



TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY SAN ANTONIO

MUSI 4301.004 Topics in Music – History of Rock Spring 2026 – TR 3:30 - 4:45 – CLASSROOM HALL 301

COURSE INSTRUCTOR: Dr. Matthew Bishop

COURSE NUMBER: 25483

DEPARTMENT: Language, Literature, and Arts

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PHONE: 210-784-2563

OFFICE LOCATION: Classroom Hall 314H

OFFICE HOURS Thursday 2:30 – 3:30 or by appointment

COURSE DESCRIPTION: Selected rotating topics in music. May be repeated for credit when topics change. In this semester we will be examining the phenomenon of Rock Music, its development and the forces that shaped it as well as its effect on the world

COURSE GOALS:

- To gain a broader understanding of the sub genre, people, and works that make up the Popular Music of the late 20th Century and our time.
- To gain an understanding this music came from, how its development was affected by economic, technological, social and political forces, as well as how it affected those areas in turn.
- To develop a more comprehensive vocabulary with which to communicate ideas and opinions about music.

TEXTBOOK and OTHER RESOURCES:

- Assigned reading on reserve on Blackboard
- Writing utensil and paper

GRADING SCALE:

- 90% or higher = A
- 80% to 89% = B
- 70% to 79% = C
- 60% to 69% = D
- Below 60% = F

ASSESSMENT:

- Presentation = 50%
- Tests = 40%
- Participation = 10%

ATTENDANCE AND PARTICIPATION:

- Attendance is assumed. Students are still responsible for any materials and information from a missed class. Therefore it is advised to obtain the name and contact information of at least two other students in the class.
- Students should contact the professor before missing an assignment or test deadline to request an extension. Such requests will be granted based on the professor's discretion.

Presentation

- Each student will write, turn in, and deliver to the class a 5 to 10 minute presentation on a subject related to this class. There will be multiple due dates and separate grades given for a proposal, draft, and final stage of this project.

CLASSROOM ETIQUETTE:

- Be on time and be prepared.
- Be respectful of others at all times. All students are responsible for being familiar with The Student Code of Conduct.
- Use of electronics during class is permitted for class-related activities only. Please keep phones in silent mode and refrain from taking calls and/or texting. Any exceptions to this rule must be approved *in advance* by the instructor. The instructor reserves the right to ban the use of electronics by any student.
- While some of the music we explore may contain explicit language, gratuitous use of profanity as a general means of discourse is discouraged.
- Repeated violations of classroom etiquette and/or The Student Code of Conduct will result in a lowered course grade. The instructor reserves the right to expel any student from the class who does not demonstrate appropriate classroom etiquette. The instructor also reserves the right to notify a student's academic advisor, success coach, and/or other appropriate personnel and offices as deemed necessary.

COMMUNICATIONS AND NOTIFICATIONS:

- All official communications from the University will be distributed through Jaguar email accounts. It is the responsibility of each student to obtain a Jaguar email account and check that address on a regular basis. Failure to keep up with Texas A&M University-San Antonio Jaguar email will not be an excuse for being unaware of announcements, deadlines, or other pertinent information to students.

- Please use only Jaguar email when contacting your professor. Emails from personal accounts are not accepted and will receive a response of *Please use Jaguar email*. Difficulties with Jaguar email or other IT services should be addressed through the Office of Information Technology Services in Room 233 of the Central Academic Building. They can also be reached at helpdesk@tamusa.edu or 210-784-4357.
- Communication etiquette – When using Jaguar email, please employ professional writing skills. Correspondence should begin with an appropriate salutation including the professor's academic title with last name and end with an appropriate closing with the student's full name. (Once a thread has been established, it may not be necessary to use a salutation or your full name each time.) The body of the email should always demonstrate good spelling, grammar, punctuation, and general courtesy. Correspondence that does not adhere to these standards will receive an automatic reply of *Please see syllabus information on communication etiquette*. Please allow at least two business days for replies.

ACADEMIC DISHONESTY:

- TAMUSA Academic Misconduct Policy: Students at Texas A&M University-San Antonio are expected to adhere to the highest standards of academic honesty and integrity. Academic misconduct for which a student is subject to penalty includes cheating, plagiarism, fabrication, multiple submissions, misrepresentation of academic records, facilitating academic dishonesty, unfair advantage, violating known safety requirements and ethical misconduct. This includes holding other students to the same standards and reporting any incidents of alleged violation of the honesty policy to the instructor involved or, if necessary, to the appropriate academic department head. All students are responsible for being familiar with the Academic Misconduct Policy, which may be found in the Texas A&M University-San Antonio Student Handbook.
- All materials are subject to analysis by anti-plagiarism software. Instances of academic dishonesty result in an automatic grade of '0'.

EXTRACURRICULAR MUSIC OPPORTUNITIES:

- Interested in band? The **San Antonio Community Wind Ensemble** meets in the TAMUSA Auditorium on Sunday afternoons and gives several concerts throughout the year. Membership dues are waived for all TAMUSA students. If you are interested in joining, email director Albert Aguilar at sacwe@crossmen.org for more information.
- Interested in mariachi? **Mariachi Los Jaguares Del Sur** is dedicated to honoring and preserving the art of mariachi music. The group prides itself on a shared love of music, performance, and Mexican culture. If you are interested in joining, visit JagSync 2.0 to sign up and/or email advisor Amelia Guzman at aguzman@tamusa.edu for more information.

ADDITIONAL UNIVERSITY RESOURCES:

- The **Writing, Language, and Digital Composing Center** supports graduate and undergraduate students in all three colleges as well as faculty and staff. Tutors work

with students to develop reading skills, prepare oral presentations, and plan, draft, and revise their written assignments. Our language tutors support students enrolled in Spanish courses and students composing in Spanish for any assignment. Our digital studio tutors support students working on digital projects such as e-portfolios, class presentations, or other digital multimedia projects. Students can schedule appointments through JagWire under the Student Services tab. Click on “Writing, Language, and Digital Composing Center” to make your appointment. The Center offers face-to-face, synchronous online, and asynchronous digital appointments. More information about what services we offer, how to make an appointment, and how to access your appointment can be found on our website at <https://bit.ly/WLDCCenter>.

- The Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, as amended, and the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 are federal anti-discrimination statutes that provide comprehensive civil rights protection for individuals with disabilities. Title II of the ADA and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act require that students with disabilities be guaranteed equal access to the learning environment through the provision of reasonable and appropriate accommodation of their disability. If you have a disability that may require accommodation, please contact **Disability Support Services (DSS)** for the coordination of services. The phone number for DSS is (210) 784-1335 and email is dss@tamusa.edu.
- As a college student, there may be times when personal stress interferes with your academic performance and/or negatively impacts your daily functioning. If you or someone you know is experiencing life stressors, emotional difficulties, or mental health concerns at Texas A&M University – San Antonio, please contact the **Student Counseling Center (SCC)** located in Modular C, Room 166 (rear entrance) or call 210-784-1331 between the hours of 8:00AM and 5:00PM, Monday – Friday. After-hours crisis support is available by calling 210-784-1331 (select option “2”). Please contact UPD at 911 if harm to self or harm to others is imminent. All mental health services provided by the SCC are free, confidential (as the law allows), and are not part of a student’s academic or university record. SCC provides brief individual and group therapy, crisis intervention, consultation, case management, and prevention services. For more information, please visit www.tamusa.edu/studentcounseling

COURSE SCHEDULE:

- Tuesday January 20, First Day, Orientation
- Thursday February 13, Test 1 Blues, Country, Rock and Roll
- Thursday February 20, Presentation Proposal
- Thursday March 5, Test 2 Folk, Soul, British Invasion, Psychedelia
- Thursday April 2, Presentation Draft
- Thursday April 10, Test 3 70’s and 80’s
- Thursday and Tuesday April 23 and 28, Presentations
- Thursday April 30, Test 4 90’s
- **DISCLAIMER:** This syllabus is subject to change at the discretion of the instructor. Students will be notified as soon as possible of any changes.