

## Non-assessed assignment: “thought piece”

### Due in class, week six

You are encouraged to undertake one piece of work, no less than 500 and no more than 750 words long, relating to the theme of ‘my experience of music in Sheffield’ or ‘music and identities in Sheffield’, or some other theme of your own choosing arising from the course. Please bring it along to class in week six, where you will present your piece to the class, and explain the thought process you went through to come up with it.

The piece may be presented in any literary or artistic style, and you are encouraged to imaginatively explore format options. Although there is considerable room for manoeuvre with these pieces, it is expected that the piece will demonstrate the following:

- an ability to communicate in a clear and accessible manner
- familiarity with one or more of the questions, issues, and themes raised in class and in the readings.
- personal engagement with one or more of the questions, issues, and themes raised in class or the related literature. Please do not simply replicate what you read or what you hear in class. Neither does this criterion require you to provide intensely personal revelations. We are more interested in how you yourself make sense of and explore the issues raised in the course.

### Possibilities

Use the thought piece as a brainstorming exercise to lay groundwork for your essay.

OR

Use the thought piece as a free-association generator – develop whatever thoughts strike you as important or interesting during the course and see where they take you ...

OR

Use the thought piece as a personal perspective generator, an opportunity to gauge your personal response to a particular issue or topic that you can justifiably relate to the course.

OR

Use the thought piece as an association generator, as an opportunity to think about how issues and questions you have encountered in this course might be relevant to other courses or to other aspects of your life.

OR

Use the thought piece as a question generator. Choose any issue or topic that you can justifiably relate to the course and use it as an opportunity to raise questions.

OR

Something else ...

**IF YOU DECIDE TO DO A NON-VERBAL PIECE ...** Please use the 500-750 word count as an opportunity to explain and/or justify the piece you have come up with.

**CAUTION:** The thought piece is short. Don’t attempt to solve the problems of the world with it. It’s not about answers, it’s about exploration.