

Music 103, Classic Rock

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Tuesday and Thursday, 1:00 - 2:15 pm

DMB 3

4 credits

Course Description:

What is Classic Rock music? Does this term refer to a specific time period? A certain style? An influence?

What makes a rock song a “classic?”

Through the development of critical listening skills and an awareness of cultural, sociological, and musicological contexts in the 1960s, 70s, and 80s, this course attempts to answer these and related questions.

Goals:

1. By developing a more specialized vocabulary and critical skills, students will become more sophisticated and discerning listeners.
2. Through small-group discussion and independent research, students will develop a working definition of the following terms: “Classic,” “Rock music,” and “Classic rock music.”
3. Students will acquire an understanding of the cultural/sociological/musicological context within which Classic Rock developed.
4. Based on an understanding of this context, and an increased musical sophistication, students will be able to convey - in a coherent and persuasive manner - why they believe a particular song is worthy of inclusion in a list of the “Top 10 Classic Rock Songs of all time.”
5. Students should be able to apply this newly developed esthetic system to a variety of contexts outside the rather narrow focus on Classic Rock (i.e., other forms of music, other art forms, etc).

Grading:

Midterm Exam	25%
Terminology, short-answer, known/unknown listening	
“Top 10” Project	25%
Individual or Group Top 10 list (15%)	
Class Consensus Top 10 list (10%)	
Class participation	15%
Final Exam	35%
Terminology, short-answer, essay, known/unknown listening	

Materials

Course website:

<http://eweb.furman.edu/~dkoppelman/fu/Rock/103.html>

Required Listening:

Available online at box.furman.edu

(All enrolled students will receive an invitation to join this Box folder.)

Required Texts:

Joseph G. Schloss, Larry Starr, and Christopher Waterman. *Rock: Music, Culture, and Business*. New York: Oxford University Press, 2012.

Companion website: <http://www.oup.com/us/companion.websites/9780199758364/student/>

David Brackett, ed. *The Pop, Rock, and Soul Reader: Histories and Debates*, 4th ed. New York: Oxford University Press, 2020.

Optional Recordings/Videos:

Available in Music Library

Course Schedule

The course schedule may be found on a separate handout, and on the course website.

Attendance

Each student is allotted one (1) unexcused absence during the course of the semester. (This absence does not constitute permission to miss an exam or to turn in an assignment late, however.) Excused absences for University- or Department-sponsored events must be requested by the faculty sponsor and approved in advance by the Dean. No assignment, audit, quiz, exam, etc. may be made up without a legitimate written excuse.

Plagiarism and Scholastic Honesty

All students should be familiar with the University’s policies on plagiarism and academic integrity.

Please see the brochure you received at your advisor meeting and the academic integrity website for more information.

(<http://www2.furman.edu/academics/academics/academic-resources/Pages/AcademicIntegrity.aspx>)

If you have any questions about plagiarism, ask me.

Disabilities

Please see the Accessibility Resources website for information.

<http://www2.furman.edu/sites/disability/Pages/default.aspx>