

**Music History:** Gospel & The Blues: How to Listen to History | The 2025 A. David Tobin Seminar in the Arts  
**Faculty:** Dr. Ambre Dromgoole, Assistant Professor of Africana Religions and Music, Africana Studies & Research Center

**Week One:** July 6 – 12, 2025

**Schedule:** Monday - Friday, 9-12 and 1:30-3:30, except Wednesday afternoon.

**Location:** On campus, classroom KEND 103 (Cap 24)

Gospel and the Blues: How to Listen to History w/ Prof. Dromgoole

*Class Schedule and Resources*

- Monday, 9 – 12: The Invisible Institution: Hush Harbors and Ring Shouts
  - The Heterogenous Sound Ideal in African American Music (Wilson)
  - The Ring Shout  
<https://www.jazzhistorytree.com/ring-shout/>
- Monday, 1:30 – 3:30: Blues People & the Gospel Blues
  - Black History Meets Black Music: ‘Blues People’ at 50  
<https://www.npr.org/sections/ablogsupreme/2013/07/26/205541225/black-history-meets-black-music-blues-people-at-50>
  - The Birth of Gospel  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eNbMYuwxceo>
- Tuesday, 9 – 12: Cosmic Music: John and Alice Coltrane Ascend
  - Appropriating Universality: The Coltranes and 1960s spirituality (Berkman)
- Tuesday, 1:30 – 3:30: Visit to Johnson Museum with Saraphina Masters
  - Barkley L. Hendricks Portraits at the Frick  
<https://www.frick.org/exhibitions/hendricks>
  - Leonard Drew and the Mother  
<https://www.interviewmagazine.com/art/leonardo-drew>
- Wednesday, 9 – 12: Soundtrack to a Coup D’etat (Screening)
  - Jazz, Politics, Continents, Collide in Oscar Nominated ‘Soundtrack to a Coup D’etat’  
<https://www.npr.org/2025/02/27/nx-s1-5280185/soundtrack-to-a-coup-detat-oscar-documentary>
- Thursday, 9-12: The Sound of Race and Gender Transgressions in Rock and Roll
  - Willie Mae Thornton Deserves Your Full Attention

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<https://daily.jstor.org/willie-mae-thornton-deserves-your-full-attention/>

- The Godmother of Rock and Roll

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FKK\\_EQ4pj9A](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FKK_EQ4pj9A)

- ‘Black Diamond Queens’: A Conversation Between Maureen Mahon and Ann Powers

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=p5NH5J6RWWE>

- Thursday, 1:30 – 3:30: The Sound of Velvet Melting: Roberta Flack’s Vibology

- Remembering Roberta Flack: The Virtuoso

<https://www.npr.org/2020/02/10/804370981/roberta-flack-the-virtuoso>

- How Do You Describe An Artist Like Roberta Flack?

<https://www.pbs.org/wnet/americanmasters/how-do-you-describe-an-artist-like-roberta-flack/25624/>

- Friday, 9 – 12: Liner Notes for the Revolution

- What Beyoncé Teaches Us About The African Diaspora in Lemonade

<https://www.pbs.org/newshour/arts/what-beyonce-teaches-us-about-the-african-diaspora-in-lemonade>

- In ‘Liner Notes for the Revolution’: A History of American Music With Black Women At Its Center

<https://www.nytimes.com/2021/02/17/books/review-liner-notes-for-revolution-intellectual-life-black-feminist-sound-daphne-brooks.html>

- Friday, 1:30-3:30: Lecture Recital with Prof. Khyle Wooten (Ithaca College)

- Prof. Khyle Wooten Bio

<https://www.ithaca.edu/faculty/kwooten>