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 2020 / WINTER 2021

Last Modified Date: 09/01/2020

COURSE CALENDAR DESCRIPTION

Explores the history of women in popular music since the turn of the twentieth century. The music and lives of artists such as Janis Joplin, Aretha Franklin, Britney Spears, and Beyoncé will be examined, as well as the social, cultural and political contexts that shape how women participate in popular music. Topics, include pop stars and branding, girl groups, women and country radio, MTV, rock and identity, and women's contributions to hip hop. No previous musical training is required. Not open to music majors.

INSTRUCTOR(S)

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<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

Special Features

Please note that this is a course that depends on remote teaching and learning. There will be no in-class interactions or activities on campus.

Lectures will be taught asynchronously, with lecture recordings provided on Moodle. You will not be required to participate in any live virtual activities.

Each week students will be required to complete either a short assignment/quiz on Moodle or participate in an online discussion using Twitter. A schedule for these assignments and discussions is available on Moodle. Tests will also be submitted through Moodle.

Office hours will be held virtually using Moodle chat on Wednesdays from 3:30-4:30pm.

Topics and Concepts

Some of the musicians to be surveyed include Aretha Franklin, Janis Joplin, Etta James, Heart, Madonna, Tina Turner, Dolly Parton, Nina Simone, Whitney Houston, Alanis Morissette, Spice Girls, Janet Jackson, Shania Twain, Missy Elliott, Britney Spears, Nicki Minaj, TLC, Paramore, Lady Gaga, Lauryn Hill, Janelle Monae, Cardi B, Hayley Kiyoko, Lizzo, Billie Eilish, Megan Thee Stallion, Lana del Rey, FKA Twigs, Rihanna, and Beyoncé.

Students are not required to purchase a textbook for this course. All of the assigned readings are available as e-resources on the Moodle website.

Learning Outcomes with Examples

The specific objectives of the course are that students will be able to identify significant
female popular music artists from the 20th and 21st centuries and discuss their contributions to popular music history. Students will also be able to identify and critically discuss the social and cultural factors that have influenced how women participate in popular music. To meet these outcomes, students will complete a variety of quizzes, written assignments and tests, as well participate in online discussions.

Graded Assessment
The final grade for the course will be based on the following items weighted as indicated:
Test #1 November 18 28%
Test #2 February 10 20%
Test #3 April 7 20%
Twitter Discussions Bi-Weekly 16%
Quiz/Short Assignments Bi-Weekly 16%

The tests are NOT cumulative and will consist of an essay question submitted through Moodle. This course provides an opportunity to critically discuss the 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 have the opportunity to respond to discussion questions posted on the course Twitter (@YorkUWomenMusic). A handout outlining the schedule and evaluation method is posted on Moodle.

You will also be required to complete eight short assignments or quizzes over the course of the year on weeks when we are not engaged in conversation on Twitter. A schedule for these assignments/quizzes can be found on Moodle.

Additional Information
Women and Popular Music can be found on Twitter @YorkUWomenMusic

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