Course: Introduction to Popular Music and Culture  
(with Canada 150 Content)  
1730 B  
Meetings: Tuesday 1:30-3:30 TC 201  
Thursday 2:30-3:30 TC 201  
Winter 2017  
Western University  
Instructor: Dr. Marion MacLeod  
Email: mmacle67@uwo.ca  
Phone: (519) 661 2111 ext. 82043  
Office Hours: Tuesdays 3:30-5:30 TC 335 or by appointment

Course Description: This course is designed as an introduction to the history of popular music in the 20th and 21st centuries. It will examine music's connections to other arts and media and will explore music in Canada as it intersects with this history. Throughout the course we will learn about the reciprocal relationship music has with the following issues:

- Identity
- Technology
- Media
- Industry & Business
- Tradition
- Regulation
- Consumer Culture


Assignments: Desert Island Disc Presentation..........................................................10%  
(as scheduled through OWL)  
Essay Proposal (2 pages plus working bibliography).................................................10%  
February 7  
Midterm Exam........................................................................................................20%  
February 14  
Listening Quiz.......................................................................................................10%  
March 14  
Essay (6-8 pages plus bibliography).........................................................................20%  
March 28  
Exam....................................................................................................................30%  
TBD
Course Materials
In addition to your text, supplementary reading and listening materials may be required. All of these materials will be available (directly or indirectly) through the OWL site. Many are also available through your standard student library access at Western. Accessing them this way may prove useful for future research papers/projects and your general skill-set. The instructor reserves the right to alter this list as the course progresses. Ample time will be given to adjust workloads.

OWL owl.uwo.ca/portal
A course area for 1730B has been set up. You must use OWL for this course as I will be uploading announcements, readings, listening excerpts and necessary course materials on an ongoing basis. It is also a valuable forum for discussion and an essential tool for presentation scheduling. Grades and other information will also be available through OWL. If you have trouble with access, notify me within the first week of scheduled classes.

Assistance
If you need clarification about what I say in class or your assignments, you are encouraged to ask in class for the benefit of others, but otherwise please see me. My office hours are above. If it isn’t possible for you to see me during these hours, please make an appointment. I try to respond to all emails within 24 hours on weekdays, but be responsible for yourself and give yourself enough time to adjust if you don’t receive the response you want (or when you want it). Accommodations can be made for legitimate excuses, but these “legitimate excuses”, according to Western’s policies, will generally require documentation (see below).

Mental Health
If you are experiencing distress, please refer to Mental Health@Western for a list of options (www.uwo.ca/uwocom/mentalhealth). Do not hesitate to make use of a complete list of services available to you.

Medical Accommodation
University policy states that if a student is unable to complete any work representing 10% or more of the course’s overall grade, s/he is asked to submit medical documentation, as soon as possible, to the Dean’s office along with a request for relief/accommodation. For detailed instructions, consult the University’s Policy for Accommodation for Medical Illness (www.uwo.ca/univsec/academic_policies/rights_responsibilities.html) Without documentation, missed assignments, tests, exams will receive a grade of zero.

Assignments
Assignments are due by the beginning of class according to the assignment schedule. Electronic submissions are acceptable but MUST abide by the same schedule (electronically received by the beginning of class on the due date). A loss of 10% per day to a maximum of 10 days will be applied to ALL late assignments.

During the test and final exam NO electronic devices may be used
**Scholastic Offences**

Please refer to [www.uwo.ca/univsec/academic_policies/rights_responsibilities.html](http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/academic_policies/rights_responsibilities.html) and follow the links to Scholastic Discipline and Code of Student Conduct in order to familiarize yourself with the definition of a scholastic offence. Scholastic Offences are taken very seriously and are as often the result of ignorance as they are a matter of intent. Be informed.

**Plagiarism**

Plagiarism is deceptive, dishonest, disrespectful and detrimental and it will be taken very, very seriously in this course.

Western’s policy on plagiarism states that “all required papers may be subject to submission for textual similarity review to the commercial plagiarism detection software under license to the University for the detection of plagiarism.”

**Do not use anything without referencing it**—conversations, online videos, websites, articles, books, lectures, other essays, audio, etc. Consult a style manual, a reference librarian, or the university’s writing centre if you are unsure about citation conventions.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Readings</th>
<th>Assignment</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Thursday, January 5</td>
<td>Introduction</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday, January 10</td>
<td>Industry &amp; Record Companies</td>
<td>Chapter 1, Shuker</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday, January 12</td>
<td>Technology, Copyright and Live Performance</td>
<td>Chapter 2 &amp; 3, Shuker</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday, January 17</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday, January 19</td>
<td>CRTC</td>
<td>“Legislated Radio: Industry, Identity and the Canadian Content Regulations” from <em>Canuck Rock</em> pp. 139-158</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday, January 24</td>
<td>Auteurs and Stars</td>
<td>Chapter 4, Shuker</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday, January 26</td>
<td>Musical Texts</td>
<td>Chapter 5, Shuker</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday, January 31</td>
<td>The Canon</td>
<td>Chapter 6, Shuker</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday, February 2</td>
<td>Genre</td>
<td>Chapter 7, Shuker</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday, February 7</td>
<td>Marketing and Mediation</td>
<td>Chapter 8, Shuker</td>
<td>Essay Proposal Due</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday, February 9</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday, February 14</td>
<td>Mid Term</td>
<td>Mid-Term (no additional reading)</td>
<td>Mid-Term</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday, February 16</td>
<td>Film and Video</td>
<td>Chapter 9, Shuker</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>READING WEEK. NO CLASSES</td>
<td>READING WEEK. NO CLASSES</td>
<td>READING WEEK. NO CLASSES</td>
<td>READING WEEK NO CLASSES</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday, February 28</td>
<td>The Music Press</td>
<td>Chapter 10, Shuker</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday, March 2</td>
<td>Identity, Consumption, Fandom</td>
<td>Chapter 11, Shuker</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday, March 7</td>
<td>Social Networks and Scenes</td>
<td>Chapter 12, Shuker</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday, March 9</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday, March 14</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Listening Quiz</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday, March 16</td>
<td>Race, Gender, Identity Politics</td>
<td>Chapter 13, Shuker</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday, March 21</td>
<td>Controversy and Regulation</td>
<td>Chapter 14, Shuker</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday, March 23</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday, March 28</td>
<td>Globalism &amp; a Canadian Sound</td>
<td>Chapter 15, Shuker</td>
<td>Essay Due</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday, March 30</td>
<td>Nostalgia &amp; Popular Memory</td>
<td>Chapter 16, Shuker</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday, April 4</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday, April 6</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Assignment Description

Desert Island Discs

Desert Island Discs is a long running BBC radio program (1942-present) where guests from any and all fields are invited to choose the records they would take with them to a desert island. In addition to their chosen tracks they are also given the complete works of Shakespeare, the Bible and “one more thing.”

You can listen to episodes here: http://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/bo06qnmr

The Castaways of 1730B will be bringing only music, but music always comes with baggage. You are asked to do the following:

- Choose a presentation date through the scheduling tool on OWL—the earlier you book, the more options you’ll have
- Choose **3 songs** including a **minimum of one** from the attached list—again, the earlier you claim one, the more options you’ll have
  - No duplicates among student presentations (each presentation eliminates those songs—listed or otherwise—from future presentations)
- Prepare and present a 15 minute presentation that includes your song selections (excerpts/partial songs permitted) and a discussion of “the baggage” that includes any combination of the following criteria:
  - Biographical/historical information about the artist
  - Social context
  - Connection to other artists, scenes, political movements, trends, etc.
  - Discussion of lyrical or musical elements (innovation, reference, trends, homage)
  - Your personal identification with the song
  - Associated debates, conflicts, rivalries, etc.
  - Connection to any of the topics as listed in the syllabus of this class
- Presenters must be prepared to receive basic questions from their instructor and/or colleagues based on the material they’ve presented.
- Presenters must display or disseminate information (title, performer, composer) about the chosen tracks in class (slide presentation, handout, etc.) and post their list to OWL forums.

Variations:
If you choose, you may do this assignment with a partner. In this case, 5 songs must be chosen, time will be extended to 25 minutes, and both participants must demonstrate equal involvement.

Presenters may choose video in the place of audio if the discussion deems this to be relevant.

**NOTE:** You are making your own presentation schedule so if you are unable to attend on your scheduled date for ANY reason, it is your responsibility to find an alternative by making arrangements with your classmates (i.e. swapping appointments).