

Music 1730B – Introduction to Popular Music and Culture – Winter 2022
Online through January 31 or later
Live Instruction after 1/31 or later:
Tuesday 1:30 – 3:20pm, Thursday 2:30 – 3:20pm, TC 201

LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

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

Q&A/Office Hours: WHILE ONLINE (AT LEAST UNTIL JANUARY 31, 2022): Thursday, 3:30 – 5:00pm; Office Hours when Live Instruction returns: Thursday, 3:30 – 5:00pm, TC 225

TEACHING ASSISTANTS

Peter Trigg ptrigg@uwo.ca

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COURSE DESCRIPTION

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

Final Paper	25%
Midterm Exam	30%
Final Exam	35%
A&P Self-Assessment	10%

ASSIGNMENT SUMMARIES

Final Paper (25%). Write a 8 –10 page paper on a topic that I will choose. More information will be provided on OWL. **Due: Thursday, March 31**

Midterm Examination. (25%) The midterm exam may include short answer, fill-in-the-blank, essay, and multiple-choice questions. I will announce the format before the exam. **Date: Tuesday, February 15, 2022.**

Final Exam (35%). 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.*

Attendance and Participation Self-Evaluation (10%). At least part of this class will be online. For that reason, and because only you can truly assess how much time you put into it and what you learned even if you attend class in person, you will assign yourself a participation grade, justified with a paragraph explaining why you deserve it at the end of the semester.

COURSE POLICIES

1. Keep up with the work. You will learn better if you keep up with the work, especially when we are online. Schedule study times and stick to them.

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. Absences. Accommodations will be made for religious holidays in the University Multifaith Calendar, verifiable illnesses, and family emergencies. ***I will also make accommodations for absences for the community and ceremonial responsibilities of Indigenous students.***

4. Check the OWL site for the course regularly. All course materials are on OWL. While we are online, complete asynchronous lessons will be posted each week, along with readings

and supplemental material, if any. When/if we are live again, readings and supplemental material will be posted on OWL. I use OWL to communicate with you, and to provide handouts, assignments, web links, supplemental readings, and other course material. Check it regularly. Course announcements made from OWL are sent via e-mail.

5. 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.

6. My Availability. The seemingly never-ending COVID pandemic is wearing us all down, including me. To give myself some down time, I will normally not reply to emails sent after 7:00pm until the next morning. I will reply to emails sent over the weekend on Monday. Please plan accordingly. I may make exceptions when there are upcoming tests or assignments.

7. Laptops and Cell Phones. I know that many of you take notes on your laptops or on tablets. During class, please use them only for class purposes – taking notes, looking things up, etc. **Please leave your cell phones in your backpack, pocket, or whatever you use to cart your life around on campus.** I know, it's hard (it is for me!) but you can be away from it for a couple of hours. I know you can!

8. Office Hours. While we are online, I will hold Office Hours/Q&A sessions online on Thursday from 3:30 to 5:00pm. Zoom links will be posted on Thursday morning. The Q&A format is more informal; I invite all of you to join in, especially before we are in the classroom together. If you want to talk to me privately, please email me to set up a meeting.

Once we return to live instruction, my office hours are on Thursday from 3:30 to 5:00pm in my Music office, TC 225. If you cannot make my office hours because of a conflict, I am happy to meet with you online via Zoom, my schedule permitting.

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

10. Forums. This is relevant to our weeks online. 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.

11. 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.

12. 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 14, 2022**. 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.

13. **Deadlines are not suggestions.** I set deadlines not to be capricious or cruel, but to help you plan your work accordingly. Keeping track of students who have not passed in work is very time consuming and further, delays release of grades to the students who met their deadlines. The TAs and I will do what we can to help you meet your deadlines. **Extensions will require at least one week's notice and must receive approval from 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 Faculty Policies at the end of the course outline.

SCHEDULE

IMPORTANT NOTE: WEEKLY ASYNCHRONOUS LESSONS WILL CONTINUE TO BE ONLINE AFTER JANUARY 31 IF THE UNIVERSITY DELAYS OUR RETURN TO LIVE INSTRUCTION.

Week	Topic	Read
1 ON-LINE	Course Overview and Introduction	
2 1/18/22 1/20/22	Music Industry I	Frith, "The Popular Music Industry" Anderton, Dubber, & James, "The Recorded Music Industry;" "Songwriting and Publishing;"
3 1/25/22 1/27/22	Music Industry 2	Anderton, Dubber, & James, "The Live Music Industry;" "Copyright and Music Piracy"
4 2/1/22 2/3/22	Music Industry 3	Marshall
5 2/8/22 2/10/22	Technology	Theberge, "Technology and Popular Music;" Prior, "Beyond Napster"
6 2/15/22 2/17/22	Midterm Exam, 2/15/22 No class 2/17/22	
7 2/19 - 2/27/22	READING WEEK	
8 3/1/22 3/3/22	Genre	Brackett, "Popular Music Genres"
9 3/8/22 3/10/22	Gatekeeping - Critics and Curators	McLeod, "One and One-half Stars"
10 3/15/22 3/17/22	Ideology	Keightley, "Reconsidering Rock"
11 3/22/22 3/24/22	Identity	Coates, "Teenyboppers, Groupies;" Mahon, Introduction to <u>Black Diamond Queens</u>
12 3/29/22 3/31/22	Stars and Fans PAPER DUE	Auslander, "Performing Star Identity in Popular Music;" Hu, "How Technology has Transformed etc."
13 4/4/22 4/6/22	Popular Music and Visual Media	Nelson, "From Selling Out to Savvy Strategy"

FINAL EXAM DATE TO BE DETERMINED. I HAVE NO CONTROL OVER IT.

FACULTY POLICIES – PLEASE READ

ii) **Grading scale:** A+=90-100%, A=80-89%, B=70-79%, C=60-69%, D=50-59%, F=0-49%.

iii) **Academic Consideration for Student Absence:** Students will have up to two (2) opportunities during the regular academic year to use an on-line portal to self-report an absence during the term, provided the following conditions are met: the absence is no more than 48 hours in duration, and the assessment for which consideration is being sought is worth 30% or less of the student's final grade. **Students are expected to contact their instructors within 24 hours of the end of the period of the self-reported absence, unless noted on the syllabus.** Students are not able to use the self-reporting option in the following circumstances:

- for exams scheduled by the Office of the Registrar (e.g., December and April exams)
- absence of a duration greater than 48 hours,
- assessments worth more than 30% of the student's final grade,
- if a student has already used the self-reporting portal twice during the academic year

If the conditions for a Self-Reported Absence are not met, students will need to provide a Student Medical Certificate if the absence is medical or provide appropriate documentation if there are compassionate grounds for the absence in question. **Students are encouraged to contact their Faculty academic counselling office to obtain more information about the relevant documentation.**

Students should also note that individual instructors are not permitted to receive documentation directly from a student, whether in support of an application for consideration on medical grounds, or for other reasons. All documentation required for absences that are not covered by the Self-Reported Absence Policy must be submitted to the Academic Counselling office. For the Western University policy on Consideration for Student Absence, see:

https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/Academic_Consideration_for_absences.pdf

and for the Student Medical Certificate (SMC), see:

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

Special Note for Covid-19-related Situations:

As a guideline, if a student has been contacted by the Middlesex-London Health Unit (MLHU) to self-quarantine due to a Covid-19-related situation, then the Self-Reported Absence system is not to be used to report this absence or to request an academic accommodation. The student should contact the Academic Counselling office as soon as they are notified.

In general, students are advised to not self-determine when to self-isolate. Unless directed by the MLHU students should go about their business as usual. But if a student chooses to self-isolate due to a suspected Covid-19-related situation while waiting to receive direction from the MLHU then the student is directed to contact the Academic Counselling office as soon as possible for further direction on receiving accommodation consideration.

iv) **Academic Consideration for Missing Work:** In cases where students are unable to submit work due to medical illness or compassionate grounds, if an online self-reported absence is submitted, or if appropriate supporting documentation is submitted to the Associate Dean's office, and the accommodation is granted, then the missed assessments may be rescheduled or discounted in the calculation of the final grade for the course, at the discretion of the instructor. If neither a self-reported absence nor an appropriate supporting document is submitted to the appropriate office, then the missed assignments will receive a grade of zero.

v) **Academic Offences:** 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_undergrad.pdf

vi) **Mental Health & Wellness:** 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.**

vii) **Accommodation for Students with Disabilities:** Students work with Accessible Education Western (AEW, formerly SSD) 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](https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/Academic%20Accommodation%20disabilities.pdf)

viii) **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.

<http://multiculturalcalendar.com/ecal/index.php?s=c-univwo>

NOTE: PLEASE SEE #3 UNDER MY COURSE POLICIES: *I will also make accommodations for absences for the community and ceremonial responsibilities of Indigenous students.*

ix) **Contingency Plan:** In the event of a COVID-19 resurgence during the course that necessitates the course delivery moving away from face-to-face interaction, all remaining course content will be delivered entirely online, either synchronously (i.e., at the times indicated in the timetable) or asynchronously (e.g., posted on OWL for students to view at their convenience). The grading scheme will **not** change. Any remaining assessments will also be conducted online at the discretion of the course instructor.

x) **Examinations & Attendance:** Any student who, in the opinion of the instructor, is absent too frequently from class or laboratory periods in any course will be reported to the Dean of the Faculty offering the course (after due warning has been given). On the recommendation of the department concerned, and with the permission of the Dean of that Faculty, the student will be debarred from taking the regular examination in the course. The Dean of the Faculty offering the course will communicate that decision to the Dean of the Faculty of registration.

xi) **Electronic Devices in Exams:** Electronic devices of any type will be permitted during the Midterm Test and/or Final Exam in this course (unless required for accessibility reasons based on an approved accommodation request from Accessible Education).