EXPANDED COURSE DESCRIPTION
MUSIC
School of the Arts, Media, Performance and Design
Music Department
FA / MUSI 1580 6.0 SECTION A
WOMEN AND POPULAR MUSIC
FALL 2018 / WINTER 2019

Last Modified Date: 08/31/2018

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>
<thead>
<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

Term: Fall/Winter Semester 2018-2019

Instructor: Dr. J. Taylor
jataylor@yorku.ca
Office Hours: Wednesday 5:30-6:30 by appointment
Room: 358 Accolade East

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

Special Features

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.

Music 1580 involves formal lectures that will be supplemented by music examples and videos. Lectures are central to the course. The required readings will enrich historical timelines and important issues from the lecture.

Topics and Concepts
Students are not required to purchase a 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 Moodle. **Assigned readings are subject to change. Please check the course website frequently.**

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**Schedule of Lectures**

**Section I: Roots**

- September 5  
  Introduction: “It’s A Man’s Man’s World?”

- September 12  
  Red Hot Mamas and Wild Women: Vaudeville and the Blues

- September 19  
  Early Women in Country

- September 26  
  Shout Sister Shout: Women in Gospel and Jazz

- October 3  
  R&B, Pop, and the Rock’n’Roll Explosion

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**Section II: Rockin’ Women and Bold Soul Sisters**

- October 10  
  No Class – Fall Reading Week (Oct. 6-12)

- October 17  
  Disrupting Rock: Women Rock the 60s and 70s

- October 24  
  Soul Sisters and Funk Divas

- October 31  
  Punk Explosions

- November 7  
  Women and Rock Since the 90s

- November 14  
  Test #1

**Section III: I Am Woman: Guitars, Girl Power, and MCs**

- November 21  
  Folk and the Singer-Songwriter

- November 28  
  From Mitchell to Lilith Fair

- January 9  
  Country Part II
January 16                              Pop
January 23                              Girl Groups Past and Present
January 30                               Disco
February 6                              Women and Rap
February 13                             Test #2

Section IV: Lasting Legacies and New Directions
February 20                             No Class - Reading Week (February 16-22)
February 27                             Collision Course: R&B, Pop, and MTV in the 80s and 90s
March 6                                 Collision Course: Part II
March 13                               Issues in Popular Music: Branding, Power, and Pop Stars
March 20                               Who’s the Realest? Pop and Cultural Appropriation
March 27                               The Last Word: Beyoncé
April 3                                Test #3

Learning Outcomes
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
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.
**Graded Assessment**

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

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Test #</th>
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<th>Weight</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Test #1</td>
<td>November 14</td>
<td>32.5%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Test #2</td>
<td>February 13</td>
<td>32.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Test #3</td>
<td>April 3</td>
<td>20%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Twitter</td>
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<td>15%</td>
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There is no midterm or final exam for this course. Three tests will be conducted during lecture on the dates specified above. The tests are NOT cumulative and will cover the following material:

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<tr>
<td>Test #1</td>
<td>September 12 up to and including November 7</td>
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<tr>
<td>Test #2</td>
<td>November 21 up to and including February 6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Test #3</td>
<td>February 27 up to and including March 27</td>
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**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.

**Additional Information**

A course webpage is available through Moodle.

Music 1580 is also on Twitter: Women&Popular Music (@yorkuwomenmusic)

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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