

Division: Humanities

Area: Music

Course Number: 268

Course Name: Popular Music in America

Prerequisites: NONE

Corequisite: NONE

Hours Required: Class: 45 Lab: 0

Credits: 3

Course Description/Purpose

The emphasis of Music 268 is upon the various styles of music that have been popular throughout America's history from the colonial period to the present. This will include folk, blues, jazz, country and rock. This course will also examine these musical styles from a sociological and historical perspective. The purpose of this course is to expand students' knowledge of styles of music that have been an integral part of America's cultural history.

Major Units

- Songs of the Great Songwriters (Berlin, Gershwin, Porter, Rodger & Hart, etc.)
- The development of jazz from its roots in spirituals, blues, marching bands, and ragtime.
- Early County Music
- The Rise of Rock and Roll

Educational/Course Outcomes

Student learning will be assessed by a variety of methods, including, but not limited to, quizzes and tests, journals, essays, papers, projects, laboratory/clinical exercises and examinations, presentations, simulations, portfolios, homework assignments, and instructor observations.

Cognitive

Each student will be expected to *Identify/Recognize*. . .

- *various styles of American popular music and their relation to one another*
- *the ways in which particular styles of music, and pieces of music, can be understood within their respective historical and sociological contexts*
- *recorded examples of specific songs and pieces of music*

Performance

Each student will be expected to *Demonstrate/Practice*. . .

- *the retention of class material through a number of short quizzes.*
- *the ability to create a major research paper dealing with some aspect of American popular music history, demonstrating*

- *proper research and writing techniques, and employing MLA format*
- *an ability to take part in class discussions and activities*

Attitudinal

Each student will be expected to *Believe/Feel/Think*. . .

- *and react aesthetically to musical experiences*
- *and appreciate different styles of music from various time periods*
- *and understand the significance of popular music in America's cultural history*
- *and state his/her opinions concerning material discussed, and musical examples listened to, through class discussions*

KG/pf—6/04