

I. Course Description:

This course is a survey of both historical and stylistic development of rock music. The course examines the development of rock music from the early '50s to the present—including early Rock and Roll, the British invasion, and 21st century trends—and considers the symbiotic relationship between the music and society.

II. Course Objectives:

Students who successfully complete this course will understand the early influences on and development of early rock music. They should be able to identify stylistic features of various forms of rock music, discriminate between the purely musical and extra-musical aspects of rock, understand its historical development through the five decades of rock music, appreciate the symbiotic interrelationship between rock music and society—particularly how the music reflects and affects society—, and identify many of the significant songs, albums, and musical artists associated with the history of rock music.

III. Course Requirements: Students are expected to complete successfully each of the following requirements.

- text book and other assigned readings,
- listen to musical recordings,
- attend two Rock concerts,
- write critical reviews of the concert performances,
- compose an original 12-bar blues tune or 32-bar standard tune reflecting the basic elements of the style,
- online presentation from a researched topic.

IV. Materials:

Required text: Stuessy, Joseph, and Lipscomb, Scott. *Rock and Roll: Its History and Stylistic Development*. 5th ed., Upper Saddle River: Prentice Hall, 2005.

V. Student Assessment:

Student's progress will be assessed through classroom discussions, written reviews of concerts attended by the students, written quizzes and aural quizzes. Learning outcomes will be assessed through a critical paper addressing the context of rock and roll music within society and by comprehensive written and aural exams. All papers are expected to demonstrate a high quality of writing ability, critical thinking and objective evaluation of musical performance. Course grades will be determined according the following categories:

- Daily work/quizzes — 10%
- Concert reviews — 10%
- Composition — 10%
- Research presentation — 25%
- Midterm exam — 20%
- Final exam — 25%

Late Policy: Each assignment is due at the beginning of class on its due date. Upon presentation of a reasonable excuse *prior* to the due date, the instructor may approve an exception within 24 hours with a grade deduction of 10 percent.

Grades are awarded according to the university grading scale:

A = 96-100	B+ = 88-91	C+ = 76-79	D+ = 64-67
A- = 92-95	B = 84-87	C = 72-75	D = 60-63
	B- = 80-83	C- = 68-71	F = 0-59

VI. Attendance

Attendance is required and *will* be taken daily. Due to daily assessment, lack of consistent attendance can significantly lower your course grade. More than 2 excuses may result in a lower grade. In all cases of absence, **YOU** are responsible for all materials covered in class, including daily activities and discussions, assignments, due dates, and evaluation activities. Graded-work completed in class (quizzes or in-class assignments) cannot be made up. It may be excused *if* you provide the instructor with a valid excuse (defined as a *written statement* explaining either (1) a family or personal emergency or (2) a medical illness, for which the instructor can request official medical documentation) immediately upon return to class. Any missed homework, projects, or examinations will receive a grade of “0” unless a valid excuse is presented.

University policies governing drop dates, penalties, plagiarism, incompletes, and academic integrity as detailed in the Capital University Undergraduate Bulletin “Undergraduate Academic Policies, Regulations and General Information” will be observed.

VII. Concert Attendance and Reviews

This semester you are to attend two rock concerts and write one-page reviews for each. Each review should comment on the style of the music using terminology and information discussed in class as a basis of your review. The concerts you choose must reflect some diversity of style—in other words, not all of a specific style, i.e., rap, metal, etc.—and must reflect some diversity of musical maturity among the performing artists. For example, at least one performance should be from a nationally successful and fairly well know act, and at least one performance should be from a local or regional group that is young and trying to make its mark on the world. In summary the two types of concerts are:

- (1) National act
- (2) Regional/local act

The order for submitting these concerts does NOT matter as long as you accomplish both. However, there are deadlines for accomplishing papers. You must complete one concert and review by the deadlines on the schedule below.

OPTION for second submission: You may substitute the following for your second review. Attend at least two events during the Jazz and World Music Festival (on campus) and write a critical review. This may be submitted during the last week of classes—April 22—rather than the regular deadline for the second review.

All papers are to be written in Microsoft Word and submitted electronically via email attachments. Assignments must be labeled with your last name, and the name of the assignment. Your four assignments should be labeled like the following example.

Student *Bill Clinton* will label assignments:

b_clintonBlues.*whatever file extension is appropriate* (mp3, wav, aif)
b_clintonReviewLoc.doc (local review)
b_clintonReviewNat.doc (national review)

VIII. Online presentation and Peer evaluations

You will choose a topic to research and create an electronic presentation on that topic. You will submit the presentation, which will be uploaded to BlackBoard to be viewed by everyone in the class. EACH member of the class must view and EVALUATE each presentation. Peer evaluation is an important learning process and is to be taken seriously by each member of the class.

Here are suggestions for selecting your topic and creating your presentation.

- The topic MUST be clearly related to this course.
- The topic will be MOST meaningful to you if you choose something that also correlates with your degree program and/or personal interests.
- Use something like PowerPoint to create the presentation and SAVE it as an independent PP player file
- Incorporate pictures and video
- You MUST include a thorough Bibliography at the end
 - Must include SEVERAL, reliable hard copy resources.
 - Online resources should include quality, reliable sources. [Generally NOT Wikipedia]

DUE DATES:

February 7 – 1st Concert review

February 14 – Topic due with an outline of main themes and points, and intended goals for the presentation

March 18 – Presentations due.*

April 3 – Peer evaluations of ALL presentations due**

April 17/22 – 2nd Concert review (see information on concert review options)

* Because of the importance of Peer evaluations in this process, grades for any late presentations are subject to a significantly lower grade.

** The grade on YOUR presentation includes participation in evaluating your peers presentations.

Tentative Schedule*

WEEK	ACTIVITIES
Week 1	Introduction; The Roots of Rock Ch. 1 & 2
Week 2	The Emergence of Rock and Roll Ch. 3
Week 3	Rock in the 1950's Ch. 4
Week 4	The Early 1960's Ch. 5 Folk Rock Ch. 8;
Week 5	Beatles: The Early and Middle Years Ch. 6 1st Concert review DUE
Week 6	Beatles: The Late Years (Ch. 6)
Week 7	The British Are Coming! Ch. 7 Midterm Exam (Thurs.)
Week 8	Soul Music Ch. 9
Week 9	Soul & Motown Ch. 9; San Francisco movement Ch. 10
Week 10	Jazz Rock Ch. 11; Art Rock Ch. 12 Online Presentations Due March 18
Week 11	Art Rock Ch. 12; Rock in the 1970's Ch. 13
Week 12	GarageBands, Punk, New Wave, Grunge from 1960 to now Online Peer Evaluations Due NO LATER THAN April 4
Week 13	Heavy Metal ; Mainstream; Recent trends
Week 14	Recent trends 1990's–early 21 st Century Ch. 15 &16 2nd Concert review DUE
Week 15	

Final Exam—Tuesday, April 29, 1:00–3:00 PM

** The stated schedule and procedures in this course are subject to change in the event of extenuating circumstances.*