COURSE CALENDAR DESCRIPTION

Explores the music, lives and cultural legacy created by many of the greatest female popular music artists since the advent of recorded sound. Awareness of repertoire content, the development of thematic structures, and cultural traditions will also be examined.

INSTRUCTOR(S)

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Section / Format / Term</th>
<th>Contact Email</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Taylor, Jennifer</td>
<td>Sec. A / LECT / Y</td>
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SPECIAL FEATURES

Course: FA/MUSI 1580 6.00  Women and Popular Music

Course Webpage: Available through Moodle
Twitter: Women & Popular Music (@YorkUWomenMusic)

Term: FW 2017-2018

Instructor: Dr. J. Taylor jataylor@yorku.ca
Office Hours: Wednesdays at 5:30pm by appointment
Room: 358 Accolade East

Time and Location: Wednesday 2:30-5:30pm
ACW 004

Course Description

This course will explore the history of women in popular music since the advent of recorded sound. The music and lives of female popular music artists will be examined, as well as the social and cultural contexts that influence and shape how women participate in popular music. Awareness of repertoire content, the development of thematic structures, and cultural traditions will also be considered. This course is designed for students not majoring or minoring in music. No previous musical training is required. Not open to music majors.

Organization of the Course: This course involves formal lectures that will be supplemented by music examples and videos. Lectures are central to the course.
The required readings will serve to enrich, clarify, and illustrate historical timelines and important issues from the lecture.

**Course Learning Objectives**

The specific objectives of the course are that students will be able to:
1. Identify significant female popular music artists from the 20th and 21st centuries.
2. Discuss the contributions of female popular music artists to various popular music genres.
3. Critically discuss the social and cultural factors that have influenced how women participate in popular music.

**Required Readings**

There is no required textbook for this course. Instead, journal articles or chapters from books are assigned for each week and are listed on the Moodle website for this course.

All of the assigned readings are available as e-resources. A link for each electronic reading is provided on the course website.

**Schedule of Lectures**

**Section I: Roots to Rock**

- September 13: Introduction: “It’s A Man’s Man’s World?”
  - September 20: Vaudeville and the Blues
- September 27: Country & Gospel
- October 4: R&B and the Rock’n’Roll Explosion

**Section II: Rock, Race, and Genre**

- October 11: Disrupting Rock: Women Rock the 60s and 70s
  - October 18: Disrupting Rock Part II
- October 25: Soul Sisters and Funk Divas
- November 1: Punk Explosions
- November 8: Riot Grrrls and the ‘Angry Women’ of the 90s
- *Student’s Choice:
- November 15: Test #1

**Section III: Guitars, Girl Power, and the Dance Floor**

- November 22: Folk, Protest, and the Singer-Songwriter
- November 29: From Mitchell to Lilith Fair
- *Student’s Choice
- January 10: Country Part II
- January 17: Girl Groups Past and Present
Section IV: Lasting Legacies and New Directions

February 14  
Ladies First: Women in Rap
February 21  
Reading Week – No Class
February 28  
Collision Course: R&B, Pop, and MTV in the 80s and 90s
March 7  
Collision Course: Part II
March 14  
Issues in Popular Music: Branding, Power, and Pop Stars
*Student’s Choice
March 21  
Miley, the Movement, and the Pop Star Cycle
March 28  
The Music and Politics of Beyoncé
April 4  
Test #3

Evaluation

The final grade for the course will be based on the following items weighted as indicated:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Test</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Test #1</td>
<td>November 15</td>
<td>35%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Test #2</td>
<td>February 7</td>
<td>35%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Test #3</td>
<td>April 4</td>
<td>20%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Twitter</td>
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Tests

There is no midterm or final exam. Three tests will be conducted during lecture on the dates specified above. The tests are NOT cumulative and will cover the following material:

Test #1  
Section I (excluding introductory lecture) and II Test #2  
Section III
Test #3  
Section IV

Twitter

This course provides an opportunity to critically discuss and consider the numerous issues and factors that shape popular music making.

To encourage these discussions, and to contribute to the online conversations concerning women and popular music, you will be required to post your thoughts, questions, and research on various topics using Twitter. A handout outlining the requirements and evaluation method is posted on Moodle.

For a full description of York grading system see the York University Undergraduate Calendar at http://www.registrar.yorku.ca/calendars/2012-2013/academic/grades/.
Students may take a limited number of courses for degree credit on an ungraded (pass/fail) basis. For full information on this option see Alternative Grading Option in the Faculty of Fine Arts section of the Undergraduate Calendar: http://www.registrar.yorku.ca/calendars/2012-2013/faculty_rules/FA/grading.htm.

**Missed Tests:** Students with a documented reason for missing a course test, such as illness, compassionate grounds, etc., which is confirmed by supporting documentation (e.g., doctor’s letter) may request accommodation from the Course Instructor. Students with a documented reason will be allowed to write a make-up test; the date and time of the make-up test will be scheduled by the Course Instructor. Further extensions or accommodation will require students to submit a formal petition to the Faculty.

**IMPORTANT COURSE INFORMATION FOR STUDENTS**

All students are expected to familiarize themselves with the following information:

*The last date to drop this course without receiving a grade is February 9, 2018

* Academic Honesty Policy and Procedures  

* Academic Integrity Website  
http://www.yorku.ca/academicintegrity

* Accessibility/Disability Services: course requirement accommodation for students with disabilities, including physical, medical, learning and psychiatric disabilities  
www.yorku.ca/cds.

* Accommodating Students with Disabilities (York Senate Policy)  

* Ethics Review Process for research involving human participants  

* Religious Observance Accommodation  
https://w2prod.sis.yorku.ca/Apps/WebObjects/cdm.woa/wa/relObs and  
for Religious Accommodation Agreement Form – Final Examinations.

* Student Conduct  

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Many courses utilize Moodle, York University’s course website system. If your course is using Moodle, click here to access it.

**Moodle @ York University**