Western University is situated on the traditional territories of the Anishinaabeg, Haudenosaunee, Lunaapeewak and Attawandaron peoples who have longstanding relationships to the land and region of southwestern Ontario and the City of London. The local First Nation communities of this area include Chippewas of the Thames First Nation, Oneida Nation of the Thames, and Munsee Delaware Nation. In the region, there are eleven First Nation communities and a growing Indigenous urban population. Western values the significant historical and contemporary contributions of local and regional First Nations and all of the Original peoples of Turtle Island (North America).

**PREREQUISITES**
Music 1710 F/G
It is your, the student’s, responsibility to ensure that you have taken an appropriate prerequisite course or that you have obtained special permission from the Dean to take this course.

University Policy: “Unless you have either the requisites for this course or written special permission from your Dean to enroll in it, you may be removed from this course and it will be deleted from your record. The decision may not be appealed. You will receive no adjustment to your fees in the event that you are dropped from a course for failing to have the necessary prerequisites.”

**INSTRUCTOR**
Dr. Norma Coates, Associate Professor
ncoates@uwo.ca

**TEACHING ASSISTANT**
Andrew Blimke,
ablimke@uwo.ca

**OFFICE HOURS**
I am going to do office hours two ways this semester:

- Every week, I will hold online Q&A sessions synchronously over Zoom. Anyone is invited to join in to meet your classmates and to ask questions about and discuss the material. Q&A’s will be held every Wednesday from 3:30 pm to 4:30 pm. I encourage you to attend, at least to say hello and to introduce yourself.

- If you prefer to meet with me in private, please contact me and we’ll set up a time to meet on Zoom. Like you, I have lots of other work to do but I am doing it from home so will be very available, especially later in the afternoon.
Popular music is not made in a vacuum. Popular music is more than words, notes, sound, and recordings. It is both a product and creator of culture. It affects and reacts to events outside of the music industry and the “music itself”. It influences how we live and who we think we are. Popular music’s resonance in and response to the greater culture in which it is located is never stable but is constantly changing. The cultural context affects how we listen to popular music, how we make popular music, the technology of popular music, who makes popular music, how we write about popular music, how we narrate the history of popular music, how we hear popular music, what we hear and why, who profits from popular music, and much more. This course is an introduction to thinking about popular music and culture as intimately related with each having a profound impact on the other.

**COURSE OBJECTIVES**

When this course is complete, students will be able to:

- Define terms necessary to the study of popular music and culture.
- Explain the impact of culture on popular music.
- Explain the impact of popular music on culture.
- Interpret the effect of institutions and industries upon popular music.
- Identify the ways in which culture affects popular music.

**BOOKS AND READINGS**

There is no required textbook. Required readings are posted by week on OWL.

**EVALUATION**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Paper/project</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Midterm Exam</td>
<td>30%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final Exam</td>
<td>35%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Self-Assessment</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**ASSIGNMENT SUMMARIES**

**Project/Paper.** Write a 5 to 6 page paper on a topic that I will choose. You may also deliver this creatively, as a podcast, video, or some other form. The creative projects must have as much academic rigour as a paper. More information will be provided on OWL. **Due: Sunday, March 28**

**Midterm Examinations.** The midterm exam may include short answer, fill-in-the-blank, essay, and multiple-choice questions.

**Final Exam.** The final exam is cumulative and will be administered during the final exam period. I do not set the date for the final exam. Do not make plans to go away until the date is set.

**Self-Assessment (10%)**

At the end of the semester, you will assign yourself a participation grade, justified with a paragraph explaining why you deserve it. As this is an online class, only you can assess how much time you put into it, what you learned, etc. I reserve the right to change your self-assigned grade – especially as students tend to be hard on themselves.
MY COURSE POLICIES

These are strange times for all of us as we endeavor to stay physically and mentally healthy while stuck in our dorms, apartments, and our parents’ homes (and in my case, my basement office). I understand that we are all stressed, and I will be taking that into account throughout the semester. Please let me know as soon as you can when you face a circumstance that may prevent you from handing in assignments on time. Most of this class is asynchronous with lessons available weekly for you to do at your convenience. Absences should therefore not be an issue.

The University, and FIMS, wants to provide students with consistent, fair, and pedagogically appropriate academic consideration. Academic consideration is not the same as academic accommodations. Academic consideration refers to students dealing with extenuating circumstances that prevent them from fulfilling the essential academic requirements of the course. These include sudden or acute physical or mental illness, medical treatment, serious injury (including concussions), traumatic events, berevement, and serious illness of a significant other, parent, or child. You may need to submit documentation, including a 48-hour Self-Reported Absence (SRA), a Student Medical Certificate (SMC), or other documentation, which may include police reports, obituaries, accident reports, court orders, or Emergency Room reports. Start with me if you think you need a day or two more to complete your work.

Academic Accommodations removes barriers that students with disabilities experience so that they may complete the essential academic requirements of a course. If you are in this category, you have likely already set up your accommodations and have an assigned counselor. As an online, asynchronous course, requests for extra time on exams is not necessary, as exams will not be timed. Please let me know if your accommodations require other adjustments.

With that out of the way, here are my course policies. University policies are provided at the end of this course outline.

1. **Keep up with the work.** You cannot proceed to the next week before finishing the current week’s work. Considerations will be made for religious holidays, verifiable illness, and family emergencies.

2. **Read the assigned readings before each weekly lesson.** Your understanding of the course material will be better if you familiarize yourself with the concepts taught in each lesson first.

3. **Check the OWL site for the course regularly.** You access all of the course material through OWL. I will also use it to communicate with you, and provide handouts, assignments, web links, supplemental readings, and other course material. Check it regularly. Course announcements made from OWL are sent via e-mail.
4. **Email.** Speaking of which... I know that people your age do not use email as a primary communication tool. I do, and so do your other professors. Check your email at least once a day to ensure that you do not miss important information. I will send email to you using your Western email address. Either link your Western email account to the email provider of your choice or check it regularly so that your mailbox does not fill up. Please read email from me. Not having read an email that I know that I sent to everyone will not suffice as an excuse if you miss an assignment or important announcement. The email server generates error messages if a message cannot be delivered, so I know if someone legitimately did not receive a message. Otherwise, I will assume that you did not bother to read it. Important: Do not send email to my (or anyone else's) UWO account from a Hotmail account. Western's spam catcher quarantines messages from Hotmail accounts.

I also expect good email etiquette. If you are contacting me to contest a mark, do not attempt to bully me. That might not be your intent, but without proper etiquette your email may seem aggressive. For example; “Hey Norma. You messed up my mark. Fix it” (which is not too far off from some messages I’ve received) will be interpreted as too aggressive. I will not respond; nor will my TA's. On the other hand, “Dear Prof. Coates, I believe that you may have mismarked my paper. Could you please check it?” will get a positive response. Here’s an article laying out how to best communicate with your professors: [https://medium.com/@lportwoodstacer/how-to-email-your-professor-without-being-annoying-af-cf64ae0e4087](https://medium.com/@lportwoodstacer/how-to-email-your-professor-without-being-annoying-af-cf64ae0e4087)

5. **Office Hours.** I am going to do office hours two ways this semester:
   - Every week, I will hold online Q&A sessions synchronously over Zoom. Anyone is invited to join in to meet your classmates and to ask questions about and discuss the material. Q&A's will be held every **Tuesday from 3:30 pm to 4:30 pm.** I encourage you to attend, at least to say hello and to introduce yourself.
   - If you prefer to meet with me in private, please contact me and we’ll set up a time to meet on Zoom. Like you, I have lots of other work to do but I am doing it from home so will be very available, especially later in the afternoon.

Please do not be shy about coming to Q&A sessions or asking me for a private meeting. It is good to know your professors in case you want to study abroad (when that’s possible again), go to graduate school, or even when applying for jobs after you graduate. As a professor, I write a much better reference letter when I know a bit about the student I’m writing for. Otherwise, all I can say is, “they showed up and I think they stayed awake.” 😊

6. **Week start and end dates.** Weeks begin on Sunday.

7. **Zoom and Zoom Etiquette.** Q&As and private meetings will be held on Zoom. Please join meetings with your uw.o.ca account. Mute your microphone upon entry if it isn’t muted already. Here are excerpts from the Faculty Senate’s protocol for Zoom Meetings.

*Some components of this course will involve online interactions. To ensure the best experience for both you and your classmates, please honour the following rules of etiquette:*
- please “arrive” to class on time
- please use your computer and/or laptop if possible (as opposed to a cell phone or tablet)
- ensure that you are in a private location to protect the confidentiality of discussions in the event that a class discussion deals with sensitive or personal material
• to minimize background noise, kindly mute your microphone for the entire class until you are invited to speak, unless directed otherwise
• please be prepared to turn your video camera off at the instructor’s request if the internet connection becomes unstable
• unless invited by your instructor, do not share your screen in the meeting

The course instructor will act as moderator for the class and will deal with any questions from participants. To participate please consider the following:
• if you wish to speak, use the “raise hand” function and wait for the instructor to acknowledge you before beginning your comment or question
• remember to unmute your microphone and turn on your video camera before speaking
• self-identify when speaking.
• remember to mute your mic and turn off your video camera after speaking (unless directed otherwise)

General considerations of “netiquette”:
• Keep in mind the different cultural and linguistic backgrounds of the students in the course.
• Be courteous toward the instructor, your colleagues, and authors whose work you are discussing.
• Be respectful of the diversity of viewpoints that you will encounter in the class and in your readings. The exchange of diverse ideas and opinions is part of the scholarly environment. “Flaming” is never appropriate.
• Be professional and scholarly in all online postings. Cite the ideas of others appropriately.

Note that disruptive behaviour of any type during online classes, including inappropriate use of the chat function, is unacceptable. Students found guilty of Zoom-bombing a class or of other serious online offenses may be subject to disciplinary measures under the Code of Student Conduct.

8. Make-up exams. Please contact me if you cannot do the midterm exam during its assigned week.

9. Forums. I set up several forums, one for technical problems, one for questions about the material, and one for you, me, and the TAs to post interesting links relevant to class material. If you have questions about the material, post them in the forum so that the entire class can read my answer.

10. Questions about course requirements. If you have a question about course requirements, due dates, readings, policies, etc., REFER TO THE COURSE OUTLINE before emailing me or one of the TA’s.

11. Students will receive graded work worth no less than 15% at least 3 days prior to the deadline for withdrawal without academic penalty. This year, the date by which students are to have received at least 15% of their grade in a first semester course is March 12, 2021. Students can find details about this
academic policy here: http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/exam/evaluation_undergrad.pdf. Please note, students are responsible for ensuring that they are aware of the grades they have received in their courses.

12. **Do not be afraid to contact me.** I know that some students can be hesitant to contact professors, for many reasons. Don’t be. I love talking to students and am here to help. The material in this course reflects North American media and popular cultures. If you are not from or have not spent much previous time in North America, I’m happy to help you think through the media and popular cultures that you’re familiar with. It’s a learning experience for me.

**OTHER USEFUL INFORMATION**

Students who are in emotional/mental distress should refer to Mental Health@Western, for a complete list of options about how to obtain help.

Western has a Wellness Education Centre located in the UCC, room 76. Check it out! It provides many helpful resources and activities. Here’s a link to Wellness resources from the Western website. https://www.uwo.ca/health/

Read the University Policies at the end of the course outline.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Read</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>1st Week of Jan. 10</td>
<td>Course Overview and Introduction</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(classes begin 1/11)</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Week of January 17</td>
<td>Music Industry I</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Frith, “The Popular Music Industry”</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Anderton, Dubber, &amp; James, “The Recorded Music Industry;”</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>“Songwriting and Publishing;”</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>Week of January 24</td>
<td>Music Industry 2</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Anderton, Dubber, &amp; James, “The Live Music Industry;” “Copyright</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>and Music Piracy”</td>
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<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Week of January 31</td>
<td>Music Industry 3</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Anderton, Dubber, &amp; James, “Music Promotion;” Marshall</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Week of February 7</td>
<td>Technology</td>
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<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Week of February 14</td>
<td>READING WEEK</td>
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<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Week of February 21</td>
<td>Midterm Exam</td>
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<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Week of February 28</td>
<td>Genre</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Brackett, “Popular Music Genres”</td>
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<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Week of March 7</td>
<td>Gatekeeping – Critics and Curators</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>McLeod, “One and One-half Stars”</td>
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<td>10</td>
<td>Week of March 14</td>
<td>Ideology</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>Keightley, “Reconsidering Rock”</td>
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<td>11</td>
<td>Week of March 21</td>
<td>Identity</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>Coates, “Teenyboppers, Groupies;” Mahon, Introduction to Black</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Diamond Queens</td>
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<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Week of March 28</td>
<td>Stars and Fans</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Technology has Transformed etc.”</td>
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<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>Week of April 4</td>
<td>Popular Music and Visual Media</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Nelson, “From Selling Out to Savvy Strategy”</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**FINAL EXAM DATE TO BE DETERMINED. I HAVE NO CONTROL OVER IT.**
UNIVERSITY POLICIES.
READ THEM.

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.

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).

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
Students are responsible for making up any missed classes or assignments as soon as possible. In order to ensure fairness and consistency for all students, academic accommodation for work representing more than 30% of the student’s overall grade in the course shall be granted only in those cases where there is documentation in the form of a completed and appropriately signed Student Medical Certificate (SMC) indicating that the student was seriously affected by illness and could not reasonably be expected to meet his/her academic responsibilities, or the equivalent documentation for non-medical or compassionate grounds.

Students seeking academic consideration must communicate with their instructors no later than 24 hours after the end of the period covered by either the self-reported absence or SMC, or immediately upon their return following a documented absence, to clarify how they will be expected to fulfill the academic expectations they may have missed during the absence. Documentation, if required, shall be submitted to the Office of the Associate Dean, Undergraduate (TC210).

Note that the new Self-Reporting Absence Portal may not be used for requesting academic relief for work worth more than 30%, or for Final Exams scheduled during the official examination period.

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 Counselor. 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 Counselors, 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 Counselor if their course requirements will be affected by a religious observance.


Further specific information is given in the Western Academic Calendar.

**Support Services at Western**
- Office of the Registrar: www.registrar.uwo.ca
- Student Development Centre: www.sdc.uwo.ca
- Mental Health @ Western: www.uwo.ca/uwocom/mentalhealth/students.html
- Psychological Services: www.sdc.uwo.ca/psych
- Services for Students with Disabilities: www.sdc.uwo.ca/ssd
- Accessibility Information: www.accessibility.uwo.ca/
- Writing Support Centre: www.sdc.uwo.ca/writing
- Learning Skills Services: 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, https://www.uwo.ca/health/mental_wellbeing/ for a complete list of options about how to obtain help.

Submission of work with which you have received help from someone else (other than the course instructor or TA) is an example of plagiarism, which is considered a major academic offence. Scholastic offences are taken seriously and students are directed to read the appropriate policy, specifically, the definition of what constitutes a Scholastic Offence, as found at:

http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/scholastic_discipline_un

Students that are in emotional/mental distress should refer to the Health and Wellness at Western page (https://www.uwo.ca/health/) for a complete list of options about how to obtain help or to go to the Wellness Education Centre located in UCC room 76. Students in crisis in need of immediate care are directed to go directly to Student Health Services in UC11 or to click on the green “I Need Help Now” button on the Health and Wellness page above.

**Accommodation for Students with Disabilities.** Students with disabilities work with Accessible Education Western (AEW, formerly SAS) which provides recommendations for accommodation based on medical documentation or psychological and cognitive testing. The accommodation policy can be
found here: https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/Academic%20Accommodation_disabilities.pdf
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. Additional information is given in the Western Multicultural Calendar.