

Paper Assignment #3: Fantasy Playlist/Mixtape

For your final short paper, you will generate a dynamic playlist/mixtape of up to a dozen songs and write a 5-6-page (1250-1500 words) essay describing your musical choices, justifying the order in which you've arranged them, and explaining how they are thematically related. You will give your playlist/mixtape a theme relevant to our discussions in the course so far. You are free to choose your own theme or to select from the following:

- Music and Politics
- Ambivalence/Ambiguity
- Reflections on Identity
- Love, Life, and Laughter
- Musical Modernities
- (Post)Colonial Sounds

You may draw the content for your playlist from the listening/viewing assignments or you may locate songs on the CDs purchased for this course in the library or on the Internet.

In order to receive a passing grade, your essay should:

- include complete and correctly formatted footnotes for all media (books, articles, CDs, music videos) referenced and a bibliography [note: I strongly recommend using the *Chicago Manual of Style Online* for formatting!]
- be checked thoroughly for correct spelling and grammar
- meet the additional criteria described above

An "A" paper will have the following additional qualities:

- an especially innovative or insightful theme (although you will not be penalized for picking one of the themes above!)
- a clear and intuitive organizational structure
- references to supporting literature, music, and videos from our syllabus
- a strong sense of how the songs you have selected are in dialogue with one another and with the course themes

Have fun with this! And if you have any questions, please feel free to email or come see me during office hours.

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