

GCC Rock History Syllabus

Spring 2012 – GCC Main Campus, Class #16884

Classroom Information

Meeting Times: MW, 5:45pm to 7pm
MU2, Room 151

Instructor & Contact Info

INSTRUCTOR NAME: Adam Roberts
OFFICE: GCC MU-1 108 (Adjunct Faculty Office), by appointment only
BEST EMAIL: AdamRobertsMusic@cox.net
OPTIONAL EMAIL: Adam.Roberts@gcmail.maricopa.edu

Course Web Site

Course files including Powerpoint Lectures, Study Guides, and Course Handouts will be available at the following site:
www.AdamRobertsMusic.com

Optional Course Text

HERE to STAY by Smith, Shellans & Schaeffer

Class Attributes

Historical Awareness (H), Humanities & Fine Arts (HU)

Course Description

This course will discuss the history of American Rock & Popular Music and how cultural, social, political, and economic conditions have shaped its evolution.

Course Outline

- ♪ The Roots of Rock: Pop, Country & the Blues
- ♪ The Birth of Rock: R&B and Rockabilly (1950 – 1959)
- ♪ The Death of the 1st Wave of Rock (1958 – 1960)
- ♪ Bubblegum Pop, Sweet Soul & Surf (1959 – 1963)
- ♪ Motown, Stax & James Brown (1960 – 1970)
- ♪ The Beatles & The British Invasion (1964 – 1966)
- ♪ Folk Rock, The Garage Bands (1964 – 1966)
- ♪ Psychedelics: San Francisco & London (1966 – 1969)
- ♪ The Rise of Metal (1970 – 1980)
- ♪ Punk, Disco & New Wave (1975 – 1980)
- ♪ MTV, Rap and Pop in the 80s (1980 – 1989)
- ♪ Hair Metal and the NWoBHM (1980 – 1990)
- ♪ Recent Music Trends (1990 to the present)

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Evaluation & Grading Procedure:

This course is evaluated out of 500 points, which break down as follows:

- ♪ 1 Web Response – 10pts
- ♪ 1 Artist Biography – 100 points
- ♪ 2 Quizzes – 15 points each, 30 points total
- ♪ 2 Tests – 80 points each, 160 points total
- ♪ Group Presentation – 100 points
- ♪ 1 Final Exam – 100 Points
- ♪ **Optional Extra Credit:** A 2 page record review of a recording by any artist covered in class for a 5% (25pts) bonus to the final grade.

Your final grade will be calculated as follows:

- A = 90% and up (450 points or more)
- B = 80% – 89% (400 to 449 points)
- C = 70% – 79% (350 to 399 points)
- D = 60% – 69% (300 to 349 points)
- F = 59% and below (299 points or less)

Make-up Work & Exams

Late assignments are penalized 20% and must be received by the following class. They will not be accepted after that. Tests will not be made up without prior arrangements.

Illness that prevents completion of an assignment or test must be accompanied by a doctor's note, or late penalties will apply.

Attendance Policy

Attendance is required. If a student receives 6 unexcused absences, that student will be dropped automatically.

Academic Honesty

In the event of cheating, plagiarism or "shared work", the assignment will receive no credit. In extreme cases, the instructor reserves the right to assign the student a final grade of "F" for the course.

Disability Statement

If you have a disability that may have an impact on your work or may require special accommodations, you must contact Disability Services & Resources Office to make arrangements. (623) 845-3080

Disclaimer

Course content may be adjusted to meet the needs of this group.

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Rock History Artist Biography Guide

For this assignment, you will write a brief history on a significant rock artist or group that was actively performing prior to 1985. More recent artists must be approved.

Due Date

March 7th

Expectations

- 3 pages minimum
- Times New Roman 12pt. font, double spaced
- Spelling & grammar counts towards the grade

Discuss the Following

- Early Years
 - What groups or artists had a great impact on the band's style?
 - Were there significant pre-career events that had a major impact on the development of the artist/group?
 - How did the artist or band get started?
 - What was their first break in the public eye?
- Career Highlights
 - What was the high point of their career?
 - Often the most successful record/tour, but you may see this differently.
 - Discuss any other significant career moments.
 - How did the band end (assuming they did)?
- Their Legacy
 - What significant recognition has the band received?
 - Avoid the uninteresting. Point out a few awards that really stand out.
 - What genres/musicians has your artist/group influenced?

Paper Mechanics

- A Works Cited page (I prefer MLA format, www.easybib.com):
 - 3 sources minimum (no maximum)
 - You **may not** count the Wikipedia.org site as a source
- Title page (must contain the following elements)
 - [Your name]
 - [A title]
 - Instructor: Adam Roberts
 - MHL 153, Spring 2012

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Rock History Course Calendar

1/18 – Class Begins

2/20 – **Presidents' Day**, no class

3/7 – Artist Biography Due

3/12 & 3/14 – **Spring Break**, no class

4/16 – Group Presentation: MTV and 80s Pop

4/18 - Group Presentation: Rap and Hip Hop Culture

4/23 - Group Presentation: 80s Metal: Glam and NWoBHM

4/25 - Group Presentation: Alternative & Indie Rock

4/30 - Group Presentation: 90s Heavy Metal

5/2 - Group Presentation: 90s Pop Music

5/7 – **Final Exam** (during regular class time)

Quizzes, Test 1 and **Test 2** dates will be announced in class.

Disclaimer

Dates may be subject to change based on the needs of a particular class.

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