

GRANDE PRAIRIE REGIONAL COLLEGE

A HISTORY OF POPULAR MUSIC W. 95

MU1020 A2 2Q UT(pending)3(3-0-0) Fall 1994

MWF: 12:00-12:50 L101

Instructor: Geoffrey Whittall
Office: L-119
Phone: 539-2823

A History of Popular Music serves as an introduction to various popular music styles, their roots and the direct relationships between them. This survey course concentrates on the popular music of North America from the beginning of this century to the 1990's, with an emphasis on the evolution of the various musical styles and the placement of these styles in their social context. Both assigned readings and critical listening are important aspects of the course, and exams and quizzes will reflect material from readings and recordings. Recordings will be related to, and reflect, information covered in the readings. Topics will include the origins and relationships between genres such as blues, ragtime, swing, bebop, gospel, country, folk, fusion, film music, Broadway musicals, and rock music (doo-wop, soul, blues, acid, metal, art, punk, new wave, etc.).

Prerequisite: This is an introductory course that requires no previous knowledge of music and no prerequisite courses.

Assignments: The students will demonstrate their knowledge and understanding of one of the key components of the course through a research project and presentation. Regular reading and listening assignments are also required and will be evaluated by quizzes.

Evaluation:	Quizzes and Assignments	25%
	Term research project	25%
	Mid-term examination	20%
	Final examination	30%

Required Texts:

Joyner, David Lee. American Popular Music.
Madison: WCB Brown and Benchmark, 1993.

Adria, Marco. Music Of Our Times: Eight Canadian Singer-Songwriters. Toronto: James Lorimer and Company, 1990.