



Course Syllabus

Music 17-54800

History of Rock and Roll

Semester: Spring 2024

Instructor: Mr. Patrick Alvidrez

Office: None

Office Hours: ARRANGED

Meeting Room: Online

Meeting Days and Times: Arranged

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Course Description:

This course examines the music of the most important rock artists and groups from the 1950s through the present. The sociological, economic, and cultural factors that shaped rock music, as well as the music's influence on popular culture, will also be covered.

Advisories: English 1A or 1AH

Subject Prerequisites: None

Required Text:

Garofalo, R. & Waksman, S. (2017). *Rockin' out: Popular music in the U.S.A*, Updated 6th Edition. Pearson, 2017.

<https://www.pearson.com/en-us/subject-catalog/p/rockin-out-popular-music-in-the-u-s-a-updated-edition/P200000002844/9780137533794>

Additional Materials:

1. I will use Spotify to create listening guides – I would consider downloading the app. You do not need to get a premium version of Spotify, you can still listen to the playlists for free, but you have to have ads in between the songs.
2. Good headphones (if you are listening through your smartphone/computer)
3. Blue-Eye glasses (optional) –if you have sensitivity after prolonged viewing of a computer screen, you may want to get a pair to help your eyes.

How to Contact:

Email is usually the best way to contact me – either by using Canvas or my using my email address. Please allow no more than 24 hours (on weekdays) to get back to you. If you email me Friday afternoon/evening, allow 48 hours (the weekend) to get back to you. If I will be out of town, I'll let you know!

Online Attendance Policies and Regulations

Attendance in an online course is determined by participation in academically related activities. You will be considered present if there is evidence of your participation in course activities including, but not limited to, submitting an assignment, taking a test, or participating in an online discussion. You will be considered absent if there is no evidence of your participation in the academic activities of this course. Students who do not complete the first week's assignment or have submitted no less than two consecutive assignments for two weeks or more of the course may be dropped.

Assignments:

Weekly Classwork/Quizzes:

I will strive for simplicity in the class, therefore we will have a weekly routine:

1. Small introductory video explaining what is ahead for you in the module.
2. A quiz at the end of every Module, based on the reading – so, it is VERY important you get the textbook! The quizzes are 'open-book'!
3. A listening guide for each Module. Listen to them – at the 'midterm' you will have a listening guide assessment where you will have to identify the artist/song title from the song clip posted.
4. Depending on the module and content, you may have a discussion post. They will be short, but I will also ask that you reply to at least two classmates.

Remember, in most instances, each chapter will be a Module. There are some instances where the chapter is so full of content that I will break it up into two modules – make sure you read everything.

Major Assessments/Assignments

Major Assessments and assignments will be done during mid-term and finals. This is what you should encounter:

1. Large Essay or research paper. Any research/essay paper should be formatted on an 8.5" x 11" paper, 1" margins for all sides. Type your class name, your name, homework assignment, and due date on a cover sheet for your assignments. Cover page information should be set in the center. Please use 12-pt Times New Roman or 11-pt Calibri font for your papers.

Example:

Assignment 2.3 (Week 02)

Your Name

Music 17

1=8/2024

- Each essay or research paper should use at least 5 resources that will back up your thesis for the paper. Visiting the school's library will help you if you do not know where to find resources other than the textbook. I will also post resources throughout the semester to help you along.
- Make sure you also include to cite your sources in the paper and provide a reference list. For this class, we will use APA7 guidelines. If you need to learn what that is, please visit [APAStyle](#) to help you.

- More information will be listed in the modules for these assignments – make sure you read carefully!
2. Large Listening Guide Test. You will have two listening guide tests – midterm and final. After listening to the song clip, you will need to identify and type the artist/song title. Correct spelling of the artist and song title is important!

Other Large assignments (considered Major)

You will have two other assignments that will be due before Thanksgiving break – they will be due in addition to what is due that week. I will give you plenty of time to get these assignments in.

1. Concert Report – ALL students will have to attend a rock/jazz style concert and write a report about it. Detailed information will be posted on those Modules. I will try to offer as many dates as possible for future concerts.
2. YOUR listening guide – It is YOUR turn to create a listening guide for me. You will select music from 2010-2023 (no more than 25 tracks) and tell me why you think these pieces are historically and culturally relevant. Again, more detailed information will be found in the modules.

Due Dates

I will usually give you a week to submit your weekly quizzes and discussion posts – I do this so it will keep you ‘on top’ of your full class load for the semester. For larger assignments, I will make those available sooner.

Remember, your online attendance is determined not by attending daily Zoom classes, but by how you turn in your assignments. If you are consistent in turning in your assignments, you will be fine. However, if you do not and wait, especially in the first two weeks, you could be in danger of getting dropped from the class.

Late Work Policy

I would prefer to get your work to me in a timely manner around the due date—this gives me ample time to read and comment on your assignments. However, things go awry, circumstances happen that are out of your and my control... so there are options in case this may happen to you.

1. “Life Happens Pass” Policy - you can have an automatic 72-hour extension on a (major) assignment once per semester, no questions asked, as long as you inform me in writing. Heaven forbid you would have to use this, but if ‘life happens’, you have this one-time option.
2. Any late assignment will earn a 10% grade deduction per week.

Feedback for Assignments

1. I will get feedback/returned assignments back to you in a week. If we have a large class this semester, it may take longer.
2. Feedback will be helpful! Please make sure you read the comments – they are designed to make you a better writer and student. As a student myself (I'm in the process of getting my doctorate), reading the comments does help my writing. You may not like it (I certainly get that sinking feeling in my stomach) when you read comments, but I promise... it is for your good.
3. For major assignments, I will still offer feedback in the hopes that it will help you for other courses you may take at RC.

Final Exam:

As this is an online class that does not align with a semester's progress, the final exam will be posted when the other class assignments are posted. Access to the final exam will be granted once the last module is completed.

Grading:

Your grade will consist of discussion posts, essays, and tests. All your scores will be added up and divided by the total possible points for the semester – indeed, you will earn your grade.

<u>% of total grade</u>	<u>Grade</u>
90-100	A
80-89	B
70-79	C
60-69	D
0-59	F

Where to find Grades:

All Grades will be posted to Canvas as soon as they are determined.

Online and In-Person Support for Student Success

If you are an online-only or a mixed (online and in-person) student, there are many programs and resources available to you that can help your academic progress. We are all here for you and to help you along your journey!

1. The [student services](#) and [disabled student programs and services](#) offer information on such items as academic counseling, bookstore, career services, veteran education services, and much more. Please feel free to digitally visit or visit them in -person.
2. Technology Support – technology is an important part of your academic career, in-person or online. Please use these resources to help you:
 - a. SCCCD Student help desk: 559-499-6070
 - b. 24/7 Canvas help line: 1-844-629-6836
 - c. Textbook support
 - i. Pearson Mylab:
<https://mlm.pearson.com/northamerica/students/support/index.html>

- ii. McGraw Hill Connect:
<https://mlm.pearson.com/northamerica/students/support/index.html>

If you have trouble with the class – assignments, discussion posts, etc., contact me first to see if it is something that I can fix on my end. If I cannot fix it or it does not pertain to the class, you may want to visit these online resources.

Course Outcomes

Upon Completion of the Course, students will be able to:

1. Describe different techniques, styles, and influences of major rock artists.
2. Identify instruments, forms, and production techniques heard.
3. Critique and synthesize concepts about rock performances by writing a short essay or review based on that performance.
4. Describe the relationship between rock music and the socio-economic structures of American society.
5. Describe the evolution of rock composition and performance from one era to another.

Course Outline (Subject to Change):

- Week 01. Welcome to History of Rock & Roll - Introductions
Week 02. Constructing Tin Pan Alley: From Minstrelsy to Mass Culture
Week 03. Blues, Jazz, and Country – Part 01 (Blues and Country):
Week 04. Blues, Jazz, and Country – Part 02 (Jazz)
Week 05. “Good Rockin’ Tonight”: The Rise of Rhythm and Blues
Week 06. Crossing Cultures: The Eruption of Rock ‘n’ Roll (c. 1950’s)
Week 07. The Empire Strikes Back: The Reaction to Rock ‘n’ Roll
Week 08. Midterm
Week 09. Popular Music and Political Culture (Part 01)
Week 10. Popular Music and Political Culture (Part 02)
Week 11. Music Versus Markets: The Fragmentation of Pop
Week 12. Punk and Disco: The Poles of Pop
Week 13. Are We the World?: Music Videos, Superstars, and Mega-Events
Week 14. Rap and Metal: The Voices of Youth Culture (c. Late 1980s – 1990s)
Week 15. Repackaging Pop: The Changing Mainstream
Week 16. Latin Influences/Explosion in Popular Music (c. late 1990’s)
Week 17. Changing Channels: Music and Media in the New Millennium, Format Changes, Intellectual Properties
Week 18. Final

Reedley College Important Dates:

January 8 (Mon.) Start of Spring 2024 semester

January 15 (Mon.) Martin Luther King, Jr. Day observed (no classes held, campus closed)

January 19 (Fri.) Last day to drop a Spring 2024 full-term class for full refund

January 26 (Fri.) Last day to drop a Spring 2024 full-term class to avoid a “W” in person

January 28 (Sun.) Last day to drop a Spring 2024 full-term class to avoid a “W” on Self-Service

February 16 (Fri.) Lincoln Day observance (no classes held, campus closed)

February 19 (Mon.) Washington Day observance (no classes held, campus closed)

March 9 (Sat.) Last Day to drop a full-term class (letter grades assigned after this date)

March 25-28 (Mon. - Fri.) Spring recess (no classes held, campus open - classes reconvene April 1)

May 13-17 (M-F) Spring 2024 final exams week
May 17 (Fri.) End of Spring 2024 semester/commencement

Special Needs Requests:

If you have a verified need for an academic accommodation or materials in alternate media (i.e., Braille, large print, electronic text, etc.) per the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) or Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act, please contact me as soon as possible.

Academic Dishonesty

Students at Reedley College are entitled to the best education that the college can make available to them, and they, their instructors, and their fellow students share the responsibility to ensure that this education is honestly attained. Because cheating, plagiarism, and collusion in dishonest activities erode the integrity of the college, each student is expected to exert an entirely honest effort in all academic endeavors. Academic dishonesty in any form is a very serious offense and will incur serious consequences.

Cheating is the act or attempted act of taking an examination or performing an assigned, evaluated task in a fraudulent or deceptive manner, such as having improper access to answers, in an attempt to gain an unearned academic advantage. Cheating may include, but is not limited to, copying from another's work, supplying one's work to another, giving or receiving copies of examinations without an instructor's permission, using or is playing notes or devices inappropriate to the conditions of the examination, allowing someone other than the officially enrolled student to represent the student, or failing to disclose research results completely.

Plagiarism is a specific form of cheating: the use of another's words or ideas without identifying them as such or giving credit to the source. Plagiarism may include, but is not limited to, failing to provide complete citations and references for all work that draws on the ideas, words, or work of others, failing to identify the contributors to work done in collaboration, submitting duplicate work to be evaluated in different courses without the knowledge and consent of the instructors involved, or failing to observe computer security systems and software copyrights.

Incidents of cheating and plagiarism may result in any of a variety of sanctions and penalties, which may range from a failing grade on a particular examination, paper, project, or assignment in question to a failing grade in the course, at the discretion of the instructor and depending on the severity and frequency of the incidents.