

Popular Music Studies Course Syllabus

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Welcome to Popular Music Studies. The course should be fun but it will require attention, open-mindedness, and respect for a wide range of musical styles. The objectives for the course include the following:

- critical analysis contemporary popular music
- appreciation of the influence of past musicians
- understanding of how certain trends in music are created
- understanding of how the images of pop stars may be fabricated
- drawing personal conclusions about many of the controversies surrounding pop music
- research skills development

The class is broken into the following units selected from the following:

Unit 1:	Musical Basics (an introduction to terms and concepts)
Unit 2:	Blues
Unit 3:	Jazz
Unit 4:	Early Rock and Roll
Unit 5:	Country
Unit 6:	Soul
Unit 7:	Motown
Unit 8:	British Invasion
Unit 9:	Psychedelic Rock
Unit 10:	Folk Music/Protest songs of the '60's and 70's
Unit 11:	Funk, Disco, and Glam
Unit 12:	Punk/Grunge
Unit 13:	The MTV Generation/Metal
Unit 14:	Rap/Hip Hop
Unit 15:	World Pop
Unit 16:	Artists of Today

Your grade will be determined according to a number of total points earned for assignments completed. The school grading scale will be used to determine your grade. The basis for grades will include the following:

- class participation
- completion of homework
- test scores
- notebook checks: You are required to keep a three-ring binder with pockets and notebook paper for this course. In your notebook, you need to have tabbed sections for the following:
 - o Notes
 - o Listening Journals
 - o Graded Materials.

Email and messages on PAM/SAM/TAM are typically the best ways to contact me and my conference period is 8th hour. I only discuss grades on an individual basis in private so please send me an email or PAM/SAM/TAM message or set up a time to meet with me one-on-one if you have a grading question.

This syllabus and several resources can be found at www.nvchoir.org