MUHL 2622 - Popular Music in America

Fall 2026 Syllabus, Section 03, CRN 41581,

Credit hours: 3

Instructor

Edward Sallustio

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Public Instructor Information

Instructor Title: Mr. Edward Sallustio
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Course Description

2622. Popular Music in America. The changing styles in American popular music from its origins to the present day studied through an examination of representative compositions and performers. 3 s.h.

Course Readings

Group	Title	Author	ISBN
Optional	American Popular Music: From Minstrelsy to MP3 (Fifth Edition, Oxford University Press)		

Readings will be provided via Blackboard

The course readings are subject to change in the event of extenuating circumstances, research developments, current events, and/or to ensure better learning.

Schedule of Topics and Assignments

Week of	Reading(s)	Proposed Topic	Due/To Prepare for Class
8/24	Blackboard videos	Introduction/Musical texture	Assignment 1a and 1b due Friday 11:59pm
8/31	Blackboard videos	Instrument families. 500 years of Western Classical Music	Assignment 2 due Friday 11:59pm
9/7	Reading: Streams of tradition: the sources of popular music. Blackboard videos	Listening to American Popular music sources	Assignment 3 due Friday 11:59pm
9/14	Reading: Opera, dance, musical use of popular song. Blackboard video	Listening in opera, dance and musicals	Assignment 4 due Friday 11:59pm
9/21	Reading: "After the Ball: Popular Music of the 19th and early 20th centuries. Blackboard videos	19th/early 20th century listening	Assignment 5 due Friday 11:59pm
9/28	Reading: "Catching as the small-pox: social dance and jazz, 1917-1935." Blackboard videos	Social dance and jazz listening	Assignment 6 due Friday 11:59pm
10/5	Reading: "I Got Rhythm"	Tin Pan Alley listening	Assignment 7 due Friday 11:59pm
10/12	Reading: Chapter 6, "In the Mood," The Swing Era 1935-1945	The Swing Era listening	Assignment 8 due Friday 11:59pm

10/19	Reading: Chapter 7, Choo Choo Ch'Boogie, The Postwar Era, 1946-1954	Postwar Era listening	Assignment 9 due Friday 11:59pm
10/26	Reading: Chapter 7, Choo Choo Ch'Boogie, The Postwar Era, 1946-1954 continued. Blackboard videos	Country/Bluegrass listening	Assignment 10 due Friday 11:59pm
11/2	Reading: "Rock Around the Clock" 1954-1959. Blackboard videos	Early Rock and Roll listening	Assignment 11 due Friday 11:59pm
11/9	Reading: "Rock Around the Clock" 1954-1959 continued. Blackboard videos	Early Rock and Roll listening continued	Assignment 12 due Friday 11:59pm
11/16	Reading: "Good Vibrations" American Pop and the British Invasion, 1960s. Blackboard videos	1960s American pop listening	Assignment 13 due Friday 11:59pm
11/23	Thanksgiving Break: No class		
11/30	Reading CH 9-10 The British Invasion. Blackboard videos	British Invasion listening	Assignment 14 due Friday 11:59pm
12/7	No final exam		

The course schedule, policies, procedures, and assignments in this course are subject to change in the event of extenuating circumstances, by mutual agreement, and/or to ensure better learning.