

### FIRST WRITING ASSIGNMENT

Write a short (3-4 page, double-spaced, typed) response paper, discussing the following four readings:

John Blacking (1955) – “Some notes on a theory of rhythm advanced by Erich von Hornbostel”

J. H. Kwabena Nketia (1974) – *The Music of Africa* (pp. 3-20)

Alan Merriam (1981) – “African Musical Rhythm and Concepts of Time-reckoning”

Kofi Agawu (2003) – ch. 3 – “The Invention of African Rhythm” in *Representing African Music* (pp. 55-70)

This is an opportunity for you to reflect on and respond to the readings. Be sure to take into consideration when the literature was written. How does each author address the issue/concept of “African rhythm”?

The paper is due on Tuesday, September 20, at the beginning of class.