

MUSI 1310-D10 • AMERICAN POPULAR MUSIC
Summer II, 2021 • On-Line
July 12- August 13, 2021

The Course: One will gain a thorough understanding of the origins and development of popular music in America. Along with the study of its history, this course will also cover rudimentary aspects of the language, instruments, and artists who comprise its universal appeal. The student should develop critical listening and thinking skills as well as aural recognition of a variety of pop styles, forms, instruments, and artists. Careful, comprehensive reading of the textbook, along with informed listening, is necessary to fully grasp this content. The course management for this class will be accomplished through the ASU Blackboard site; all registered students are enrolled. Since this is a distance-learning course, you must have a reliable computer and internet connection. You also need to know how to use email as well as transfer word/document files. Keep in mind that this is a music course so make certain your computer can play MP3 files and you have the knowledge and technology to download music files. We will communicate via email.

Required Text (with three options to obtain):

- Campbell, Michael. *Popular Music in America: The Beat Goes On*. 5th ed. Boston, MA: Schirmer/Cengage, 2019.
- Spotify subscription (comes with purchase of MindTap)

Good Digital Option: MindTap, 1 term (6 months) Printed Access Card for *Popular Music in America, 5th Edition* [comes with access to Spotify] ISBN: 9781337613194

Bundle Option: *Popular Music in America, 5th Edition*, Loose-Leaf Textbook + MindTap, 1 term (6 months) Printed Access Card [also come with access to Spotify] ISBN: 9781337754552

Hardbound Printed Textbook: ISBN: 978-1-337-56037-5 [note: you will need access to Spotify]

IDEA Objectives:

- Gaining Factual Knowledge: Terms, Forms, Artists/Composers/Groups, Dates, Record co., etc.
- Learning Fundamental Principles or Theories: 12-bar blues, 32-bar AABA, R&B, Rock, Swing, etc.
- Gaining a Broader Understanding and Appreciation of Intellectual/Cultural Activity (in this case, music)

Core Curriculum Objectives and related ASU Student Learning Outcomes:

- Course SLO: Students will present in writing a critical analysis of popular music.
- Course SLO: Students will work effectively with others to support/accomplish a shared goal (long semester)
- Course SLO: Students will demonstrate intercultural competence.

Minimum Competencies/Outcomes: Why Should We Study American Popular Music? (Expected Competencies/Outcomes): Most of music sales today are of the multifaceted genre of music classified as Popular Music: Classical, Jazz, and World Music make up only a small portion of sales/downloads. As one progresses through this course, he/she will become more aware of the fundamentals of music and the instruments of popular music—two of the building blocks of pop music hits. The student will also gain awareness of the different stylistic periods of music and the works of representative composers while developing an appreciation for the popular music of the past as well as current styles, such as the influence Lubbock's own Buddy Holly had on both The Beatles and The Rolling Stones. The course will also cover how to identify and analyze common forms, styles, and elements of popular music while delving into the integral historical, cultural, political, and social trends that shaped this fascinating music. One should be able to identify a common blues tune from Buddy Guy as easily as note how one of Luke Bryan's country hits is written and structured. Above all, the diligent student will become a discerning, perceptive listener and develop a newfound context for listening to music. I'm a passionate fan of this music and hope you will gain a great deal from our journey into America's great popular music.

Music Listening Requirement: A Spotify subscription. Note: it comes with the purchase of MindTap. Listening questions on all exams/quizzes will come from this resource.

Evaluation:

15%	Exam 1
15%	Exam 2
15%	Exam 3
15%	Exam 4
15%	Quizzes
10%	Song Analysis
<u>15%</u>	Concert Attendance Review
100%	

Grade Distribution:

100+%-90%	A
89%-80%	B
79%-70%	C
69%-60%	D
59%-0%	F

Semester Schedule: Included is a schedule that has proven successful in completing this course (see page 4 of this syllabus). It reflects the standard 4 weeks of a summer session. Students are required to read and listen to the material from each unit that is listed on the syllabus. The student is advised in the strongest terms to pay careful attention to the “*Listening Cue*” boxes and fully absorb that information along with listening to its song. Deadlines for the Exams, Quizzes, Concert Review, and the Song Analysis are all given in this schedule. I have also prepared calendars with more specific dates listed (find them in the CALENDARS tab). In addition, updated information will always be given on the ANNOUNCEMENTS page of our Blackboard site. ***Keep on top of it!***

Exams and Quizzes: Follow the schedule given at the end of this syllabus for a general time-line of when each chapter is expected to be mastered. Exams are given after each few chapters; notification of exact times will be on our Blackboard site. There will also be audio questions from our listening examples on the exams. Your computer must have the ability to play MP3 files. Reminder: You must have a reliable computer and internet connection. There is a time limit on exams—watch this closely. Be sure to submit the exam in plenty of time that I receive it before the time expires; make certain to allow for connection time, transmittal time, etc., so that it arrives before the deadline. Points are deducted when I receive it past the deadline—regardless of when it was sent. Failure to complete any quiz or exam will result in no credit for that particular quiz/exam; for a legitimate, excused reason for missing, verification will, in most cases, be required.

Also required will be completion of short quizzes. There is also a “Syllabus Quiz” that I require you to complete before being allowed to take the graded quizzes and exams; it is crucial to be completely familiar with this syllabus so as to know how one can get through this course successfully. ***Refer often to our Blackboard Announcements page for information on when and how these will be offered.***

Song Analysis: Just as listening helps and analysis is found on songs in our text, the student will also analyze a song of your choice similar to the “*Listening Cue*” boxes found in our text. You will find a list of albums from which to choose your song; see the ASSIGNMENTS tab for this list: [Song Analysis-Album List](#). Fill out a [Style Profile](#) form to accomplish this. For your use, a blank [Song Analysis-Style Profile](#) form will be found in the ASSIGNMENTS tab. No songs in the text/CD are allowed—select another song not given in the text. This assignment will be due before midnight on August 6. Coordinate with me on your artist/group and song not later than July 21. Email the completed song analysis in MS Word format to john.Irish@angelo.edu and title the subject line of your email document: **(your name): Song Analysis**. Sample Song Analyses can be found in the ASSIGNMENTS tab; use the sample song analyses on which to model your writing assignment. Failure to complete this analysis will result in no credit; for a legitimate, excused reason for missing, verification will, in most cases, be required.

Concert Attendance Reviews: To further one's experience in popular music, students are required to attend a live performance. He/she should attend a live performance of a popular music style covered in our text (i.e., Rock, Pop, Country, Rap, Latin, Jazz, Musical Theater, etc.). Make certain that the performance attended is a full-length show, or two sets of a more casual gig that you see during this semester. Please limit the level of performance to university or professional musicians. To receive maximum credit for the assignment, fully complete the cover page (titled: Concert Review Form found at the ASSIGNMENTS tab) along with one full-page, typed review of a performance, with its printed program within one week of the performance. I must receive the review before the deadline; no late submissions will be accepted. Be sure to allow for connection time, transmittal time, etc. so that it arrives before the deadline. Again, I must receive your work before the deadline regardless of when it was sent. Failure to complete a review will result in no credit for that particular review; for a legitimate, excused reason for missing, verification will, in most cases, be required. NOTE: during the COVID-19 restrictions, I will provide a list of concerts on video that you can use for this assignment; these videos can be used to replace the ability to attend live performances.

The deadline will be posted on the Blackboard ANNOUNCEMENTS page—stay on top of this! The Concert Review will be due at the end of term, August 13, but should be submitted within a week of viewing the performance, if viewed earlier in the term. Email completed review (cover sheet and one-page essay) in MS Word format to John.Irish@angelo.edu and title the subject line of your email document: **(your name): Concert Review**. Use a 12-pitch font and double-space your writing. Helpful information and sample reviews can be found in the ASSIGNMENTS tab; use the sample reviews on which to model your writing assignment.

Also: print out the “Concert Review--Listening Help List” (ASSIGNMENTS tab) and take it to the performance to help you identify the various musical elements you are hearing—this will help you complete your Concert Review.

Recorded Lectures & Other Materials: The course's Blackboard site contains recorded lectures from every chapter in our text (based on the earlier 2nd edition of our text). These can be listened to on the site itself or downloaded to your MP3 player. They will supplement your exposure to the material from each chapter and are meant to be used in conjunction with reading the text and listening to the accompanying CD-set. These will be found in the LECTURES tab on our Blackboard site. Further recorded materials are also found on the site and offer helpful explanations/demonstrations on how to identify certain elements of popular music. These will be found at the COURSE HELPS tab.

The Last Date to Drop a course or to totally withdraw from the University is August 2, 2021. **The Last Class Day** is August 13 and assignments that were not due prior to that date will be due before midnight.

Absence for Observance of Religious Holy Day: “Religious holy day” means a holy day observed by a religion whose places of worship are exempt from property taxation under Texas Tax Code §11.20. A student who intends to observe a religious holy day should make that intention known in writing to the instructor prior to the absence.

ADA Compliance: Persons with disabilities which may warrant academic accommodations must contact the Student Life Office, Room 112 University Center, in order to request any accommodations being implemented. You are encouraged to make this request early in the semester so that appropriate arrangements can be made.

Academic Honor Code: Angelo State University expects its students to maintain complete honesty and integrity in their academic pursuits. Students are responsible for understanding the Academic Honor Code, which is contained in both print and web versions of the Student Handbook.

A list of additional items related to the syllabus can be found in the **CV/Syllabus/Calendars** tab: “Syllabus Addenda.”

<u>Day/Week</u>	<u>Subject</u>	<u>Unit in Text</u>
July 12	Points of Entry-Elements and Identity of Pop Music <i>Orientation Meetings (ONLINE)</i>	1
July 13	Points of Entry-Elements and Identity of Pop Music	1
July 14	Blues and Black Gospel Come in from the Outskirts— 1925-1950	6
July 15	“ “ Quiz #1 (Units 1 & 6)	6
July 16	Country and Folk Music Come in from the Outskirts	7
July 17-18	EXAM 1 (Units 1, 6 & 7)	
July 19	Rhythm & Blues, 1946-1954	10
July 20	“ “	10
July 21	Rock and Roll <u>Song Choice for Song Analysis due</u>	11
July 22	Rock and Roll	11
July 23	“ “	11
July 24-25	Quiz #2 (Unit 11)	
July 26	Rock Revolution, 1964-1970 <i>Mid-Term Meeting (ONLINE)</i>	12
July 27	Rock Revolution, 1964-1970 EXAM 2 (Units 10-12)	12
July 28	Rock and R&B, after 1970s	13
July 29	New Trends of the Late 1970s	14
July 30	“ “	14
July 31-Aug. 1	Quiz #3 (Unit 14)	
Aug. 2	Latin Music since 1960	15
Aug. 3	Country Music in the Rock Era	16
Aug. 4	“ “ EXAM 3 (Units 13-16)	16
Aug. 5	Electronica and Rap	17
Aug. 6	Electronica and Rap <u>Song Analysis due</u>	17
Aug. 7-8	Quiz #4 (Unit 17)	
Aug. 9	Beyond Rock in the 1980s	18
Aug. 10	“ “	18
Aug. 11	Alternatives	19
Aug. 12	“ Quiz #5 (Unit 19)	
Aug. 13	Popular Music in the Twenty-first Century <u>Concert Review due</u> EXAM 4 (Units 17-20)	20