

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

Session: **Winter 2006**

Credit/Hours: **3(3-0-0) 45 Hours** Delivery Mode: Lecture

Transfer: UA, UC\*, UL, AU, CUC, KUC, AUC

Pre/corequisite: None

Instructor: Geoffrey Whittall; L119; 539-2823; gwhittall@gprc.ab.ca; www.fad.gprc.ab.ca/~Geoff/

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

Course Content: 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 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. 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: Midterm Exam (probably March 6): 20%  
Final Exam: 30%  
Unit Quizzes: 30%  
Term Paper (due April 3): 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, and a proposal of your proposed project will be due by March 1. A poorly done or late proposal will result in a 10% penalty on the grade of your paper, which is due on April 3. The paper must be a minimum of 1500 words in length, and must be typed.

Timeline: Late term papers will be assessed a penalty of 10% each 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.

Required Materials: Joyner, David Lee. *American Popular Music*, 2<sup>nd</sup> 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 P. 40-50 of the Calendar for more details, and for explanation of many other policies and regulations.

Reviewed: March, 2005