



Doane University

Course Information

MUS 125
History of Rock and Roll
Winter II Term 2017 (January 15 - March 10, 2018)
3 Credit Hours

Instructor Information

Dr. Lance Nielsen
Adjunct Professor of Music
Doane University

Contact Information

Office: NA
Email Address: lance.nielsen@doane.edu
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Communicating With the Instructor

This course uses a “three before me” policy for student to faculty communications. When questions arise during the course of this class, please remember to check these three sources for an answer before asking me to reply to your individual questions:

1. Course syllabus
2. Announcements in Blackboard
3. The Q & A discussion board

This policy will help you in potentially identifying answers before I can get back to you and it also helps your instructor avoid answering similar questions or concerns multiple times.

If you cannot find an answer to your question, please first post your question to the Q & A questions discussion board. Here your question can be answered for the benefit of all students by either your fellow students who know the answer to your question or the instructor. You are encouraged to answer questions from other students in the discussion forum when you know the answer to a question in order to help provide timely assistance.

If you have questions of a personal nature such as relating a personal emergency, questioning a grade on an assignment, or something else that needs to be communicated privately, you are welcome to contact me via email or phone. My preference is that you will try to email me first. I will usually respond to email and phone messages from 4pm to 10pm on weekdays, please allow 24 hours for me to respond.

If you have a question about the technology being used in the course, please contact the Doane University Help Desk for assistance (contact information is listed below).

Course Catalog Description

Rock and Roll is the music of youth, rebellion, and of the common spirit that ties all that together. Rock and Roll music tells the story of the human spirit involving controversy, tragedy, self-indulgence, love, sex, peace, and tranquility. This class will trace the history of Rock and Roll music from its rise as a blending of White and African-American music traditions amidst the youth oriented culture of post-World War II America to its subsequent diversification and internationalization. This history will be viewed in the context of the political, historical, economical, demographical, cultural and technological forces at work in the modern and postmodern world.

Course Prerequisites

There are no prerequisites for this class.

Course Textbook and Materials

Required

Larson, Thomas E. (2014). History of Rock & Roll, Fifth Edition. Kendall Hunt Publishing Company. ISBN-10: 1-4652-7862-1 ISBN-13: 978-1-4652-7862-3

NOTE: It is helpful if you get the correct edition. If you buy a new book, there is an activation code in the inside cover of the text for a FREE 4 month subscription to Rhapsody Music Service. You will be using Rhapsody for a series of listening assignments. You may buy a used version, but you will need to search on YouTube for all of the listening assignments.

Optional

Extra readings and resources will be provided via Blackboard or available to online students through the Doane University Library.

Learning Objectives

Course Objectives

At the completion of this course students will be able to:

1. Formulate an awareness of the major factors involved in the development of Rock and Roll from its roots to the present.
2. Respond to an aural awareness of the changing sounds of Rock and Roll over time.
3. Classify the subject of a pop song into cultural/social categories such as environment, peace/antiwar, sports, social upheaval, justice/injustice, civil rights, economics, gender roles in society, romantic love, sex, alienation, introspection, counter culture, etc...

Unit Objectives (Units are set up as 1 week modules)

Module I: Introduction to the Course

- a. Introduce yourself to the class and interact with classmates.
- b. Orient yourself to the Blackboard course and course expectations.
- c. Create a Twitter account.

Module II: Roots of Rock and Roll

- a. Describe the infusion of Black Roots and White Roots on Rock and Roll.
- b. Describe how technology influenced the Record Industry.
- c. Analyze and describe the musical elements in the song "Strange Fruit".

Module III: Rock and Roll Explosion

- a. Describe how Elvis impacted the evolution of early Rock and Roll and his influences on American pop culture.
- b. Describe the influence of the Brill Building songwriters.
- c. Summarize the impact of Buddy Holly on the next generation of pop artists.

Module IV: Soul and Folk Influences

- a. Describe the characteristics of soul music and the connection to the civil rights movement.
- b. Analyze the musical elements of Motown and Stax.
- c. Describe the folk music influences between Bob Dylan and Woodie Guthrie.
- d. Compare and contrast the musical elements and social implications of black protest songs of the 60s.

Module V: British Invasion

- a. Compare and contrast the musical influences of the Rolling Stones to the Beatles.
- b. Identify the social issues that led to the formation of a youth counterculture of the 1960s
- c. Describe how Jimi Hendrix changed the sound of rock music.
- d. Summarize the connection between the turbulent events of the 1960's and the music reflected in this decade.

Module VI: The Seventies

- a. Describe the characteristics of the music and of the singer/songwriters that emerged in the 1970's.
- b. Compare the characteristics that defined Heavy Metal versus Hard Rock.
- c. Create a graphic organizer representing the various music genres of the 1970s.

Module VII: Punk Rock

- a. Interpret the origins of Hip Hop with relation to the social changes in America.
- b. Describe how reggae was used for social protest, and describe its relationship to the Rastafarian movement
- c. Compare the lyrics of four songs by women rock artists in the influence on the women's liberation movement.

Module VIII: 80's, 90's, & Beyond

- a. Describe the impacts of new technology on the music business.
- b. Compare and contrast the characteristics of alternative rock bands and boy/girl bands of the 90's.
- c. Select and summarize the life of one of the top artists of this time period (Jackson, Madonna, Prince, Springsteen).

Module IX: Encore

- a. Create a top 10 favorite list of rock music
- b. Identify the music of the past 60+ years by decade, style, and genre.
- c. Compose a final paper reflecting on the influence of rock and roll music on American society.

Course Requirements

Online Course

This is an online course and therefore there will not be any face-to-face class sessions. All assignments and course interactions will utilize internet-based technologies.

Attendance Policy

You should plan to work on this course everyday. This means that you must have a reliable and consistent internet connection throughout the duration of the course. It is strongly recommended that you not take any vacations during this course. This is a condensed, fast-paced course and it would be extremely difficult to catch up after a prolonged absence.

Course Preparation and Participation

Preparation for class means reading the assigned readings & reviewing all information required for that week. *Attendance* in an online course means logging into the Blackboard and on a regular basis and *participating* in the all of activities that are posted in the course.

Studying and Preparation Time

The course requires you to spend time preparing and completing assignments. A three-credit course requires 144 hours of student work. Therefore expect to spend approximately 18 hours a week preparing for and actively participating in this 8-week course.

Computer Requirements

This course requires that you have access to a computer that can access the internet. You will need to have access to, and be able to use, the following software packages:

- A web browser (Chrome or Mozilla Firefox)
- Adobe Acrobat Reader (free)
- Adobe Flash Player (free)
- Word processing software—Microsoft Word or Google Docs

You are responsible for having a reliable computer and internet connection throughout the course.

Email and Internet

You must have an active Doane University e-mail account and access to the Internet. *All instructor correspondence will be sent to your Doane University e-mail account.* Please plan on checking your Doane Gmail account regularly for course related messages.

This course uses Blackboard for the facilitation of communications between faculty and students, submission of assignments, and posting of grades. The Blackboard Course Site can be accessed at <http://bb2.doane.edu>

Campus Network or Blackboard Outage

When access to Blackboard is not available for an extended period of time (greater than one entire evening - 6pm till 11pm) you can reasonably expect that the due date for assignments will be changed to the next day (assignment still due by midnight).

Late or Missed Assignments

ALL assignments must be finished and turned in to complete the course. Unless the instructor is notified BEFORE the assignment is due and he or she provides an opportunity for the student to submit an assignment late, points may be taken off for a late assignment.

Submitting Assignments

All assignments, unless otherwise announced by the instructor, must be submitted via Blackboard. Each assignment will have a designated place for submission.

Drop and Add dates

If you feel it is necessary to withdraw from the course, please contact your advisor for full details on the types of withdrawals that are available and their procedures.

Subject to change notice

All material, assignments, and deadlines are subject to change with prior notice. It is your responsibility to stay in touch with your instructor, review the course site regularly, or communicate with other students, to adjust as needed if assignments or due dates change.

Academic Integrity

Doane University expects and requires all its students to act with honesty and integrity, and respect the rights of others in carrying out all academic assignments. Academic dishonesty, the act of knowingly and willingly attempting or assisting others to gain academic success by dishonest means, is manifested in various measures. Gehring, et al, (1986) suggests that four categories of academic dishonesty exist¹:

- a. Cheating
- b. Fabrication
- c. Facilitating academic dishonesty
- d. Plagiarism

For more information on academic integrity, please visit the website:

<http://catalog.doane.edu/content.php?catoid=4&navoid=191>

Course Grading

Grades and Grading Scale

Assignment of letter grades is based on a percentage of points earned. The letter grade will correspond with the following percentages achieved. All course requirements must be completed before a grade is assigned.

A	100 – 90
B	89 – 80
C	79 – 70
D	69 – 60
E	59 and below

All assignments will be evaluated based on a point-based rubric.

TOTAL 200 pts.

Discussion Questions/Twitter Posts = 40

Chapter Assignments = 70

Listening Quiz = 20

Special Project = 20

Final Paper = 50

Please Note! Late Assignments will be reduced by one letter grade per day unless previous arrangements are made.

Grading Scale (+ and – will be awarded)

180 - 200 = A

160 - 179 = B

140 - 159 = C

120 - 139 = D

120 and below = F

See the requirements for the specific Assignments on Blackboard.

How to Succeed in this Course

- Check your Doane email regularly
- Log in to the course web site daily
- Communicate with your instructor
- Create a study schedule so that you don't fall behind on assignments

Technical Support Contact Information

For technical assistance 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, please contact the Doane University Technology Office Help Desk:

Phone: 402-826-8411

Email: helpdesk@doane.edu

Web: <http://www.doane.edu/about-doane/offices/its/help-and-support>

Accessibility Statement

In compliance with the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Section 504, and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, professional disability specialists and support staff at Doane University facilitate a comprehensive range of academic support services and accommodations for qualified students with disabilities. Doane University staff coordinate transition from high schools and community colleges, in-service training for faculty and staff, resolution of accessibility issues, community outreach, and collaboration between all Doane University regarding disability policies, procedures, and accommodations.

Accessibility Services

Doane University Access/Services for Students with Disabilities

<http://www.doane.edu/disability-services>

Contact Person: Angie Klasek Phone: 402.466.4774 Email: angie.klasek@doane.edu

Academic Support

Contact Person: Tere Francis Phone: 402.466.4774 Email: terese.francis@doane.edu

Student Services

<http://www.doane.edu/gps/student-services>

Student Conduct Statement

Students are required to adhere to the behavior standards listed in **Doane University Policy Manual**

Appropriate classroom behavior is defined by the instructor. This includes the number and length of individual messages online. Course discussion messages should remain focused on the assigned discussion topics. Students must maintain a cordial atmosphere and use tact in expressing differences of opinion. Inappropriate discussion board messages may be deleted

if an instructor feels it is necessary. Students will be notified privately that their posting was inappropriate.

Student access to the course Send Email feature may be limited or removed if an instructor feels that students are sending inappropriate electronic messages to other students in the course.

Syllabus Disclaimer

The instructor views the course syllabus as an educational contract between the instructor and students. Every effort will be made to avoid changing the course schedule but the possibility exists that unforeseen events will make syllabus changes necessary. The instructor reserves the right to make changes to the syllabus as deemed necessary. Students will be notified in a timely manner of any syllabus changes face-to-face, via email or in the course site Announcements. Please remember to check your Doane University email and the course site Announcements often.