HISTORY OF ROCK (MUSC 226)
Fall Semester 2013

Section 504: MWF 9:10-10:00 A.M., HECC 100

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Office hours: Monday and Wednesday 3-4 P.M., or by appointment
Office: LAAH 272

COURSE DESCRIPTION
Examination of the development of rock music; emphasis on how the sound and meaning of music reflects culture, ideology, and history.

This course is designed to better understand how rock music developed, how it has changed over time, and how it reflects culture, history, and people's identities. To understand the development of what became known as “rock and roll” in the 1950s, we will begin with the history of folk and popular music in the United States from the Civil War to the end of WWII. We will then explore various streams of rock as we seek to understand how the music reflects and responds to the social and cultural history of the 20th century.

PREREQUISITES
There are no prerequisites for this course. Previous experience with musical performance, including the ability to read o: play notated music, is neither required nor expected.

LEARNING OUTCOMES
1. Identify and describe the technical and stylistic characteristics of a piece of music (such as rhythm, melody, harmony, texture, form, and instrumentation).
2. Given a representative aural example, identify its genre, a possible performer, and an approximate date of creation.
3. Describe the broad historical and stylistic development of rock music, noting key artists and tracks from various time periods and styles.
4. Discuss how rock music reflects and responds to socio-cultural, economic, and political factors and movements throughout history.
5. Analyze how rock music expresses and affects the human experience.
6. Articulate relationships between the music we encounter, its historical/cultural context and meaning, and the people who participate in the musical experience.
REQUIRED MATERIALS

- iClicker: You will need to bring an iClicker to class every day to answer in-class questions. They are available at the bookstore if you do not already have one. Points will begin to accrue on the third class day, so obtain an iClicker before August 30th.
- eLearning: You will need to access the eLearning website (http://elearning.tamu.edu/) to receive announcements and emails, view assignment guidelines, find supplemental handouts, and check grades. Please log in to eLearning daily.
- Testing Materials: 3 scantrons (form 0-101607, the large 8 ½” x 11” sheet) and a pencil

ASSIGNMENTS AND EXAMS

In-class Participation Points:
Bring your iClicker to class every day starting Friday August 30th, and be on time. You must have your iClicker with you in class to receive any points. Each day in class you will be asked several questions to which you will respond via iClicker. Some of these questions assess your understanding of material already covered in lecture, and others check your understanding of the readings or musical examples you should have acquainted yourself with before coming to lecture. These questions will be very similar to exam questions, allowing you to gauge your own day-to-day understanding of the material and find out what you may be struggling with before exam time. I use these activities to assess your understanding of course material on a regular basis so that I can address any concerns or weaknesses. Other questions will survey the class’s thoughts on a variety of subjects that pertain to lecture. These questions will be used to engage class discussions and focus in-class activities.

Grading: iClicker points make up a significant portion of your grade. There are 5 points possible per day, starting August 30th. You will receive points based on the accuracy of your responses to questions about course material, and participation points for responding to survey questions that stimulate discussion and in-class activities. There are 175 points possible this semester, but your iClicker grade is calculated out of 150. Thus, five absences will not affect your grade. You keep any points you earn, so it is possible to earn extra credit (more than 150 points).

Absences: If you miss a day of class, you will be able to make up the points only if you have a university-excused absence, outlined in Student Rules 7.1.1-7.1.8. As per Student Rule 7.3: Except in the case of the observance of a religious holiday, to be excused the student must message me through eLearning prior to the date of absence, if such notification is feasible. In cases where advance notification is not feasible (e.g. accident, emergency) the student must provide notification by the end of the second working day after the absence (3:00 P.M.). This notification should include an explanation of why notice could not be sent prior to the class. Accommodations sought for absences due to the observance of a religious holiday can be sought either prior or after the absence, but not later than two working days after the absence. You will need to provide the appropriate documentation to make up the iClicker questions from your absence. Make-ups will NOT be given for any unexcused absence. See http://student-rules.tamu.edu/rule07.
Exams:
Ongoing review of your class notes and music examples is the best form of preparation for exams, and in-class participation questions regularly help you practice for the exams. Questions are multiple-choice, matching, and true/false. Part of the exam will review your understanding of the historical and social-cultural context of the music we study. Another part of the exam will be listening identification, asking you to identify musical characteristics, determine the piece's probable composer, approximate date of composition, and genre, and recognize its socio-cultural, geographic, and historical context.

The first 2 exams will each only cover new material (consult the below schedule). The final exam will cover the remaining new material but will also include cumulative questions that require you to synthesize broad themes from the entire semester.

On exam days, bring a 0-101607 (large grey) scantron sheet, a #2 pencil, and your UIN.

Test Absences: If you miss the test, you can make up the exam ONLY if you have documentation for a university-excused absence, outlined in Student Rules 7.1.1-7.1.8. As per Student Rule 7.3: Excerpt in the case of the observance of a religious holiday, to be excused the student must message me through eLearning prior to the date of absence, at least one week before the exam, if such notification is feasible. In cases where advance notification is not feasible (e.g. accident, emergency) the student must provide notification by the end of the second working day after the absence (5:00 PM). This notification should include an explanation of why notice could not be sent prior to the class. Accommodations sought for absences due to the observance of a religious holiday can be sought either prior or after the absence, but not later than two working days after the absence. You will need to provide the appropriate documentation to make up the test. Make-ups will NOT be given for an unexcused absence on an exam date. See http://student-rules.tamu.edu/rule07.

Writing Assignments:
You will write one short assignment in this class that draws upon the knowledge you gain in this course. Guidelines will be discussed and distributed in lecture, and posted to eLearning. You can choose between two options for your report. One option requires you to attend a live music event and write an analysis of the technical characteristics and socio-cultural meaning of the music. The other option requires you to interview a relative or friend (at least 10 years older than you) about his or her experiences with music from a historical era we have covered in class. The Writing Assignment is due no later than Nov 25th but can be turned in early for extra credit.

Late Policy: Any papers turned in after November 25th will be subject to a late penalty of 5 points per day. If you are unable to turn in your report on November 25th because of a university-excused absence (as per Student Rules 7.1.1-7.1.8, http://student-rules.tamu.edu/ rule07), send me a message through eLearning by the end of the second working day after your absence (by 5 P.M.). You will receive an extension allowing you to turn in your paper after your excuse has expired. You must show me proper documentation for your excuse when you turn in your paper.
GRADE ASSESSMENT AND IMPORTANT DATES

In-class participation points (ongoing, 5 points per lecture)  150 points*
Writing Assignment 1  50 points
Exam 1 (Friday, September 27)  100 points
Exam 2 (Monday, October 28)  100 points
Final Exam (TBA, per University schedule)  100 points

* As explained in “Assignments,” it is possible to earn more than 150 participation points. There will be 35 lectures with iClicker opportunities, so you could potentially earn up to 175 points. This also allows you to miss 5 days without penalty. You can make up points from excused absences.

From your total points at the end of course, the following rubric determines your grade:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>Points</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>90% and above</td>
<td>450 points and above</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>80-89.9%</td>
<td>400-449 points</td>
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<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>70-79.9%</td>
<td>350-399 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>60-69.9%</td>
<td>300-349 points</td>
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<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>59.9% and below</td>
<td>299 points and below</td>
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CLASSROOM ENVIRONMENT

You are free to use laptops in class, but do not use your laptop for any activity other than taking notes. Turn off and put away your cell phones before class. Those who use laptops (other than for taking notes) or phones during class may be asked to leave.

I also trust you to foster a respectful environment for the safe discussion of sensitive topics. I encourage the expression of diverse points of view, but I will not tolerate condescending or insulting remarks. If you abuse, ridicule, or intimidate others during discussion, you will be subject to disciplinary action. Refer to Student Rule 21 on Classroom Behavior.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY STATEMENT AND POLICY

"An Aggie does not lie, cheat, or steal, or tolerate those who do."

Upon accepting admission to Texas A&M University, a student immediately assumes a commitment to uphold the Honor Code, to accept responsibility for learning, and to follow the philosophy and rules of the Honor System. Students will be required to state their commitment on examinations and written assignments. Ignorance of the rules does not exclude any member of the TAMU community from the requirements or the processes of the Honor System. For additional information please visit [http://aggiehonor.tamu.edu/](http://aggiehonor.tamu.edu/).
AMERICANS WITH DISABILITY (ADA) ACT
The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you believe you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact Disability Services, in Cain Hall, Room B118, or call 845-1637. For additional information visit http://disability.tamu.edu.

COURSE OUTLINE

UNIT 1: INTRO; THE ROOTS OF ROCK’N’ROLL

Week 1: Ch. 1
Mon Aug 26 Course Introduction: Music in/as Culture and Key Concepts
Wed Aug 28 Music Basics and Terminology
Fri Aug 30 The Birth of Popular Music: Minstrelsy and Vaudeville

Week 2: Ch. 2
Mon Sept 2 “Race” Recordings
Wed Sept 4 “Hillbilly” Recordings
Fri Sept 6 The Golden Age of Popular Standards: Tin Pan Alley, Musicals, and Swing

Week 3: Ch. 3
Mon Sept 9 “Country and Western”
Wed Sept 11 “Rhythm and Blues”
Fri Sept 13 Coining “Rock’n’Roll”: Covers of “Rhythm and Blues” songs

Week 4: Ch. 4
Mon Sept 16 Rock’n’Roll: Chuck Berry, Little Richard
Wed Sept 18 Rock’n’Roll: The Rockabilities and Sun Records
Fri Sept 20 Rock’n’Roll: Latino and Female Contributions

Week 5: Ch. 5
Mon Sept 23 The Backlash Against Rock’n’Roll
Wed Sept 25 Review for Exam 1
Fri Sept 27 EXAM 1

UNIT 2: FROM ROCK’N’ROLL TO ROCK: THE SIXTIES

Week 6: Ch. 5 con’t
Mon Sept 30 Phil Spector and Girl Groups
Wed Oct 2 Motown
Fri Oct 4 West Coast Surf
Week 7:
Mon Oct 7  Ch. 6
   British Invasion, part 1
Wed Oct 9  British Invasion, part 2
Fri Oct 11  Soul and Stax

Week 8:
Mon Oct 14  Ch. 7
   Folk Revival and Folk Rock
Wed Oct 16  Pushing the Boundaries of Rock: The Beginnings of "Art Rock"
Fri Oct 18  Psychedelic Rock

Week 9:
Mon Oct 21  Ch. 7 con't
   Rock Guitar Gods
Wed Oct 23  From The Summer of Love to The End of an Era: Monterey, Woodstock, Altamont
Fri Oct 25  Review for Exam 2

Week 10:
Mon Oct 28  EXAM 2

UNIT 3: A DIVERSITY OF TRENDS: THE SEVENTIES AND ON

   Ch. 8, 10
Wed Oct 30  The Diffusion of Seventies Rock
Fri Nov 1   The Diffusion of Seventies Rock: Heavy Metal

Week 11:
Mon Nov 4   Ch. 8, 10 con't
   The Diffusion of Seventies Rock: Prog Rock
Wed Nov 6   The Diffusion of Seventies Rock: Glam Rock and Shock Rock
Fri Nov 8   Disco

Week 12:
Mon Nov 11  Ch. 8, 10 con't
   Country Rock and Outlaw Country
Wed Nov 13  CBGB Punk and New Wave
Fri Nov 15  UK Punk

Week 13:
Mon Nov 18  Ch. 9
   The Age of Celebrity in the 1980s: MTV and Synthesizers
Wed Nov 20  The Age of Celebrity in the 1980s: Madonna and Michael Jackson
Fri Nov 22  The Age of Celebrity in the 1980s: Prince and Bruce Springsteen

Week 14:
Mon Nov 25  Ch. 11
   Grunge and Alternative Rock of the 1990s
Wed Nov 27  Review for Final Exam
Fri Nov 29  No Class (Thanksgiving Holiday)

December 2  Redefined Day: follow your Friday schedule
            Review for Final Exam

FINAL EXAM (cumulative, with a focus on material from UNIT 3) - TBA, according to the University’s final exam schedule