

Prepared by the Department of Arts and Communication
Date of Departmental Approval: February 14, 2017
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Effective: Fall 2017

1. Course Number: MUS116
Course Title: History of Rock Music

2. Description: This course explores the origins, characteristics and stylistic development of rock music. The emphasis is on the artists, songwriters, and producers who have created the most famous hits and long term trends.

3. Student Learning Outcomes:

Upon successfully completion of this course, students are able to do the following:

- Define the differences between the most popular styles of rock such as Rhythm & Blues, Rock & Roll, Soul, Psychedelic, Punk, Heavy Metal, Rap, and Alternative.
- Identify by artist, title, and style the songs on the Student Listening List
- Describe how music industry policies have influenced the creative output of rock artists through the years.
- Discuss how recording and distribution technologies have affected the evolution of rock music.
- Explain the role of marketing strategies in the careers of successful rock artists.
- Evaluate the ethics of music business entities and the general public in accepting or rejecting various forms of rock music.
- Explain how rock music has influenced and been influenced by various global music traditions.
- Speak and write using the specialized vocabulary of music, especially as found in American and English rock music.
- Access and make use of digital resources on the College's LMS and the Library's databases.
- Employ presentation software for effective oral presentations.

4. Credits: 3 credits

5. Satisfies General Education Requirement: Humanities and Fine Arts

6. Prerequisites: ENL025 (Reading & Writing Essentials) or satisfactory basic skills assessment scores

7. Semester(s) Offered: Fall, Spring

8. Suggested General Guidelines for Evaluation: Grading takes into account attendance, participation, written assignments, quizzes, and the final exam.

9. General Topical Outline (Optional):

- Elements of music: form, rhythm, meter, instrumentation.
- Roots and stars of the of the evolving genre including: rhythm & blues, early rock & roll, Motown, Beatles and the British Invasion, folk rock, psychedelic, black pop, mainstream rock, punk and new wave, heavy metal, rap, and alternative rock.
- Continuing evolution of recording technologies, industry scandals; serious studio production vs. garage bands, monster concerts and big corporate interests.
- CD re-issues spawn "classic rock" format; aging performers revive their rock careers.
- Twenty-first century digital recording and internet distribution gives individual artists the tools to record and self promote.