

Course: **DD1021–Popular Music in the Twentieth Century**

Session: **Fall 2007**

Credit/Hours: **3(300) 45 Hours**

Delivery Mode: Lecture, Blackboard assisted

Transfer: AU, UA, UC, CU, KUC, CUC

Pre/corequisite: None

Instructor: Klisala Harrison; L113; 539-2718; kharrison@gprc.ab.ca

Calendar Description:

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

Course Content:

We hear popular music all around us, on the radio, on TV, on the Internet, in stores and in other commercial enterprises. How did popular music in North America develop into the music that we hear today?

DD1021 serves as an introduction to a number of North American popular music styles. This course focuses on popular music from the beginning of this 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 and cultural 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. Those readings will be put on reserve in the library or will be linked to through Blackboard. When you have completed this course, you should have a good perspective of the history and evolution of popular music in North America during the past century.

Evaluation:

Weekly assignments completed using Blackboard (due each **Tuesday** from Sept. 11 to Dec. 4, 2007): 20%

Term Paper (due **November 22**): 20%

Unit Quizzes (on Units 1-3): 30%

Final Exam (on entire course): 30%

Weekly assignments:

Every week from Sept. 11 to Dec. 4, 2007, you will complete course assignments using Blackboard. The assignments may involve online discussions or “chats,” multiple choice quizzes, or other tasks that facilitate and evaluate student understanding of course material. Weekly assignments will be assigned each Tuesday and will be due the following **Tuesday**. Blackboard also may be used for other purposes related to DD1021, for example, to transmit course announcements, to post course assignments, to post additional readings, and to transmit lecture material.

Term Paper:

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, and a proposal of your proposed project will be due by **October 11**. A poorly done or late proposal will result in a 10% penalty on the grade of your paper, which is due on **November 22**. The paper must be a minimum of 1500 words in length, and must be typewritten.

Timeline:

Late assignments will be assessed a penalty of 10% each day until the assignment is submitted. This late policy applies to weekly assignments and to the term paper. 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.

Required Materials:

Joyner, David Lee. *American Popular Music*, 2nd Edition. Madison, WI: WCB Brown and Benchmark. 2003.

Additional Costs: None.

Attendance:

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

Plagiarism:

Plagiarism is cheating. The instructor reserves the right to use electronic plagiarism detection services. See pg. 43-46 of the Calendar for more details, and for explanation of many other policies and regulations.