Music 3730a – Winter 2018
Popular Music: Genre Studies – Punk
Monday, 7:00 – 10:00pm, TC 202

Instructor
Dr. Norma Coates, Associate Professor
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Office Hours: Monday, 2 – 5pm, or by appointment. FNB 4061 office.

Course Description
Punk rock was embraced by relatively few in its heyday, but its tremendous influence on popular music and other popular and high arts continues. The course centres on punk as it emerged in the 1970s but explores its influences and its influence on music, art, and culture since then. We will learn about proto-punk and post-punk by exploring the genre’s musical, cultural, artistic, political and theoretical origins and its lasting legacy. Some attention is paid to the surrounding musical and art cultures of the time, and how punk reflected and refracted them and vice versa. Significant artists and their enduring contributions to popular music are described in depth. This class is not music-analytical but approaches the subject as social and cultural history.

Course Objectives:
• Become familiar with characteristics of proto-punk, punk, and post-punk music.
• Gain an understanding of the cultural and historical moments in which punk emerged, and the reasons for it.
• Examine the impact of punk on popular music and the popular arts during its heyday to the current time.
• Explore punk music and artists.
• Understand the cultural, racial, and gender politics of punk.

Readings
We will be reading several of the 33 1/3 book series about individual albums. We have online access to them through the Bloomsbury Popular Music database provided by the Western library. Individual titles are provided on the schedule.

Other required and suggested readings will be available on the course OWL site.
Other Material

I am creating private Spotify playlists of required listening. Please make sure that you have access to Spotify. Music not available on Spotify but in my collection, if any, will be available on OWL.

Punk is visual, too. Archival visual materials from the era, as well as films and documentaries, will be shown in class and made available in OWL.

Evaluation

Attendance and Participation: 10%
Projects (2): 50% 1:2/5; 2: 4/9
Screening Analysis: 10% 3/19
Book Review: 10% 4/2
Midterm: 20% 2/12

Assignment Summaries

Attendance and Participation. Participation is key. We will be talking about the readings and musical material in class. Please come prepared. Any unexcused absences after the midterm will result in an attendance grade that is no higher than 50.

Midterm Exam. An in-class examination consisting of short answer and essay questions.

Projects (2). In the punk D.I.Y. (Do It Yourself) spirit, you will have a choice of project format. You can write a conventional paper, do a podcast, write a punk song with a paper attached, or do a short video modeled after Pitchfork Liner Notes. More detail will be provided early in the semester.

Book Review. Review a 33 1/3 book. More detail will be provided early in the semester.

Film Analysis. A prompted analysis of The Filth and the Fury (screened on March 5).

My Course Policies

1. You must show up for class. It is not optional. Please see the description of Attendance and Participation above.

2. On a related note: This is a night class. It is a night class because my classes often interfere with required classes if scheduled during the day. I know that you are tired at night, and I am very tired at night. Please behave and treat me and your fellow students with respect.

3. It is painfully obvious that some students do not do assigned readings. The books assigned for this class are insightful and fun. Moreover, you will be introduced to
artists, music, ideas, and cultural worlds that are new to you. I will be reading them too. You will be required to bring in one question about each reading and be prepared to ask it if called upon. I will collect your questions at the end of each class.

4. Keep up with the reading and listening. I encourage as much discussion as possible. Doing the reading will help you participate. I expect you to come to class having read and listened and with questions and/or observations about the music and readings. Please plan your preparation time accordingly.

5. I use OWL to post copies of the course outline, supplemental materials, supplemental readings, web links, announcements, and assignments. Be sure to check it regularly.

6. I expect strong, grammatically correct writing. Use of text-message language and abbreviations in essays (e.g., “u” for “you”) is not permitted unless you are the pop artist Prince and you are not. Do not tell me that it is punk to slack off. My ex-punk musician friends are some of the smartest and hardest-working people I know.

7. Pick the type of project you want to do carefully. I want to play to your strengths and enable you to be creative. Just make sure that you have the time and capacity to do whatever you sign up for.

8. There is no final examination in this course, but you are expected to continue to show up to class after the midterm. Please refer to my comments about your participation grade under Assignment Summaries above.
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<td>Course Overview</td>
<td>What Is/Was Punk?</td>
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<td>US Punk – New York and Beyond</td>
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<td>Robb (OWL)</td>
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<td>8 3/5</td>
<td>Professor Away. Screenings: <em>The Filth and the Fury</em>; punk films</td>
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<td>9 3/12</td>
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Here is a lot of boilerplate (mostly) from the University. Please read it.

**Statement on Use of Electronic Devices**
You may use a laptop to take notes. You are to set your phone so that it does not ring or vibrate. I reserve the right to ban all computers for the rest of the semester if I catch students using them for purposes other than note-taking. I also reserve the right to collect all phones at the beginning of class for retrieval at the end. Please do not make me exercise either right.

**Statement on Academic Offences**
Scholastic offences are taken seriously and students are directed to read the appropriate policy, specifically, the definition of what constitutes a Scholastic Offence, at the following Web site: [http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/handbook/appeals/scholastic_discipline_undergrad.pdf](http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/handbook/appeals/scholastic_discipline_undergrad.pdf).

Plagiarism: Students must write their essays and assignments in their own words. Whenever students take an idea, or a passage from another author, they must acknowledge their debt both by using quotation marks where appropriate and by proper referencing such as footnotes or citations. Plagiarism is a major academic offence. 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. All papers submitted for such checking will be included as source documents in the reference database for the purpose of detecting plagiarism of papers subsequently submitted to the system. Use of the service is subject to the licensing agreement, currently between The University of Western Ontario and Turnitin.com ([http://www.turnitin.com](http://www.turnitin.com)).

Computer-marked multiple-choice tests and/or exams may be subject to submission for similarity review by software that will check for unusual coincidences in answer patterns that may indicate cheating.

**Academic Accommodation**

**Medical Accommodation**

For Western University policy on accommodation for medical illness, see:

[www.uwo.ca/univsec/handbook/appeals/accommodation_medical.pdf](http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/handbook/appeals/accommodation_medical.pdf)

Student Medical Certificate (SMC): studentservices.uwo.ca under the Medical Documentation heading.

Students seeking academic accommodation on medical grounds for any missed tests, exams, participation components and/or assignments worth 10% or more of their final grade must apply to the Academic Counselling office of their home Faculty and provide documentation. It will be the Dean's Office that will determine if accommodation is warranted. For work worth less than 10% of the final grade, the instructor will consider requests for academic accommodation on medical grounds made in a timely manner in writing or by appointment in office hours.
Such requests need not be accompanied by documentation. The instructor may, however, decide to require documentation be submitted to the appropriate Academic Counselling office. Students should also note that individual instructors are not permitted to receive documentation directly from a student, whether in support of an application for accommodation on medical grounds, or for other reasons. All documentation must be submitted to the Academic Counselling office of a student's home Faculty.

**Compassionate Accommodation**

Academic accommodation (extensions, makeup tests and exams, additional assignments etc.) may be given to students on compassionate grounds. The situations for which compassionate accommodation can be given must be serious, including significant events such as death in the immediate family, trauma (fire, robbery, harassment, muggings, car accidents, etc.) or emergency situations. Documentation is required. If a member of your immediate family is seriously ill, obtain a medical certificate from the family member's physician and submit the documentation to your Academic Counsellor. If you have been involved in a severe accident, fire or some other exceptional crises, obtain a copy of the police report or be prepared to provide the necessary documentation upon request.

**Bereavement**

Generally, for deaths within a student's immediate family (parents, guardians, caregivers, siblings, spouses), bereavement leave is granted, upon provision of documentation. For deaths within a student's extended family, academic accommodation is given for one to three days, upon provision of documentation. Students seeking additional bereavement leave for religious or other reasons should contact their Academic Counsellors, and provide valid documentation.

**Religious Accommodation**

Students should consult the University's list of recognized religious holidays, and should give reasonable notice in writing, prior to the holiday, to the Instructor and an Academic Counsellor if their course requirements will be affected by a religious observance. [http://multiculturalcalendar.com/ecal/index.php?s=c-univwo](http://multiculturalcalendar.com/ecal/index.php?s=c-univwo)

Further specific information is given in the Western Academic Calendar.

**Support Services at Western**

- **Office of the Registrar:** [www.registrar.uwo.ca](http://www.registrar.uwo.ca)
- **Student Development Centre:** [www.sdc.uwo.ca](http://www.sdc.uwo.ca)
- **Mental Health @ Western:** [www.uwo.ca/uwocom/mentalhealth/students.html](http://www.uwo.ca/uwocom/mentalhealth/students.html)
- **Psychological Services:** [www.sdc.uwo.ca/psych](http://www.sdc.uwo.ca/psych)
- **Services for Students with Disabilities:** [www.sdc.uwo.ca/ssl](http://www.sdc.uwo.ca/ssl)
- **Accessibility Information:** [www.accessibility.uwo.ca](http://www.accessibility.uwo.ca)
- **Writing Support Centre:** [www.sdc.uwo.ca/writing](http://www.sdc.uwo.ca/writing)
- **Learning Skills Services:** [www.sdc.uwo.ca/learning](http://www.sdc.uwo.ca/learning)
Indigenous Services:
indigenous.uwo.ca/

International and Exchange Student Centre:
www.sdc.uwo.ca/int

Career Centre at Western:
www.success.uwo.ca/careers/

Statement on Mental Health
Students that are in emotional/mental distress should refer to Mental Health @ Western, http://www.uwo.ca/uwocom/mentalhealth/ for a complete list of options about how to obtain help.