



DEPARTMENT OF FINE ARTS

COURSE OUTLINE – DD1021A2 FALL 2015

Popular Music in the Twentieth Century – WF 1:00-2:20PM, L-123

CREDIT/CONTACT HOURS: 3(3-0-0) 45 Hours

INSTRUCTOR: Geoffrey Whittall **PHONE:** 780-539-2823
OFFICE: L-119 **E-MAIL:** gwhittall@gprc.ab.ca
OFFICE HOURS: As posted on my office door and by appointment
WEBSITE: <http://people.gprc.ab.ca/gwhittall>

PREREQUISITE(S)/COREQUISITE: None

REQUIRED TEXT/RESOURCE MATERIALS: *American Popular Music*, 3rd Edition (2008), by David Lee Joyner.

CALENDAR DESCRIPTION: This course explores major movements in North American popular music. Topics include blues, jazz, hillbilly, country, musical theatre, folk, and rock music.

DELIVERY MODE(S): Lecture

OBJECTIVES: DD1021 is an introduction to a number of North American popular music styles. This course focuses on popular music from the late nineteenth century to the present day, with an emphasis on the evolution of the various musical styles and the placement of these styles in their social contexts. Both assigned readings and critical listening are important aspects of the course, and exams and quizzes will reflect material from readings and recordings. In addition to the required text, additional readings may occasionally be assigned. When you have completed this course, you should have a good perspective of the history and evolution of popular music in North America over the past century.

LEARNING OUTCOMES: Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to demonstrate knowledge and understanding of the ways popular music has developed and the people and forces who drove those developments. Additionally,

students will be able to aurally identify the aesthetic and stylistic characteristics of many genres of popular music.

TRANSFERABILITY: AU, CUCA, KUC, MU, UA and AF, UC, UL

**** A grade of D or D+ may not be acceptable for transfer to other post-secondary institutions.**

Students are cautioned that it is their responsibility to contact the receiving institutions to ensure transferability.

GRADING CRITERIA:

GRANDE PRAIRIE REGIONAL COLLEGE			
GRADING CONVERSION CHART			
Alpha Grade	4-point Equivalent	Percentage Guidelines	Designation
A ⁺	4.0	90 – 100	EXCELLENT
A	4.0	85 – 89	
A ⁻	3.7	80 – 84	FIRST CLASS STANDING
B ⁺	3.3	77 – 79	
B	3.0	73 – 76	GOOD
B ⁻	2.7	70 – 72	
C ⁺	2.3	67 – 69	SATISFACTORY
C	2.0	63 – 66	
C ⁻	1.7	60 – 62	
D ⁺	1.3	55 – 59	MINIMAL PASS
D	1.0	50 – 54	
F	0.0	0 – 49	FAIL
WF	0.0	0	FAIL, withdrawal after the deadline

Evaluation:

- Midterm Exam 20%
- Final Exam: 30%
- Unit Quizzes: 30%
- Term Paper (due November 20): 20%

You will demonstrate your knowledge and understanding of an aspect of the course through a research project resulting in the creation of a formal academic paper. Topics must be chosen in consultation with the instructor. A proposal of your intended project will be due by the start of class on **September 30**. If an acceptable proposal is not

submitted by this date, a topic will be assigned to you. The finished paper will be due by the start of class on **November 20**.

STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES: Attendance is mandatory.

More than 20% absenteeism may constitute a failure except for medical or extenuating circumstances in which case a doctor's letter may be required.

Students will receive a warning 'Notice Of Absenteeism' at 15% absenteeism.

After 20% absenteeism, you may be required to withdraw from the course.

Refer to Student Conduct, Attendance, on page 42 of the College Calendar. You should become familiar with pages 34-44 of the GPRC 2015-2016 Calendar, along with College policies about academics and student responsibilities.

STATEMENT ON PLAGIARISM AND CHEATING:

Refer to the College Policy on Student Misconduct: Plagiarism and Cheating at https://www.gprc.ab.ca/files/forms_documents/Student_Misconduct.pdf

**Note: all Academic and Administrative policies are available at <https://www.gprc.ab.ca/about/administration/policies/>

COURSE SCHEDULE/TENTATIVE TIMELINE:

Late term papers will be assessed a penalty of 10% each calendar day until the paper is submitted. If a term paper is not submitted, students will not be allowed to write the final exam, and a grade of zero will be recorded for both the paper and the exam; you must submit a paper to pass this course.

The midterm exam will probably occur on October 23. The final exam will take place during the examination period at the end of the semester.

Unit 1: Tin Pan Alley, Musical Theatre. Chapters 1-2. Quiz.

Unit 2: African American Roots (Songs, Ragtime, Blues). Chapters 3-5. Quiz.

Unit 3: Jazz. Chapters 6-9. Midterm exam.

Unit 4: Hillbilly and Country. Chapters 10-14. Quiz.

Unit 5: Rock and associated genres. Chapters 15-16. Quiz. Chapters 17-23. Final Exam.