

MUEL 2852 Section 285R - Music in the Rock Era – Spring 2015

Meets M/W/F 2:00-2:50, Libby 103
Instructor Dr. Michael Barnett
Office **N124 Imig Music Building**
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Office hours MWF 11:00-11:45, 1:00-1:45 and by appointment

Text: Campbell, Michael and Brody, James. *Rock and Roll: An Introduction*, (Second Edition). New York:Thomson/Schirmer, 2008.

The **accompanying CD set** is strongly recommended. Listening outside of class is a very important component of this course.

A **notebook, pen and pencil** are also strongly recommended.

The primary focus of this course is on Rock-oriented popular music from approximately 1955 forward. To better understand Music in the Rock Era , we will investigate antecedents to Rock style that contributed important elements (e.g. Blues, Country, R&B, Rockabilly and others) and synthesis styles, including various world musics. We will trace the development of Rock, Pop, Funk, Punk, Disco, Metal, etc. from the late fifties through the present day. We will consider the various influences of one genre/style upon another, technological advancements, commercialism, and the maturation of Rock music. These topics will be approached primarily from a musical standpoint but also from philosophical, sociological, psychological and political standpoints.

Grading system: Three exams, each 20% of the total grade 60%
Writing Assignments, each 5% of the total grade 20%
Pop Quizzes (given at random) 20%

GRADE	PERCENTAGE
A	93-100
A-	90-92
B+	88-89
B	83-87
B-	80-82
C+	78-79
C	73-77
C-	70-72
D+	68-69
D	63-67
D-	60-62
F	59 OR BELOW

Any conflicts with assignments/exams should be discussed with the instructor in advance.

WRITING ASSIGNMENTS are one to several page (600 words minimum) written responses to a variety of issues and topics that relate to the material we will be studying, as well as introducing topics for class discussion. Detailed instructions will be distributed via D2L on the dates noted below. It is imperative that you **follow all instructions to the letter**. **Completed work is to be submitted online to D2L**. You will have one week to craft your response. No hand-written responses will be accepted. Communicating via the written word is an important part of this course. Grading will be based upon content, clarity, original ideas, presentation, and technical accuracy. In short, I expect college-level prose.

EXAMS: There will be three unit exams, all of which will take place during class meetings. Dates are listed below. The exams will be objective in nature and will cover material from the text and lectures. There is also a listening identification component to each exam so it is expected that you will be familiarizing yourselves with the music discussed in the text and lectures. Exams are administered using scantron sheets so a number 2 pencil is required. Exams are based on units in the text and are therefore NOT comprehensive. A study guide and listening guide for each exam will be posted on D2L.

POP QUIZZES: These short, reading based quizzes will be administered randomly throughout the semester and will serve several purposes. 1) to ensure that you are keeping up with readings in the textbook, 2) to give you some insight into the kind of questions you might encounter on an exam and 3) to motivate you to attend class. Pop quizzes cannot be made up except in the case of a legitimate absence. A legitimate absence is defined as one in which you provide official documentation (in the case of illness) or a reasonable emergency.

ATTENDANCE/PARTICIPATION/CLASSROOM ENVIRONMENT:

I expect you to attend class regularly and to be engaged in group discussions when necessary/appropriate. I also encourage you to ask questions and share your thoughts/experiences regarding information that is pertinent to the material and/or discussion. You will not be graded for attendance as such, but I assure you that those who attend regularly have a much greater chance for success. This class is an opportunity to enrich your life through the understanding of a significant part of modern culture. Don't short change yourself with poor attendance or other distractions.

It is my intention to foster a vibrant, open-minded and respectful atmosphere in the classroom. To that end I expect you to be respectful and tolerant of your peers when they are sharing their ideas and opinions. I will, to the best of my ability, maintain fair and balanced opportunities to participate in group discussions. If you feel that I have not given you equal opportunity to speak at such times, please bring it to my attention.

CLASS POLICIES:

The use of electronic devices in this class setting is **STRICTLY PROHIBITED**. If you have a special need in this regard, consult with the instructor. Classroom courtesy has taken a beating in the cell phone age and I refuse to let it be a problem in this class.

Check D2L and your CU email account regularly. I will send messages, assignment information and the like to the class via D2L and/or email. These are considered official, binding forms of communication by the university.

I expect your undivided attention at all times. Habitual chatters will be asked to leave.

UNIVERSITY POLICIES:

(1) If you qualify for accommodations because of a disability, please submit to your professor a letter from Disability Services in a timely manner (for exam accommodations provide your letter at least one week prior to the exam) so that your needs can be addressed. Disability Services determines accommodations based on documented disabilities. Contact Disability Services at 303-492-8671 or by e-mail at dsinfo@colorado.edu.

If you have a temporary medical condition or injury, see Temporary Injuries under Quick Links at Disability Services website (<http://disabilityservices.colorado.edu/>) and discuss your needs with your professor.

(2) It is the responsibility of every instructor to clearly explain his or her procedures about absences due to religious observances in the course syllabus so that all students are fully informed, in writing, near the beginning of each semester's classes. Campus policy regarding religious observances states that faculty *must* make reasonable accommodation for them and in so doing, be careful not to inhibit or penalize those students who are exercising their rights to religious observance. Faculty should be aware that a given religious holiday may be observed with very different levels of attentiveness by different members of the same religious group and thus may require careful consideration to the particulars of each individual case. See http://www.colorado.edu/policies/fac_relig.html

A comprehensive calendar of the religious holidays most commonly observed by CU-Boulder students is at <http://www.interfaithcalendar.org/>

Campus policy regarding religious observances requires that faculty make every effort to deal reasonably and fairly with all students who, because of religious obligations, have conflicts with scheduled exams, assignments or required attendance. **Please provide written notification to me no later than 2 weeks after classes begin so that the necessary accommodations can be made.**

See full details at http://www.colorado.edu/policies/fac_relig.html

(3) Faculty and students should be aware of the campus '**Classroom Behavior**' policy at <http://www.colorado.edu/policies/classbehavior.html> as well as faculty rights and responsibilities listed at: http://www.colorado.edu/FacultyGovernance/policies/Professional_Rights_and_Duties.pdf

Students and faculty each have responsibility for maintaining an appropriate learning environment. Those who fail to adhere to such behavioral standards may be subject to

discipline. Professional courtesy and sensitivity are especially important with respect to individuals and topics dealing with differences of race, color, culture, religion, creed, politics, veteran's status, sexual orientation, gender, gender identity and gender expression, age, disability, and nationalities. Class rosters are provided to the instructor with the student's legal name. I will gladly honor your request to address you by an alternate name or gender pronoun. Please advise me of this preference early in the semester so that I may make appropriate changes to my records. See policies at:

<http://www.colorado.edu/policies/classbehavior.html> and at http://www.colorado.edu/studentaffairs/judicialaffairs/code.html#student_code

(4) The Office of Discrimination and Harassment recommends the following syllabus statement:

The University of Colorado Boulder (CU-Boulder) is committed to maintaining a positive learning, working, and living environment. The University of Colorado does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age, disability, creed, religion, sexual orientation, or veteran status in admission and access to, and treatment and employment in, its educational programs and activities. (Regent Law, Article 10, amended 11/8/2001). CU-Boulder will not tolerate acts of discrimination or harassment based upon Protected Classes or related retaliation against or by any employee or student. For purposes of this CU-Boulder policy, "Protected Classes" refers to race, color, national origin, sex, pregnancy, age, disability, creed, religion, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, or veteran status. Individuals who believe they have been discriminated against should contact the Office of Discrimination and Harassment (ODH) at 303-492-2127 or the Office of Student Conduct (OSC) at 303-492-5550. Information about the ODH, the above referenced policies, and the campus resources available to assist individuals regarding discrimination or harassment can be obtained at <http://hr.colorado.edu/dh/>

(5) The Boulder campus has a student Honor Code and individual faculty members are expected to familiarize themselves with its tenets and follow the approved procedures should violations be perceived. The campus has been working diligently to make this process work better and to provide guidance on 'gray areas' to be helpful to both faculty and students at the Honor website.

All students of the University of Colorado at Boulder are responsible for knowing and adhering to the academic integrity policy of this institution. Violations of this policy may include: cheating, plagiarism, aid of academic dishonesty, fabrication, lying, bribery, and threatening behavior. All incidents of academic misconduct shall be reported to the Honor Code Council (honor@colorado.edu; 303-735-2273). Students who are found to be in violation of the academic integrity policy will be subject to both academic sanctions from the faculty member and non-academic sanctions (including but not limited to university probation, suspension, or expulsion). Other information on the Honor Code can be found at

<http://www.colorado.edu/policies/honor.html> and at <http://honorcode.colorado.edu>

SPRING 2015 COURSE OUTLINE

The following is a general plan for the semester. Please note the dates for tests and worksheet distribution/due dates. Exams will be computer scanned; please bring a pencil. Lecture and reading material is identified for each week and will be confirmed in class. Any major deviations will be announced in class. **Students who read assigned material prior to lecture tend to better retain lecture material.**

WEEK OF:

JAN 12 READING: INTRO, CHAPTERS 1 AND 2

Intro to the course and syllabus. What is Rock? How did Rock evolve?

**JAN 19 READING: CHAPTER 3
JAN 19 NO CLASS: MLK DAY**

Rock's roots and why Rock and Roll seemed so revolutionary.

JAN 26 READING: CHAPTER 4

Rhythm and Blues in the Fifties.

FEB 2 READING: CHAPTER 5

Rock and Roll in the Fifties.

FEB 9 READING: CHAPTER 6

Girl groups, garage bands, Folk and Surf music.

FRIDAY, FEB 13 EXAM 1. PLEASE BRING A PENCIL

FEB 16 READING: CHAPTER 7

Dylan and The Beatles

FEB 23 READING: CHAPTERS 8 AND 9

Black music in the Sixties. Rock.

MAR 2 READING: CHAPTERS 10 AND 11

The San Francisco scene in the late Sixties. Art Rock.

MAR 9 READING: CHAPTERS 12 AND 13

Singer-Songwriters. Black Pop in the early Seventies.

MAR 16 READING: CHAPTER 14

Mainstream Rock in the Seventies.

FRIDAY, MAR 20 EXAM 2. PLEASE BRING A PENCIL

MAR 23 SPRING BREAK: NO CLASSES

MAR 30 READING: CHAPTERS 15 AND 16

Reggae, Funk and Disco. Punk and New Wave.

APR 6 READING: CHAPTER 17

Electronica and Rap.

APR 13 READING: CHAPTER 18

Pop in the Eighties.

APR 20 READING: CHAPTER 19

Rock since 1980. METAL, METAL, METAL!

APR 27 READING: CHAPTER 20

The Alternative movement and Grunge.

FRIDAY, MAY 1 EXAM 3. PLEASE BRING A PENCIL

WRITING ASSIGNMENT DISTRIBUTION AND DUE DATES:

Assignment 1: distributed via D2L January 16, due before the start of class January 23.

Assignment 2: distributed via D2L February 13, due before the start of class February 20.

Assignment 3: distributed via D2L April 3, due before the start of class April 10.

Assignment 4: distributed via D2L April 17, due before the start of class April 24.