Course Syllabus
Rock Music in Recent American History
MUSI 1310 (3-0)
Dr. Michael D. Jordan

Course Description
A course designed to enable student to examine the effect of historical events on American popular music culture. Course includes listening and reporting on music in context of recent American History.

Text, References, and Supplies:

Learning Outcomes
1. Identify compositions by their respective stylistic category.
2. Identify music by its musical genre.
3. Describe and discuss the musicians and their music in a cultural or historical context.
4. Employ technology creatively to facilitate successful computer skills.

Course Goals/ Objectives:
Upon successful completion of the course, the student will be able to:

1. Understand the historical background of the development of Rock Music.
2. Understand and demonstrate writing and speaking processes through invention, organization, drafting, revision, editing and presentation.
3. Comprehend the creative process and the physical and intellectual demands required of the artist;
4. Understand and apply basic principles of critical thinking, problem solving, and technical proficiency in the development of exposition and argument.
5. Understand Rock Music as an expression of individual values within an historical and social context.
7. Demonstrate knowledge of the influence of Rock Music on intercultural experiences.

Class Policies and Procedures
Class activities and assignments: Students are expected to watch the presentations and study the readings in the textbook. Study of the text is extremely important, both for its own sake and as a background for the presentations. The student is expected to think critically
and communicate clearly, both orally and in writing. Students are required to prepare an Analysis Paper demonstrating an understanding of the basic elements of musical composition. Details of the assignment will be provided in a handout which you will find in the assignments section of the website.

**Evaluation of Students**

There will be 4 quizzes over the reading assignments and presentations. The average of the four quizzes will count as 50% of the final grade. The Analysis Paper will count as 35% of the final grade. WARNING: I will not tolerate plagiarism. Students who submit papers that have been copied off websites will receive an automatic score of 0 for their papers, so cheating will always result in a failing grade for the course.

Exams will be posted for the times specified in the course schedule. The dates for the postings are clearly designated on the course calendar. Students may attempt the exam as many times as they wish while the exams are posted, and may request that the instructor repost the exams if they miss the scheduled posting dates. The instructor will deduct 10% from the scores of students who request a repost of the exam. So take care to log in and take the exams within the scheduled dates for examination postings.

Students are also required to participate in the course discussion board. Fifteen percent of the grade will be based on discussion board participation. Students must submit an entry as well as a response to The Bistro, the course discussion board, for each major section of the course. The entries must involve your reaction to a musical example that we are studying during each major course segment. Please use intelligent musical terms (timbre, melody, harmony, texture, rhythm) for your discussion of the example: avoid ideas like "I don't like this piece," or "this piece stinks." The instructor will also participate in the discussion board by asking for clarification and providing questions for further investigation.

Numerical grades, in percentages, equate to letter grades as follows: 90-100, A; 80-89, B; 70-79, C; 60-69, D; below 60, F. Tests are comprehensive and measure the student's knowledge and understanding of the course content through multiple choice questions. The final course grade will indicate the student's degree of success in meeting the course goals and objectives.

**Course Schedule**

The Course Schedule lists textbook readings, dates for examination postings and the date that the analysis paper is due. These dates vary from semester to semester, but students should pay careful attention to these dates in order to avoid the penalties mentioned above.
Instructor Information

Name:
Office phone:
Office hours:
Office location:
E-mail address:
Division secretary: Lula Lee, Allison Fine Arts, Room 141
Division telephone: 685-4624
Note: Students are encouraged to contact me at any time; however, making an appointment will guarantee that I'll be available at a specific time.