

Spokane Falls Community College
COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES AND OUTLINE

Prefix and Course Number
Course Title

MUSC 106
History of Popular Music

Last Modified: Fall 2014

Course Learning Outcomes

By the end of this course, a student should be able to:

- Students will be able to recognize popular musical styles from the mid-19th Century to the near present.
- Students will be able to name the artists most closely associated with each style, and name the time period during which each style was popular.
- Students will be able to describe how society and popular music interacted in the past, and compare those interactions to the way we perceive popular music now.
- Students will be able to compare popular musical styles from different time periods in order to interpret the influences of a style on styles that followed it.
- Students will be able to analyze a popular song's characteristics in order to determine its origin and influences.
- Students will be able to explain the role technology played in the way music became popular in the past, and compare that history to modern technology.
- Students will be able to examine the syntheses involved in the creation of new styles of music in history.

Course Outline

- I. The Beginnings of American Popular Music: Sources from Santeria to European folk music to European art music.
 - A. The Minstrel Show
 - B. Marching and concert bands were at their height of popularity, and would later adapt their instrumentation to the growing influence of African rhythms and sounds.
 - C. Vaudeville and Tin Pan Alley

- II. The Emergence of Black music: Ragtime, Syncopated Dance Music, Early Commercial Blues, and Early Jazz.
 - A. Ben Harney & Scott Joplin
 - B. Player pianos
 - C. Ragtime evolves into the “animal dances” (e.g., the fox-trot)
 - D. W.C. Handy, Bessie Smith and the Blues
 - E. Early jazz styles

- III. Popular song in the Modern Era: Music, Society, and Technology.
 - A. Thomas Edison’s phonograph
 - B. Microphone technology
 - C. Commercial radio stations
 - D. Synchronized sound for motion pictures (“talkies”)

- E. The Charleston and other dance crazes
- IV. The Swing Era.
 - A. Big Band Swing
 - B. Jazz Bands that feature more improvisation
- V. Rural Blues & Black Gospel lend their influence.
 - A. Country/Delta blues
 - B. Up-tempo “good time” blues
 - C. Gospel quartets & soloists
- VI. Influences of Country & Folk Music
 - A. The emergence of country music
 - B. Country music’s seminal acts
 - C. How Country got Western
 - D. Folk music in the 1930s & ‘40s
 - E. Honky-Tonk
 - F. Bluegrass
- VII. Latin Music in the United States, 1900-1950s.
 - A. 1900-1940: Don Azipazú & His Havana Casino Orchestra; Xavier Cugat.
 - B. 1940-1960: Tito Puente & His Band.
- VIII. Popular Music Matures: Musical Theater, Modern Jazz, & Song Interpretation.
 - A. The Influence of Television
 - B. The Golden Age of Musical Theater
 - C. Modern Jazz
 - D. Popular Song Interpretation
- IX. Rhythm & Blues, 1946-1954.
 - A. The Emergence of R&B
 - B. Electric Blues
 - C. Early Doo-Wop
- X. Rock & Roll.
 - A. Rock & Roll Begins
 - B. The Architects of Rock & Roll
 - C. Rock & Roll “goes viral”
 - D. Doo-Wop in the late 1950s
 - E. R&B soloists in the late 1950s
- XI. The Rock Revolution, 1964-1970.
 - A. Bob Dylan
 - B. The Beatles
 - C. Motown
 - D. Rock (The Rolling Stones, Eric Clapton, Jimi Hendrix)
 - E. Soul

- F. San Francisco and the diversity of rock

- XII. Rock and R&B after 1970.
 - A. Commerce & Technology in 1970s rock
 - B. Rock in the early 1970s
 - C. Black pop in the 1970s
 - D. Gender, art, & the boundaries of rock
 - E. The art of recording

- XIII. New Trends of the 1970s.
 - A. Funk:
 - B. Reggae
 - C. Disco
 - D. Punk & New Wave

- XIV. Latin Music after 1960.
 - A. The Bossa Nova and Brazilian Music
 - B. Tejano
 - C. Salsa & Tropical Latin Music

- XV. Country Music in the Rock Era.
 - A. Countrifying rock
 - B. The outsiders
 - C. Country royalty
 - D. The explosion of country music
 - E. Country, pop & glamour

- XVI. Electronica & Rap.
 - A. The digital revolution
 - B. Early electronica
 - C. Electronica and the mainstream
 - D. Early rap
 - E. Mainstreaming rap

- XVII. Beyond Rock in the 1980s.
 - A. MTV and insider/outsider fusions
 - B. Pop in the 1980s
 - C. Post-Punk/Post-Disco fusions
 - D. The maturation of Black pop
 - E. Rock-Pop hybrids
 - F. Significant rock
 - G. Renewing rock & roll

- XVIII. Alternatives.
 - A. From Punk to Alternative
 - B. Metal and Alternative fusions in the 1980s-90s
 - C. Alienation

D. Women's voices

XIX. A World of Music.

A. World Music

B. Afro-Pop

C. Global/Pop fusions

D. Celtic fusions