



DEPARTMENT OF FINE ARTS

COURSE OUTLINE – MU2640A3 WINTER 2015

TOPICS IN POPULAR MUSIC – TR 11:30AM-12:50PM, L229

>History of Rock<

INSTRUCTOR: Geoffrey Whittall **PHONE:** 780-539-2823
OFFICE: L119 **E-MAIL:** gwhittall@gprc.ab.ca
OFFICE HOURS: TR 1:30PM-2:50PM, and by appointment
WEBSITE: <http://people.gprc.ab.ca/gwhittall>

PREREQUISITE(S)/COREQUISITE: DD1021 or consent of the Instructor

REQUIRED TEXT/RESOURCE MATERIALS:

Required Text: What's That Sound? 3rd ed. by John Covach and Andrew Flory, (Norton, 2012).
Additional Readings will be provided via links or paper.

CALENDAR DESCRIPTION: This course provides the opportunity to study several aspects of popular music, and the society and culture that surround it. Topics may include politics and propaganda; issues of gender, sexuality and race; identity and counterculture; music lyrics, and video analysis.
→ In 2015, our topic is the history of rock musics; this is an in-depth exploration of aspects of rock-related musics that were not comprehensively covered in DD1021.

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

DELIVERY MODE(S): Lecture and Discussion

OBJECTIVES (OPTIONAL): Generally, you will become familiar with music styles, artists, and the cultural contexts and histories of several distinct rock-related musics. The majority of the content will focus on North America—especially the United States—but time will be spent exploring the contributions of other countries, such as Canada and Great Britain. We will also need to look at some aspects of the global music industry. By the end of the course, you will be familiar with many different genres of rock and roll, rock, post-rock, rap and hip hop, and blended musics. You will understand how they are the products of their environments and how the economic system surrounding popular music functions, and how the artists, music, and consumers all play a role in the identities of the cultures that have developed them.

TRANSFERABILITY: AU (MUSI 3XX (3)), UA (MUSIC 2XX (3) or AUMUS 2XX (3)), UC (MUHL 309), UL (MUSI 3200)

**** 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:

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

EVALUATIONS:

Assignments and Quizzes	30%
Mid-term examination (likely February 26)	15%
Research project: Term Paper	25%
Final examination	30%

You will demonstrate your knowledge and understanding of an aspect of the course through a research project involving a formal paper and a class presentation. Topics should be chosen before February **10** in consultation with the instructor, and the written paper will be due by the *beginning* of class on April **09**. The paper must be a minimum of 2500 words (roughly 10 typed pages, depending on your font) in length, and must be typed. You must submit the term paper to be allowed to write the final exam.

Because some of our time together will be organized as class discussions, assigned readings must be done before the date for which they are due.

There are no opportunities for make-up work, so plan to submit your work before it is due. Extensions may be granted for medical, religious, or compassionate grounds; they will only be granted *before* the due date.

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 2014-2015 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 not be accepted because they are tied to class presentations; to be fair to all students, everyone must submit their paper before the presentations begin.

The final exam will take place in the examination period following classes in April.