

Sonic Environments MUA 3274

Wednesday & Friday 2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.
4 MC
Location: YSTCM Seminar 7

Instructor: Assoc. Prof. Steven M. Miller
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Final Project, Paper & Presentation

Due: Week 13 (see course schedule for relevant dates)

Project

The final project will consist of sound documentary project of a public space in Singapore. Possible locations might include the Jurong Bird Park, National Orchid Gardens, Botanic Gardens, Zoo or Night Safari, particular area of Chinatown or Little India, etc. It will comprise a document, recording, or other appropriate tangible format. It must be produced, packaged, labeled, etc. to high standards suitable for public presentation.

A 1-page summary proposal of the project will be turned in during week 6. This summary will give: an overview of the project and the its aims; location; schedule of completion; personnel involved (group projects are possible & encouraged); equipment needed (some technical support may be available, but you should plan to provide the bulk of your own resources); public presentation date, location & format; and sources for relevant research for the supporting essay.

Projects will include 2 or more of the following components:

- Soundscape composition
- Soundscape recording
- Guided soundwalk
- Sound map (Acoustic profile)
- Sound preference survey
- Summary and analysis of relevant local noise ordinances & their history
- Interviews & report on the historical nature of the local soundscape, as experienced by long-time resident earwitnesses

Paper

The final paper will be an essay in support of the final project. Document the project and the process of working on it. Relate this work to the themes of the course and your understanding of the aims, methods, and philosophies of

Acoustic Ecology and Acoustic Communication. Some questions to consider might include: What was the intent behind the project? What was your experience in working on the project? How did you decide on the final project? What format did the final project take, and what were the strengths and limitations imposed by this format? What other similar projects have been undertaken, locally, nationally, or internationally? How would you summarize the available literature regarding this type of project? How does this project fit into the overall fields of Acoustic Ecology and Acoustic Communication?

The essay must be no less than 2000 words long (plus bibliography, notes, etc.), typed or computer printed (double spaced). Adhere to style guidelines of the *Chicago Manual of Style* or other appropriate style manual (available in the library). You must include footnotes/endnotes/citations where appropriate and full bibliography of all sources consulted, including URLs for websites on the WWW. You must consult a minimum of 5 sources beyond (i.e. in addition to) the course texts.

You must submit an electronic 'soft' copy of the paper in MSWord format along with the printed 'hard' copy. You may do this via email attachment, Zip disk, or CD-R.

Public Presentation

The final results of the project will be presented in an appropriate public forum during the final week of classes or final exam period. The nature of the presentation will largely depend on the nature of the project itself. Typical format would be, for example, presentation of a PowerPoint slide presentation with sound, graphics, etc. giving an overview of your project. The public presentation date, time, location & format must be set by week 9.

General notes

These minimum guidelines must be met for any credit to be awarded. Final projects & papers will not be returned. They will become part of an ongoing archive of Singapore soundscape projects, available to the public. Students may opt out of this archive by requesting in writing when submitting the project & paper.