

**Jerry Quintero**  
Visiting Instructor of Music  
Studio Office: CFPA-209A  
Office Phone: 956-326-3077  
Email: [jerry.quintero@tamiu.edu](mailto:jerry.quintero@tamiu.edu)  
Office Hours: posted on office door or by appointment

**Course Syllabus**  
**American Popular Music**  
**MUSI 1310**  
**Section 202**

Required Text: Think Rock, Dettmar, 2011, Prentice Hall Pub.

Course Description: A listening survey course, with a chronological approach, covering the years 1930 to the present. Emphasis will be on both the music and the sociological climate, focusing on cultural and environmental factors, reflected and advocated by the music. The use of audio/visual equipment will be used throughout the course. (You Tube, CD's, Internet, DVD's etc...)

Course Content: The course will examine pop/rock music from its roots to its appearance in the 1950s to its evolution throughout the 20<sup>th</sup> century. A main focus of the course will be the cultural /social aspects reflected in and affected by this popular music.

Course Objectives:

1. To gain an understanding and appreciation for pop music.
2. To gain an understanding of the social environment of each era of pop music.
3. To gain an understanding of the causes of the changes in pop music.
4. To gain an understanding of the cultural issues dealing with pop music.
5. To gain an understanding of the effect of pop music on culture.
6. To learn about pivotal pop artists, groups, composers, and related individuals in the industry.

Course Specific Competencies: To recognize the impact of decisive ideas and events in human heritage.

**Student Learner Outcomes (SLO's):**

\* Comprehensive knowledge of the cultural/social environment, effects, appreciation, changes and artists related to pop music.

\* Demonstrate knowledge of representative individuals and groups associated with rock/pop music industry from the 1950's to the present, including changes and cultural issues.

\* Listen and view artists/groups using technology in order to gain knowledge of the evolution of pop music

\* Analyze and discuss social changes in government, history and culture as they relate to changes in pop music

\* Understands the effects of pop music on culture.

\* Demonstrates knowledge, analysis and comprehension about pivotal pop artists, groups, composers, and related individuals in the industry.

### **Core- Curricular Learning Outcomes(CCLO's):**

1. Critical Thinking Skills: includes research, creative thinking, , analysis and synthesis of information. (SLO#2,3,4,5,6)
2. Communication Skills: includes visual , written and oral communication. (SLO#2)
3. Teamwork: to debate different points of view and work effectively with others to support the goal. (SLO#3,4,5,6)
4. Social Responsibility: the ability to work well with others, knowledge of civic responsibility, intercultural competence, and the ability to engage effectively in regional, national and global communities. (SLO#4,5,6)

Will be addressed by using a music research assignment as a group presentation project. Student groups (4-6) will be given specific assignments in topics related to pop music and pop music culture. Each student group will participate and be allowed a 10-15 minute presentation using written research, technology, internet and an aural component to present their findings to the class. Each group will present a time lined and in-depth presentation.

Assessment: Group research presentations will be scored with an appropriate rubric and turned in upon completion.

**General Education Competencies:** Through this course students will acquire and develop abilities in the following areas:

1. **Writing:** to communicate effectively using standard written English.

Assessment: variety of written assignments including unit assignments, reports, and essays.

2. **Reading:** to analyze, summarize, and interpret a variety of reading materials.

Assessment: reading assignments from text and other required sources.

3. **Integrated learning:** Rock music will be studied in light of social and political events and trends, and the impact of these on rock music development.
4. A goal of this course is to understand the inherent value and role of a particular rock style even when it differs from personal taste.

If you engage yourself in this subject (by attending class and taking notes) it should be enjoyable and rewarding. However, if you intend to put this class at the bottom of your priorities and not take it seriously, you will probably have trouble with it. I am a firm believer in self-responsibility: you do not deserve a grade in this class, you earn it. Do not assume that just because this class can be fun and interesting it means that it will be easy. You must keep up with all the chapter readings and lectures.

### **Class Etiquette**

Due to the large size of the class, unnecessary talking during lectures, recordings, demonstrations, videos, and live performances is prohibited. Any disruptive students will be asked to leave.

Absolutely no cell phones, recorders, and/or laptops will be allowed. All of these items must be put away and not taken out.

Students who fall asleep in class will be asked to leave.

Talking, passing notes, or looking at someone else's paper during an exam will result in a zero. Cheating will not be tolerated and a student will be asked to withdraw from the class if it is attempted and it will result in a final grade of an "F" for this course. Please do not risk damaging your academic standing by doing anything that could be interpreted as cheating.

### **Course Outline:**

Overview of Class and Chapter 1: The Pre-History of Rock & Roll (1/22)

Chapter 2: The "Birth" of Rock and Roll (2/12 )

Chapter 3: The Establishment Strikes Back (2/26)

Chapter 4: American Bandstand, Teen Idols, and Race Lines (3/5)

Chapter 5: Changin' Times (3/19)

Chapter 6: The British Invasion (3/28)

Chapter 7: The Summer of Love and Psychedelic Rock (4/4)

Chapter 8: Sirens, Soul Singers, and Sellouts (4/16)

Chapter 9: Disco, Punk, & New Wave (5/2)

**FINAL Exam.....May 9, 2013 (11:00 am)**

\*\* Topics may vary slightly dependent on the progress of the class.

\*\* All exams will be announced dependent on the progress of the class.

Test Days to be announced as we progress in the class. Everyone must take the final exam. Failure to do so will result in an “F” for the class. **There are no make-ups for missed quizzes and/or exams.**

### **Assignments**

A variety of assignments relating to the chapters under discussion will be expected.

Assignments may deal with the assigned reading, writing and/or listening examples.

Specific requirements (length, format, etc.) for each assignment will be conveyed.

Late assignments due to unexcused absences will drop a letter grade.

If student attends class and does not turn in assigned work, a grade of zero will be issued.

Grammar, spelling, etc. are considered in the grade, as well as content.

**\*There will be no makeup for unannounced quizzes.**

### **Grade Policy**

Course grade will be determined by unit tests, a final, and various assignments.

Essays/Research assignments            25%

Exams, quizzes and CD reviews        50%

Final Exam 25% Comprehensive        25%

A: 90-100

B: 80-89

C: 70-79

D: 60-69

Failing 59-below

Only under extenuating circumstances will there be make-up tests. Make-up test will only be given after consultation with the instructor. Makeup exams will be possible only those students who have either petitioned me in advance of the exam date by email with a valid reason, or have an emergency situation that came up at the last minute. Student athletes must contact me in advance if there are conflicts with games, meets, etc. (I will not be checking your team's schedule for conflicts-that is your job).

No late work will be accepted without conferencing with the instructor. Presentations must be fully completed the day assigned. If you miss a presentation the day it is scheduled, the grade will drop one letter grade.

## **Policies of the College of Arts and Sciences** (Required on all COAS Syllabi)

### **Classroom Behavior**

The College of Arts and Sciences encourages classroom discussion and academic debate as an essential intellectual activity. It is essential that students learn to express and defend their beliefs, but it is also essential that they learn to listen and respond respectfully to others whose beliefs they may not share. The College will always tolerate diverse, unorthodox, and unpopular points of view, but it will not tolerate condescending or insulting remarks. When students verbally abuse or ridicule and intimidate others whose views they do not agree with, they subvert the free exchange of ideas that should characterize a university classroom. If their actions are deemed by the professor to be disruptive, they will be subject to appropriate disciplinary action, which may include being involuntarily withdrawn from the class.

### **Plagiarism and Cheating**

Plagiarism is the presentation of someone else's work as your own. **1)** When you borrow someone else's facts, ideas, or opinions and put them entirely in your own words, you must acknowledge that these thoughts are not your own by immediately citing the source in your paper. Failure to do this is plagiarism. **2)** When you also borrow someone else's words (short phrases, clauses, or sentences), you must enclose the copied words in quotation marks as well as citing the source. Failure to do this is plagiarism. **3)** When you present someone else's paper or exam (stolen, borrowed, or bought) as your own, you have committed a clearly intentional form of intellectual theft and have put your academic future in jeopardy. This is the worst form of plagiarism.

Here is another explanation from the 2010, sixth edition of the *Manual of The American Psychological Association* (APA):

*Plagiarism:* Researchers do not claim the words and ideas of another as their own; they give credit where credit is due. Quotations marks should be used to indicate the exact words of another. *Each* time you paraphrase another author (i.e., summarize a passage or rearrange the order of a sentence and change some of the words), you need to credit the source in the text.

The key element of this principle is that authors do not present the work of another as if it were their own words. This can extend to ideas as well as written words. If authors model a study after one done by someone else, the originating author should be given credit. If the rationale for a study was suggested in the Discussion section of someone else's article, the person should be given credit. Given the free exchange of ideas, which is very important for the health of intellectual discourse, authors may not know where an idea for a study originated. If authors do know, however, they should acknowledge the source; this includes personal communications. (pp. 15-16)

Consult the Writing Center or a recommended guide to documentation and research such as the *Manual of the APA* or the *MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers* for guidance on proper documentation. If you still have doubts concerning proper documentation, seek advice from your instructor prior to submitting a final draft.

**Penalties for Plagiarism:** Should a faculty member discover that a student has committed plagiarism, the student will receive a grade of 'F' in that course and the matter will be referred to the Honor Council for possible disciplinary action. The faculty member, however, has the right to give freshmen and sophomore students a "zero" for the assignment and to allow them to revise the assignment up to a grade of "F" (50%) if they believe that the student plagiarized out of ignorance or carelessness and not out of an attempt to deceive in order to earn an unmerited grade. This option is not available to juniors, seniors, or graduate students, who cannot reasonably claim ignorance of documentation rules as an excuse.

**Penalties for Cheating:** Should a faculty member discover a student cheating on an exam or quiz or other class project, the student will receive a "zero" for the assignment and not be allowed to make the assignment up. The incident must be reported to the chair of the department and to the Honor Council. If the cheating is extensive, however, or if the assignment constitutes a major grade for the course (e.g., a final exam), or if the student has cheated in the past, the student should receive an "F" in the course, and the matter should be referred to the Honor Council. Under no circumstances should a student who deserves an "F" in the course be allowed to withdraw from the course with a "W."

A new grade to denote academic dishonesty is now available, a "M" for "Academic Misconduct." It has the same effect as an "F" but will indicate on the transcript that the failure was due to academic misconduct.

**Student Right of Appeal:** Faculty will notify students immediately via the student's TAMIU e-mail account that they have submitted plagiarized work. Students have the right to appeal a faculty member's charge of academic dishonesty by notifying the TAMIU Honor Council of their intent to appeal as long as the notification of appeal comes within 3 business days of the faculty member's e-mail message to the student. The *Student Handbook* provides details.

### **UConnect, TAMIU E-Mail, and Dusty Alert**

Personal Announcements sent to students through TAMIU's UConnect Portal and TAMIU E-mail are the official means of communicating course and university business with students and faculty – not the U.S. Mail and not other e-mail addresses. Students and faculty must check UConnect and their TAMIU e-mail accounts regularly, if not daily. Not having seen an important TAMIU e-mail or UConnect message from a faculty member, chair, or dean is not accepted as an excuse for failure to take important action. Students, faculty, and staff are encouraged to sign-up for *Dusty Alert* (see [www.tamtu.edu](http://www.tamtu.edu)). *Dusty Alert* is an instant cell phone text-messaging system allowing the university to communicate immediately with you if there is an on-campus emergency, something of immediate danger to you, or a campus closing.

### **Copyright Restrictions**

The Copyright Act of 1976 grants to copyright owners the exclusive right to reproduce their works and distribute copies of their work. Works that receive copyright protection include published works such as a textbook. Copying a textbook without permission from the owner of the copyright may constitute copyright infringement. Civil and criminal penalties may be assessed for copyright infringement. Civil penalties include damages up to \$100,000; criminal penalties include a fine up to \$250,000 and imprisonment.

### **Students with Disabilities**

Texas A&M International University seeks to provide reasonable accommodations for all qualified persons with disabilities. This University will adhere to all applicable federal, state, and local laws, regulations and guidelines with respect to providing reasonable accommodations as required to afford equal education opportunity. It is the student's responsibility to register with the Director of Student Counseling and to contact the faculty member in a timely fashion to arrange for suitable accommodations.

### **Incompletes**

Students who are unable to complete a course should withdraw from the course before the final date for withdrawal and receive a "W." To qualify for an "incomplete" and thus have the opportunity to complete the course at a later date, a student must meet the following criteria:

1. The student must have completed 90% of the course work assigned before the final date for withdrawing from a course with a "W", and the student must be passing the course;
2. The student cannot complete the course because an accident, an illness, or a traumatic personal or family event occurred after the final date for withdrawal from a course;
3. The student must sign an "Incomplete Grade Contract" and secure signatures of approval from the professor and the college dean.
4. The student must agree to complete the missing course work before the end of the next long semester; failure to meet this deadline will cause the "I" to automatically be converted to a "F"; extensions to this deadline may be granted by the dean of the college.

This is the general policy regarding the circumstances under which an “incomplete” may be granted, but under exceptional circumstances, a student may receive an incomplete who does not meet all of the criteria above if the faculty member, department chair, and dean recommend it.

### **Student Responsibility for Dropping a Course**

It is the responsibility of the STUDENT to drop the course before the final date for withdrawal from a course. Faculty members, in fact, may not drop a student from a course.

### **Independent Study Course**

Independent Study (IS) courses are offered only under exceptional circumstances. Required courses intended to build academic skills may not be taken as IS (e.g., clinical supervision and internships). No student will take more than one IS course per semester. Moreover, IS courses are limited to seniors and graduate students. Summer IS course must continue through both summer sessions.

### **Grade Changes & Appeals**

Faculty are authorized to change final grades only when they have committed a computational error, and they must receive the approval of their department chairs and the dean to change the grade. As part of that approval, they must attach a detailed explanation of the reason for the mistake. Only in rare cases would another reason be entertained as legitimate for a grade change. A student who is unhappy with his or her grade on an assignment must discuss the situation with the faculty member teaching the course. If students believe that they have been graded unfairly, they have the right to appeal the grade using a grade appeal process in the *Student Handbook* and the *Faculty Handbook*.

### **Final Examination**

Final Examination must be comprehensive and must contain a written component. The written component should comprise at least 20% of the final exam grade. Exceptions to this policy must receive the approval of the department chair and the dean at the beginning of the semester





