an academic community requires respect for and acknowledgement of the thoughts and work of others, whether expressed in the present or in some distant time and place.

Matriculation at the College is taken to signify implicit agreement with the Academic Honor Code, available at honorcode.union.edu <http://honorcode.union.edu/>. It is each student's responsibility to ensure that submitted work is his or her own and does not involve any form of academic misconduct. Students are expected to ask their course instructors for clarification regarding, but not limited to, collaboration, citations, and plagiarism. Ignorance is not an excuse for breaching academic integrity.

Students are also required to sign a “Full Affirmation” of the Honor Code.
Tentative Schedule

Week 1
Weds 9/11  Introduction to the Course

Mon 9/16  Are World Music Ensembles a Good Thing?
Reading: Solis “Teaching What Cannot Be Taught” (1-19) and
         Trimillos “Subject, Object, and the Ethnomusicology Ensemble”

Week 2
Weds 9/18  The Art of Drums
Reading: de Ferranti (2000) *Japanese Musical Instruments* (40-54); Asai
         (1985) “Hôraku” (163-172)

Mon 9/23  <Quiz #1 Wadaiko Terms 5pts>

Week 3
Weds 9/25  Introduction to Japanese Music
Reading: Fujie “East Asia/ Japan” (331-356) in Titon (2002) *Worlds of
         Music* and accompanying listening

Mon 9/30  Master Class on Fue with Kaoru Watanabe (1-2pm)
          Workshop with Kaoru Watanabe (3:05 – 4:30pm)
          Concert featuring Kaoru Watanabe (5-6pm)

Week 4
Weds 10/2  Introduction to Japanese Music continued
Reading: Fujie “East Asia/ Japan” (356-384) in Titon (2002) *Worlds of
         Music* and accompanying listening

Mon 10/7  Introduction to Japanese Music continued
<Concert Report Due 5pts>

Week 5
Weds 10/9  <Quiz #2 Principals of Japanese Music 10pts>

Thurs 10/10  Optional: Deborah Wong at Skidmore

Mon 10/14  Nationalism and Taiko in Japan
Reading: Bender “Of Roots and Race” (197-212) in the *Social Science
         Japan Journal* (2005) Vol. 8 No. 2

Week 6
Weds 10/16  Globalizing Wadaiko
Reading: de Ferranti “Japan Beating” (75-93) in Allen and Sakamoto (2006)
Popular Culture, Globalization and Japan

Mon 10/21  Taiko in Asia-America

Week 7
Weds 10/23  <Final Project Proposal Due In-Class 5pts>
Mon 10/28  Take Home Quiz #3 on the  
Transnational Flow of Taiko Distributed

Week 8
Weds 10/30  <Quiz #3 Transnational Flow of Taiko Due 10pts>
Mon 11/4  Concert Preparation

Week 9
Weds 11/6  Dress Rehearsal in Emerson from 3-6:30pm
Thurs 11/7  Concert Day in Emerson  
Load-in 4pm  
Dress Rehearsal 4:30-5:30pm  
Concert 6pm  
Breakdown 7pm
Mon 11/11  Review Final Projects

Week 10
Weds 11/13  Review Final Projects

(Please note I will be away from Thurs, November 14th through Sun, November 17th)

Mon 11/18  Final Performances

Optional Drafts Due by NOON on Friday, November 22nd
Final Papers Due by NOON on Monday, November 25th
Full Affirmation of the Honor Code

As a student at Union College, I am part of a community that values intellectual effort, curiosity and discovery. I understand that in order to truly claim my educational and academic achievements, I am obligated to act with academic integrity. Therefore, I affirm that I will carry out my academic endeavors with full academic honesty, and I rely on my fellow students to do the same.

Signature:_____________________

Date:______________________