

Rock History, MUSC143

T/TH 12:30-1:45

Prerequisite: none

Spring, 2016

Dr. Cora Palfy

Cpalfy@email.unc.edu

Smith Building, #205

University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

TAs for the Course

Barkley Heuser	Hill Hall 217	Thursdays, 11:15-12:15 pm
Alexander Marsden	Hill Hall 219	Wednesdays, 2-3 pm
Michele Segretario	Hill Hall 219	Tuesdays, 11-12 pm

Course Objectives and Content

This course provides an overview of the history of Rock (it is not exhaustive), which has undergone many stylistic and genre-related changes over the course of its lifetime. Our class will investigate the stylistic sounds as they evolve over time, thinking about recognizable instrumentation, performance techniques, and technology. We will also contextualize these styles within the cultural (political, social, musical) landscape surrounding their development. There are no prerequisites for this course.

Learning Objectives

1. Students will compare and contrast musical elements of stylistic periods within Rock's development.
2. Students will perform basic analyses, recognizing elements like melody, timbre, instrumentation, and form.
3. Students will recognize the broader cultural trends that contribute to Rock's evolution over time.

Course Requirements

- Students are required to complete the reading to the best of their ability.
- Students are expected to attend lecture and respect that time as an integral part of their learning process.

Required Texts: *All required texts are available at the Bull's Head Bookstore.*

- John Covach and Andrew Flory. *What's that Sound?: An Introduction to Rock and its History* (4th ed.)

Social Media/Technology Resources

UNC RockHistory Twitter: This is a resource to submit questions about *conceptual* material during/after class time. The TAs for the course will be given time at the end of class to field questions and comments drawn from the Twitter account, so it is encouraged that you contribute. It is expected (and necessary) that the content stay on-topic and appropriate.

UNC RockHistory Spotify Playlist: We have built a listening resource for students to access through Spotify. This contains all examples mentioned in the Kovach text, as well as those highlighted in class. It is expected that you will listen in order to hear the distinct sounds of each stylistic period within Rock's history.

<https://play.spotify.com/user/amarsden/playlist/2392IHQNIFygowPvMrkBUe>

The Beatles, Bob Dylan, and Prince are not available on Spotify, and can be found here:

<https://youtu.be/4X5Bt6V7tcM?list=PLxmFqCNLZm2bM6zSLqy1Yr2stwSYjbo8P>

Grading Policy

Online Sakai Quizzes (dates listed below)	30%
Short Paper (due by 12:30 pm 3/3/2016)	20%
Concert Write-up	20%
Final Exam (5/3/2016, 12 PM)	30%

From your numerical semester grade, a letter grade will be assigned as follows:

- A (100-93) and A- (92-90): superior mastery of the course material
B+ (89-87), B (86-83), and B- (82-80): satisfactory mastery
C+ (79-77), C (76-73), and C - (72-70): adequate understanding
D+ (69-67) and D (66-60): marginal or unsatisfactory understanding
F: entirely unsatisfactory understanding

Honor Code

Academic integrity is important so that all can learn and work in an environment of mutual respect and trust. Students are expected to abide by the University's Honor Code. You can read the code at <http://instrument.unc.edu>. All written assignments are to be completed individually and be your own personal work. I do encourage you to study the course topics and discuss questions in groups. If you have questions about an assignment, please ask me.

Disability Accommodations

Accommodations are provided to students who are identified with Accessibility Resources and Service by providing documentation that supports the need for such so they may, as independently as possible, meet the demands of university life. If you require such accommodations, please visit <https://accessibility.unc.edu/> at the beginning of the semester to secure accommodations. I am unable to accommodate those who do not have the proper documentation, but am more than willing to help in the acquisition of documentation. I am happy to help create an equal and fair learning environment for my students.

Resources for Mental Wellness

UNC CAPS Center:

<https://campushealth.unc.edu/services/counseling-and-psychological-services/caps-services>

Other Resources Available on Campus

UNC Writing Center

<http://writingcenter.unc.edu/>

UNC LGBTQIA Center

<https://lgbtq.unc.edu/>

Course Schedule

<p>Week 1</p> <p>1/12, 1/14</p>	<p>1/12 – Syllabus, “What is Rock” (Intro)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How is it defined? • How to listen, instrumentation and recording techniques <p>1/14 – 1920s history (Ch. 1)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Formal Structure
<p>Week 2</p> <p>1/19, 1/21</p>	<p>1/19 – 1930s and 40s, Rhythm and Blues (Ch. 1)</p> <p>1/21 – 1950s (Ch. 2)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • History, rise of rock’n’roll
<p>Week 3</p> <p>1/26, 1/28</p>	<p>1/26 – 1950s (Ch. 2)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Youth Culture, Radio and Records • Appropriation and importation • Morality <p>1/28 – Elvis Presley</p> <p>Online quiz (found on Sakai), due by 8 pm on 1/28/2016.</p>
<p>Week 4</p> <p>2/2, 2/4</p>	<p>2/2 – Early 1960s (Ch. 3)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • American politics, historical background, and impact on the rock genre • Rock and Morality • Splitting up the Market <p>2/4 – Lieber and Stoller, producing music</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Present day music production processes
<p>Week 5</p> <p>2/9, 2/11</p>	<p>2/9 – 1960s, British Invasion (Ch. 4)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • British importation of American rock • Beatles <p>2/11 – Beatles vs. Rolling Stones</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Blues revival
<p>Week 6</p> <p>2/16, 2/18</p>	<p>2/16 – 1960s</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Motown and Soul • Berry Gordy Jr. <p>2/18 – Funk and black pride</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • James Brown <p>Online quiz (found on Sakai), due by 8 pm on 2/18/2016.</p>
<p>Week 7</p>	<p>2/23 – 1960s, American responses to the Beatles</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Garage bands and pre-punk

<p>2/23, 2/25</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Folk Rock, Bob Dylan • Authenticity <p>2/25 – 1960s (Guest lecture, Michele Segretario)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Phil Spector, recording techniques in use • Beach boys
<p>Week 8 3/1, 3/3</p>	<p>3/1 – 1970s, Psychedelia (Ch. 7)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • American political landscape • Drug culture • Effect on Rock form and sound <p>(Roger McGuin from <i>The Byrds</i> will have a performance/lecture following class)</p> <p>3/3 – Psychedelia</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • San Francisco Scene • Woodstock <p>Short paper, due by 12:30 pm on 3/3/2016.</p>
<p>Week 9 3/8, 3/10</p>	<p>3/8 – 1970s, Proliferation of new rock subgenres (Ch. 8)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Blues-based BritRock • American blues/Southern Rock <p>3/10 – 1970s, Proliferation of new rock subgenres</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prog Rock • Jazz-fusion • Glam-rock <p>Online quiz (found on Sakai), due by 8 pm on 3/10/2016.</p>
<p>Week 10 3/15, 3/17</p>	<p>SPRING BREAK</p>
<p>Week 11 3/22, 3/24</p>	<p>3/22 – 1970s, Black Pop and Disco (Ch. 9)</p> <p>3/24 – Reggae influence/international rock (Guest lecture, Alex Marsden)</p>
<p>Week 12 3/29, 3/31</p>	<p>3/29 – Album culture (Ch. 10)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Roots and Rise of Punk (Guest lecture, Barkley Heuser) <p>3/31 – New Wave</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Importation and adaptation of older styles
<p>Week 13 4/5, 4/7</p>	<p>4/5 – 1980s (Ch. 11)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Political and cultural landscape • Heavy Metal <p>4/7 – MTV and the rise of the Music Video</p> <p>Online quiz (found on Sakai), due by 8 pm on 4/7/2016.</p>
<p>Week 14</p>	<p>4/12 – Musical Subcultures of the 1980s (Ch. 12)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Indie and College Rock

4/12, 4/14	4/14 – Hip hop/Rap
Week 15 4/19, 4/21	4/19 – 1990s <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Political and cultural landscape • Rise of alternative, west coast scene 4/21 – Indie Rock w/ focus on Female Artists <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Singer-songwriters of the 1970s
Week 16 4/26	4/26 – 2000-present: Big issues in the present-day rock industry (Ch. 14 and 15) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Intellectual Property • Technology and authenticity • Rock “canons” • Multimedia as a necessity Online quiz (found on Sakai), due by 8 pm on 4/26/2016.
Reading Days 4/28	
FINAL EXAM 5/3/2016	FINAL EXAM (listening exam) – 12 PM