COURSE CALENDAR DESCRIPTION

This course surveys the history of African-American popular music from World War II to the 1980s, considering through music analysis and critical readings. Issues include roots in pre-WWII era; social/political contexts; impact of the music industry, technology and mass media. Prerequisites: FA/MUSI 1000 6.0, FA/MUSI 1200 9.00, FA/MUSI 2000 6.00 (or FA/MUSI 2201 3.00 and FA/MUSI 2202 3.00) and FA/MUSI 2200 6.00.

INSTRUCTOR(S)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Section / Format / Term</th>
<th>Contact Email</th>
<th>Contact Phone</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bowman, Robert M J</td>
<td>Sec. A / LECT / F</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

SPECIAL FEATURES

Syllabus Music 3510.03 “African American Music” Fall 2018

- Professor: Rob Bowman
  Email: rbowman@yorku.ca
  Office: 341 ACE

Special Features

EXPANDED COURSE DESCRIPTION

The course surveys the history of African-American popular music from spirituals to hip hop, focusing on the continued role of black music in the quest for survival, respect, dignity and equal citizenship. Issues explored include musical roots and connections; social/political contexts specifically the Civil Rights and Black Power eras; the impact of the music industry, technology and mass media.

Topics and Concepts

REQUIRED TEXTS


Additional readings will be assigned as the course progresses and will be available on reserve at the Scott Library and/or on Moodle.
OUTLINE OF TOPICS (please note this is a GUIDE ONLY to the week by week lecture topics and readings for this course. With the exception of test dates, it will not necessarily be strictly followed)

Class Dates

Sept 11
Introduction—“Try a Little Tenderness” and how meaning is encoded in music

Available through the library as an e-resource

Sept 18
Notion of African retentions, work songs, field holler, etc. Spirituals, Sanctified singing, Beginnings of gospel.

Reading: Werner pp. 1-15; 28-31; 94-100

Available through the library as an e-resource

Sept 25
Notion of African retentions, work songs, field holler, etc. continued

Oct 2
WW I, early blues, the Labour movement and the folk revival

Reading: Werner pp. 65-72

Available through the library as an e-resource

Oct 9
NO CLASS—READING WEEK

Oct 16
Mid-term test

Oct 23
WW I, early blues, the Labour movement and the folk revival continued

Oct 30
WW II, The Rise of Black Radio, Post War Blues and R&B

Reading: http://www.newworldrecords.org/linernotes/80261.pdf

Black Radio
https://www.google.com/culturalinstitute/collection/archives-of-african-american-music-and-culture?projectId=black-history-and

Nov 6
Jazz

Available through the library as an e-resource
Available through the library as an e-resource.

Reading: Werner: pp. 125-136

Nov 9 LAST DATE TO DROP COURSE WITHOUT RECEIVING A GRADE

Nov 13 Sounds and Songs of the Civil Rights Movement
Reading: Branch: Chapters 1-10; 11-18

Available through the library as an e-resource.

Nov 20 Soul/Funk
Reading: Werner pp. 15-27; 31-37; 40-44; 56-64; 72-78; 197-202; 121-125; 116-120; 144-151; 165-171; 172-173

Available through the library as an e-resource

Reading: Werner: pp. 103-109; 109-116; 138-144; 226-230; 183-186; 187-191; 191-196

Available through the library as an e-resource

Nov 27 Word/Sound Poetry, Black Arts Movement, Africa as the Motherland
Reading: Werner: pp. 158-164

Reading: “The Black Arts Movement” by Larry Neal
http://www.nathanielturner.com/blackartsmovementlarryneal.htm

Dec 4 Hip Hop, Black Rock Coalition
Dec 11  Take Home exam due

Graded Assignments:

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Assignment</th>
<th>Grade Component</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Test 1 October 24, 2017</td>
<td>Lectures/Readings/Listening</td>
<td>35%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other Assignments</td>
<td>Presentations and/or Short Essay(s)</td>
<td>30%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COMPREHENSIVE FINAL EXAM –TAKE HOME—Dec 5, 2017</td>
<td>Lectures/Readings/Listening</td>
<td>35%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

TESTS AND FINAL EXAMINATION

All exam questions are based on the lectures, films, assigned listening examples, and assigned readings.

- The first exam will include short-answer questions and/or short essays.
- All make-up tests are written examinations (read: short answers/essay)
- Final Exam grades will not be posted.

Please do not call the music office to inquire about grades

Grading, Assignment Submission, Lateness Penalties and Missed Tests

Grading: The grading scheme for the course conforms to the 9-point grading system used in undergraduate programs at York (e.g., A+ = 9, A = 8, B+ = 7, C+ = 5, etc.). Assignments and tests will bear either a letter grade designation or a corresponding number grade (e.g. A+ = 90 to 100, A = 80 to 90, B+ = 75 to 79, etc.) (For a full description of York grading system see the York University Undergraduate Calendar – http://www.registrar.yorku.ca/calendars/2011-2012/academic/grades/)

Additional Information

- Youtube videos that may be of interest:
  - http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iLG_OyZ2H7A 2:06 Marcus Garvey
  - http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EFhksjZYTds 9 min. Marcus Garvey speech
  - http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tHaxG-TY8XU The Story of Marcus Garvey: Look for Me in the Whirlwind
  - http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=smEoqnk1FYs 17 min. MLK Washington speech August 28, 1963
http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6zvGRmX2gcs  2:18 PBS doc on Malcolm X: Make It Plain

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=t9AmuYqiRyg  2:10 Malcolm X speeches and interviews

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_TchoKJrvFO  Convention Speech 8 min

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=10I6HtdJnWE  Fannie Lou Hamer audio only 1964 Democratic Party Convention Speech 8 min

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=10I6HtdJnWE  All music performances during March on Washington August 28, 1963

**DVDs/Videos in the Sound and Moving Image Library:**

*Marcus Garvey: Look for me in the Whirlwind*—90 minutes DVD 5997 (also on youtube.com listed above)

*King: A Filmed Record From Montgomery to Memphis*—3 hr. directed by Sidney Lumet DVD 11899 and 11900

*Brother Outsider: The Life of Bayard Rustin*—83 minutes DVD 11063

*Paul Robeson: The Tallest Tree in Our Forest*—85 minutes VHS cassette

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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**