**MUSC 1033 Music Appreciation**

MSU Texas

Department of Music

College of Fine Arts

MUSC 1033

  \*Note: The textbook, homework, and quizzes are **online.**Students are expected to check their official MSU email and log in to the Connect 4 Education site regularly for readings, homework, and announcements. <https://c4elink.org/login/index.php>

**Course Description**

The course will enhance the student’s appreciation and understanding of music already known, as well as introduce less familiar styles and genres. Students will understand American popular music within the context of the history of America since 1840.  Students will be able to hear a popular song and be able to identify it by style and time period, become more aware of how popular music is advertised, sold and consumed in a global economy. Students will develop critical listening skills and become more informed consumers of popular music exploring several recurring themes throughout the course:

1. Analyze changing features of popular music in America
2. Understand elements of music that define songs by style and genre
3. Appreciation of a variety of musical genres and songs
4. The influence of mass media, economy and technology of popular music
5. The role of popular music as a symbol of identity (race, class, gender, and generation

**Learning Methods**

1. Online Recordings—listening and analysis through Spotify
2. Online Textbook readings and listening assignments
3. Online Leaning Modules – PowerPoint lectures, YouTube videos
4. Web site—announcements, course material, links, assigned reading

**Reading/Listening**

There are 37 lessons for this semester which including readings, listening assignments and homework quizzes that must be prepared before each class.

\*Note – we will not be studying every lesson, and some lessons will be numerically out of order.  This is to be able to group lessons by musical style.

**Textbook and Instructional Materials**

Are all available through the course website.

Go to: [https://store.connect4education.com/product/onamerican-popular-music/?dids=2](https://store.connect4education.com/product/onamerican-popular-music/?dids=2" \t "_blank)

Or, access cards are available in the campus bookstore for purchase.

\*\***Please use your official MSU Texas email address when registering for the site!**

**Online Course Technical Support**

Technical support for this course is provided through Connect 4 Education.  If you are having technical problems you must **first contact support by clicking “Technical Support” on the tab to the left,**or at [support@connect4education.com](mailto:support@connect4education.com) or the Student Support website.  Support can also be reached at 703-880-1180 x200 if you would prefer to speak to a technician by phone.  Support Hours: Monday through Friday 9AM - 6PM Eastern Time.

**Technical problems are not an excuse for incomplete or late work**.  It is the students’ responsibility to make sure that the computer they choose to use for this course is in good working condition and meets the website requirements.  **If a student’s personal computer is not working, it is expected that the student will find one that is working.**Both PC and Mac users must have the latest version of Flash player working on their computers.  The website can be operated through Internet Explorer, Mozilla Firefox, or Safari.

**Listening Examples: Spotify**

All songs can be listened to through Spotify, a free, online streaming music app and web resource. It is helpful to download Spotify onto your computer and have it open when accessing musical examples.

**Time Zone Requirements:**

Students are expected to complete all quizzes, exams, assignments and projects by 11:59 pm Central Standard Time. Even if a student is currently living in a time zone other than Central Time, their assignments are still due by 11:59 pm Central Standard Time. Please take note of the differences between your time zone and Central Time Zone.

**Learning Modules:**

There are added learning modules to help students better understand the reading and listening materials. First, complete the reading and listening assignments. Be sure to try out the “Test Yourself,” the “Discover Video,” “Keywords,” “Artist Profile,” and other modules.

**Grading**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Assignments | Percentage of Final Grade |
| Quizzes | 30% |
| Written Assignments | 10% |
| Midterm Exam | 20% |
| Final Exam | 20% |
| Journal Entries | 5% |
| Research Project | 15% |

Table 2: Total points for final grade.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Grade | Percentage |
| A | 90-100% |
| B | 80-89% |
| C | 70-79% |
| D | 60-69% |
| F | Less than 60% |

**Quizzes**

There are quizzes for each lesson that we will cover in this class. Quizzes match up with the chapter content and equal one quiz for each day of classes.  All the quizzes are open from the first day of class and have due dates for each.  The quizzes will close on that date and will no longer be available to take.  All quizzes are due by 11:59 pm the day before the next lesson. For example**:**Lesson 1 quiz is open from **Aug. 26 until Sept. 1 @ 11:59pm**.

Keep in mind that the practice questions, found under the “Test Yourself” section in the reading are very similar to the questions on the quizzes and make for good practice!

**Exams:** There are two major exams for this course, a Midterm and a Final Exam

**Journal Entry**

This class focuses on American Popular music and this project is intended for you to take the opportunity to delve into your favorite music.

The Journal Entry will include:

1. define of your music genre style
2. What is it about musicians/band’s music and the music of the genre in general that you find compelling?
3. Give a timeline of the genres’ development, individual band members, bands and other information you deem pertinent
4. Include examples (with links as possible) of your favorite songs, with an explanation of why you chose each example and what you hear in it that makes it a favorite.

Students will:

1. Explain and define their genre
2. Give evidence for the genre’s significance and contributions to music and society
3. Describe how the genre has changed over time
4. Give a perspective on their favorite artist and what influence they artists have on their lives.
5. Include musical examples to why each was chosen to be of their favorite songs, makes those examples their favorite

**Written Assignments**

There are four written assignments to be completed throughout the semester.  Each writing assignment rubric (directions) can be found on the class day for which it is due. **Minimum of 500 Words.**

**Group Research Project**

As already outlined in your syllabus, all students enrolled must complete a student group research project.  In doing so, each student group will create an online study module that could be used to teach material from one of the chapters listed in your online reading using Power Point or Google Slides. Groups will choose a band or artist and will present four important components:

The Presentation will include:

1. Background biography
2. Musical features of at least three songs
3. Description of how their music is representative of a particular style (by musical features)
4. Description of the social, cultural, or political aspects affecting their music or career
5. All research projects must include
   1. At least one book source
   2. At least one scholarly journal article.

Students/Groups will:

1. Explore an artist/band in depth
2. Complete the project on time
3. Work both as a team and individually contribute work needed to complete the project.
4. Foster a positive team climate and respond to conflict in a professional manner
5. Recognize and uphold shared ethical values and standards
6. Use terminology and other prior knowledge learned throughout the course as well as outside knowledge that can contribute to the project.

Project Deadline: All final projects are due by:

**Grading Criteria**

* Background Biography (100 points possible)
* Musical Features of Three Songs (100 points possible)
* Stylistic Context of Three Songs (100 points possible)
* Social, Cultural, or Political Aspects Affecting their Music or Career (100 points possible)
* Teamwork (100 points possible)

**Course Schedule**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Lecture Date | Activities/Assignments/Exams | Due Date @ 11:59PM |
| 1/24 | Lesson 1 - American Popular Music in the Nineteenth Century | 1/31 |
| 1/27 | Lesson 2 - Tin Pan Alley and Ragtime | 1/31 |
| 1/29 | Lesson 3 - Rural Blues and Urban Blues | 1/31 |
| 1/31 | Lesson 4 - Dixieland | 2/2 |
| 2/3 | Lesson 5 - Swing and Big Bands | 2/4 |
| 2/5 | Lesson 6 – Broadway and the Development of American Musical | 2/6 |
| 2/7 | Lesson 7 - Hillbilly and Country and Western Music | 2/9 |
| 2/10 | Lesson 17 - Bluegrass | 2/11 |
| 2/12 NO CLASS | Written Assignment 01 | 3/13 |
| 2/14 NO ClASS | Lesson 8 - Traditional Pop in the 1940s and 1950s | 2/16 |
| 2/17 | Lesson 9 - Doo-Wop and Rhythm and Blues | 2/18 |
| 2/19 | Lesson 10 - Early Rock and Roll | 2/20 |
| 2/21 | Lesson 11 - Rockabilly | 2/23 |
| 2/24 | Lesson 12 - Teen-Styled Rock Music in the Early 1960s | 2/25 |
| 2/26 | Lesson 13 - The Record Producer and the Rise of Surf Rock | 2/27 |
| 2/28 | Written Assignment 02 | 3/13 |
| 2/28 | Lesson 14 - Soul | 3/1 |
| 3/2 | Lesson 15 - The British Invasion | 3/3 |
| 3/4 | Lesson 16 - American Reactions to the British Invasion | 3/5 |
| 3/6 | Lesson 18 - Folk and Folk Rock | 3/8 |
| 3/9 | Lesson 19 - Psychedelic Rock | 3/10 |
| 3/11 | Midterm Review |  |
| 3/13 NO CLASS | MID TERM | 3/22 |
| 3/23 | Lesson 21 - Country Rock and Southern Rock | 3/24 |
| 3/25 | Lesson 24 - Country Music Goes Mainstream | 3/26 |
| 3/27 | Lesson 22 - From Soul to Funk | 2/29 |
| 3/30 | Lesson 23 – Funk | 3/31 |
| 4/1 | Lesson 25 - Hard Rock and Heavy Metal | 4/2 |
| 4/3 | Lesson 30 - Heavy Metal in the 1980s | 4/5 |
| 4/6 | Lesson 27 - Punk Rock and New Wave | 4/7 |
| 4/6 | Written Assignment-03 | 5/8 |
| 4/8 | Lesson 29 - MTV | 4/12 |
| 4/8 | Journal Entry | 5/8 |
| 4/13 | Lesson 31 - Hip-Hop's Roots and Origins | 4/14 |
| 4/15 | Lesson 32 - Hip-Hop Comes of Age | 4/16 |
| 4/17 | Lesson 35 - Hip-Hop in the 1990s | 4/19 |
| 4/20 | Lesson 33 - The Rise of Alternative Rock | 4/21 |
| 4/22 | Lesson 34 - Alternative and Metal in the 1990s | 4/23 |
| 4/24 | Lesson 36 – Hybrids and Genres Without Definition | 4/26 |
| 4/27 | Lesson 37 - Country Music in the 1980s and 1990s | 4/28 |
| 4/29 | Lesson 38 - Popular Music and Controversy After 9/11 | 4/30 |
| 5/1 | Lesson 39- Music Creation and Distribution in the 21st Century | 5/3 |
| 5/4 | Lesson 40- Conjunto Music | 5/5 |
| 5/6 | Group Research Project Presentations | 5/8 |
| 5/8 | Review and Written Assignment-04 | 5/8 |
| 5/11 | FINAL | 5/14 |

**Schedule of Assignments**

Please refer to the home page or the calendar on the course website for a full schedule of reading assignments, listening assignments, quizzes, written assignments, exams, and projects.

Late work will not be accepted without documentation stating an excuse to miss the work. (i.e doctors note, university activities, etc.)

**Student Handbook**

Refer to:  [Student Handbook-2019-2020](https://msutexas.edu/student-life/_assets/files/handbook.pdf)