
Module Specifications: School of Music

Module Title:	Contextual Studies in Popular Music
Module Code:	BAPM05C
Level:	4
Credits:	15
Pre-requisites:	

Module Description:

The purpose of this module is to provide an historical, social, political and cultural context for the study of contemporary popular music. It provides the basis for the identification and consideration of selected styles in 20th and 21st century popular music and for the subsequent study of particular genres. Participation in this module will enable the student to engage in informed debate about current issues in contemporary music.

Indicative Content:

- Research: Finding and using appropriate sources of information (e.g. libraries, internet), referencing.
 - Context: Historical, social, political and cultural influences.
 - Aesthetics: Musical analysis (e.g. form, instrumentation), performance styles, production practices, audience profiles, gender, fashion.
 - Written work
 - Presentation: Planning, preparation and delivery
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Learning and Teaching Methods:

This module will be taught through a combination of lectures and tutorials.

Specific Learning Resources:

Teaching space with audio visual facilities

BibliographyHighly Recommended

Iddon, M., Marshall, M. (eds) (2014) *Lady Gaga and Popular Music: Performing Gender, Fashion and Culture*. London: Routledge

Stratton, J. (2009) *Jews, Race and Popular Music*. UK: Ashgate

Shuker, R. (2012) *Understanding Popular Music 4th Ed.*. London: Routledge

Wall, T. (2013) *Studying Popular Music Culture*, 2nd Ed. London: Arnold

Cullen, J. (2013) *Popular Culture in American History*, 2nd Ed. USA: Wiley-Blackwell

Bennett, A. (2001) *Cultures of Popular Music (Issues in cultural & Media Studies)*
UK: OUP

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Recommended

Middleton, R. (2000) *Reading Pop: Approaches to Textual Analysis in Popular Music*. Oxford: OUP

Moore, A. (2010) *Analysing Popular Music*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

Negus, K., Hesmondhalgh, D. (eds) (2002) *Popular Music Studies*. London: Arnold

Krims, A. (2000) *Rap Music and the Poetics of Identity*. United Kingdom: Cambridge University Press

Background Reading

Cullen, J. (2013) *Popular Culture in American History*, 2nd Ed. USA: Wiley-Blackwell

Shuker, R. (2012) *Popular Music: The Key Concepts*. 3rd Ed. London: Routledge

Winterson, J., Nickol, P., Bricheno, T. (2003) *Pop Music: The Text Book*. London: Hinrichsen

Horner, B. and Swiss, T. (1999) *Key Terms in Popular Music and Culture*. Oxford: Blackwell

Module Learning Outcomes

Subject Specific Learning Outcomes

On successful completion of this module you will be able to:

LO1 | Explain key issues in the historical, social, political and cultural development of contemporary popular music.

LO2 | Explore and consider some of the aesthetic concepts which underpin popular music

LO3 | Demonstrate the ability to use appropriate research techniques within accepted standards of academic practice

Assessment Title or element	Weighting (%)
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Audio visual presentation – 12-15 minutes	50%
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Written work – 2000 words	50%
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Information correct at point of publication.