

SYLLABUS

MUSI 1310.001 American Music

Fine Arts Department - Fall 2020

Instructor: Jon Johnson
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Office hours: Mon. & Wed. – 10:30-11:00 am
(if you need to meet with me privately, I would prefer that you email me and make an appointment.)

Purpose of the class/Course Description: To explore and examine popular musical culture in the United States from the early 19th century to 1960, specifically the relationship between music and widely varied cultural, political, religious, and philosophical movements of this period.

Textbook: *None*

The instructor will provide various handout materials, including Study Guides to help with preparation for the exams.

Structure and methods: The class format will be lecture, class discussion, and listening. Taking notes of lectures and class discussions is strongly recommended. Discussion and questions will be strongly encouraged. Listening to music will be a very important element in the class.

Supplies needed: Pen and paper to take notes in class

Grading: Grading will be based on exams.

Exams – total of four (4) exams based on lecture, class discussion and listening.

You will be given a study guide to help you to prepare for each of the four exams. I think you will find these helpful, but you are still encouraged to take notes in class.

Students missing a scheduled exam will be expected to take the exam at the next class meeting, thereby missing all or a portion of that lecture. It is the responsibility of the student to get the notes covered on that day.

This semester we find ourselves in the midst of a very unsettled and very unsettling time with the Covid-19 pandemic. SPC has done as much as possible to make provisions for dealing with this situation. These provisions include mandatory wearing of face coverings at all times, social distancing in classes, and the availability of hand sanitizer. As faculty we have been instructed to strictly adhere to these guidelines. Do not enter a college building without a face covering. Faculty has been instructed that a student without face covering should not be allowed in class. I fully intend to adhere to that directive. Further, if you find yourself having any Covid-19

symptoms, or if you know you have been or think you may have been exposed to Covid-19 by a family member or a friend, you should not come to class and possibly expose others. My email address is at the beginning this syllabus. If, for the reason specified, you find it necessary to miss class, email me of your situation. (It may not be necessary to mention this, but I am going to do so anyway. I am trusting that students will not use this as a way to miss class.)

Classroom decorum: All class members will be treated as ladies and gentlemen by the instructor, and the instructor will expect reciprocal treatment from all members of the class. (1) It is expected that all students will demonstrate the proper respect and courtesy for classmates and the instructor. Class discussion will be an important element in this class, and a diversity of opinions and ideas will not just be tolerated, it will be very strongly encouraged; however, the following will be considered inappropriate behavior and will not be tolerated: disruption of the class in any way, including talking and distracting movement; disrespectful actions or speech directed at other class members or the instructor; or sleeping in class. (2) *All pagers and cell phones must be turned off before entering the classroom. (There will be one or two exception to this rule which I will explain.) If one of these devices should erupt during the class, the owner of the device must leave class, and will not be allowed to return that day. If it occurs during an exam the student will stop the exam immediately, and will not be allowed to finish the exam.*

Note: Students with disabilities, including but not limited to physical or learning disabilities, who wish to request accommodations in this class should notify the Special Services Office early in the semester so the appropriate arrangements may be made. In accordance with federal law, a student requesting accommodations must provide acceptable documentation of his or her disability to the Special Services Coordinator. For more information, call or visit the Special Services Office in the Student Services Building, 894-9611, Ext. 2529 or 2530.

Diversity statement: In this class, the teacher will establish and support an environment that values and nurtures individual and group differences and encourages engagement and interaction. Understanding and respecting multiple experiences and perspectives will serve to challenge and stimulate all of us to learn about others, about the larger world and about ourselves. By promoting diversity and intellectual exchange, we will not only mirror society as it is, but also model society as it should and can be.