

# Syllabus for MU278

## Roots of Rock and Roll

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**NOTE:** This syllabus document contains the basic information of this course. The most current syllabus is available in the full course.

### Course Description

Rock and Roll evolved from blues, jazz, gospel, and several folk musical genres. This course reveals the connections between, and fusion of, these diverse musical styles and how they influenced the nearly 70 years of Rock and Roll history

### Prerequisite(s)

None.

### Course Outcomes

Upon completing this course, you will be able to do the following:

- Analyze and describe elements of various musical genres utilizing appropriate vocabulary and terminology
- Develop a deeper understanding of one's music and culture as it situates itself within the community and beyond
- Recognize and describe the impact that historically marginalized groups, such as but not limited to African Americans, contributed to the rock genre of music
- Analyze contemporary music and identify possible historical connections and influences to prior artists and musical genres

### Diversity Designation

This course is designated as a diversity course (DV) and follows the guidelines set by the Center for Ethnic Studies (CES). The center is an interdisciplinary program that places historically marginalized groups – Native Americans, African Americans, Latinos/as, and Asian Americans – at the center of academic inquiry. The diversity designation goal is to allow students to critically examine race and ethnic inequality and power relations of at least one of these four groups in the United States.

### Course Requirements/Components

#### Group Discussions

All students will participate in weekly discussions based on the reading, listening, and conversation prompts. These discussions will be the focal point to critically

examining race and ethnic inequality and power relations as it relates to historically marginalized groups, their music-making practices and the music industry. It is very important that you contribute to these by the designated due date. Late submissions may result in either reduced credit or no credit.

### Quizzes

All students will participate in short quizzes at the end of each module. The quizzes are based on readings, listening, and other elements posted in the module. You will have three attempts for each quiz and the highest score is recorded.

### Listening Charts

You will submit three listening charts where you describe various elements of a song such as the artist, year of recording, form, lyrics, instrumentation, and historical connections. A template will be provided on Canvas.

### Final Presentation: Contemporary Connections

You will create a final presentation that will be shared with the rest of the class. You will select one song from the past five to ten years, provide a listening chart and an analysis that traces its connections and/or influences to at least three artists or genres from previous generations. A template and example will be provided on Canvas.

## Grading

The following grading scale will be used to evaluate all course requirements and to determine your final grade: (examples below)

Grade	Percentage Range	Points
<b>A</b>	94% - 100%	282 – 300
<b>A-</b>	90% - 93%	270 – 281
<b>B+</b>	88% - 89%	264 – 269
<b>B</b>	84% - 88%	252 – 263
<b>B-</b>	80% - 83%	240 – 251
<b>C+</b>	78% - 79%	234 – 239
<b>C</b>	74% - 77%	222 – 233
<b>C-</b>	70% - 73%	210 – 221
<b>D</b>	60% - 69%	180 – 209
<b>F</b>	0 - 59%	0 – 179

Assignment	Points
Discussions	70
Quizzes	120

Listening Charts	60
Final Presentation	50
<b>Total Points</b>	<b>300</b>