

**SYLLABUS & COURSE OUTLINE - DONNA AXTON  
FALL 2014 - MUSC 301**

**The History of Rock and Roll  
Sierra Nevada College**

<b>Course Code</b>	MUSC 301 Section 1
<b>Course Title</b>	The History of Rock and Roll (3 credits)
<b>Term and Year</b>	Fall 2014
<b>Course Reference Number</b>	80225
<b>Instructor</b>	Donna Axton
<b>Phone</b>	775-881-7586 (Ext. 7586)
<b>Email</b>	daxton@sierranevada.edu
<b>Office</b>	David Hall 103
<b>Office Hours</b>	Tuesday, Thursday 2:30- 3:45
 <b>Class Meeting Time</b>	 Monday, Wednesday: 2:30 – 3:45 pm
<b>Location</b>	David Hall 103
 <b>Prerequisites</b>	 None
<b>Corequisites</b>	None

**Required text:**

Michael Campbell and James Brody, *Rock and Roll, an Introduction*

**Required CD's**

CD Set, *Rock and Roll, an Introduction*

**Course Description:** This is a 3-credit survey course intended for all students. It is a chronological study of the musical and cultural roots of rock and roll from blues and soul to reggae and hip-hop. We will study elements of song writing and analyze musical trends of current popular music. There is a strong emphasis on directed listening.

**Student Outcomes**

The student will gain skill in attentive listening to music.

The student will learn to aurally identify major musical elements, forms, and styles covered in lectures and text.

The student will become fluent in discussing musical works using musical terms and expressions

The student will know relevant facts about famous performers and writers.

The student will develop a sense of the evolutionary nature of musical and artistic development, specifically during the 1950's through the 1970's.

The student will broaden their awareness of musical genres and develop confidence and enjoyment in listening to all types of music.

The student will clarify their own musical preferences and values through critical listening skills.

The student will develop an appreciation of the expressive and causal connection between the arts and the political and sociological climate of cultures.

**Methods of Assessing Student outcomes**

Attendance and class participation

Written homework for each chapter reading assignments.

Listening assignment response papers

Attendance at a minimum of 2 concerts and concert response papers

Presentations on 4 musical artists

Mid-term - in class includes listening exam

Take home essay

Final exams

Book Report Summary

Musical Genealogy

**Instructional strategies**

Assigned reading, assigned listening, attendance at musical events, lecture, student presentations, music-making, live performances.

**Attendance**

Due to the experiential nature of this class, your attendance is essential. Please note that 30% of your grade can only be credited to when you are in class.

**Homework**

You will have written homework assigned for most classes. Complete assignments will be given the full 15 points. Homework that is incomplete will be pro-rated. Homework that is turned in after the due date will be down-graded by 1 point for each day it is late.

For the first 5 weeks, any grammatical or writing style problems in written assignments be noted. After week 5, grammatical or structural errors will reduce your homework grade proportionally. In other words, writing matters!

**Class requirements**

Students are required to present a book report to the class on a topic related to Rock and Roll. There are several titles in Prim Library that are appropriate choices. You may use other sources for the book if you consult with me first.

Students will attend at least two concerts during the semester. There are many free concerts given in this area. We can all keep track of possibilities for meeting this requirement. As a class, we will develop a format for the concert response papers you will write about your concert attendance.

Students are required to purchase the CDs that accompany the text book. You will have listening assignments based on the music on these CDs and listening exams will be a part of each test and exam.

**Grading:**

Class attendance and participation	300 points
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There are 20 classes in the semester

Each class is worth

5 points attendance

5 points for prepared and intelligent participation

Written homework	400 points
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20 homework assignments @ 15 = 300

4 Artist Reports @ 20 = 80

2 Concert attendance reports = 20-40 points

Exams	300 points
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Midterm 100 points

Midterm take-home essay 25 points

Book reports 50 points

Genealogy 25 points

In-class final 100 points

A 920 - 1000

A - 900 - 919

B + 880 - 899

B 820 - 879 %

B - 800 - 819

C + 780 - 799

C 720 - 779%

C - 700 - 719

D + 680 - 699

D 620 - 679

D - 600 - 619

F Below 600

## **Sanctions for Cheating and/or Plagiarism**

### **The Honor Code**

The faculty of SNC believes students must be held to high standards of integrity in all aspects of college life in order to promote the educational mission of the College and to encourage respect for the rights of others. Each student brings to the SNC community unique skills, talents, values and experiences which, when expressed within the community, contribute to the quality of the educational environment and the growth and development of the individual. Students share with members of the faculty, administration and staff the responsibility for creating and maintaining an environment conducive to learning and personal development, where actions are guided by mutual respect, integrity, responsibility and trust. The faculty and students alike must make diligent efforts to ensure high standards are upheld by their colleagues and peers as well as themselves. Therefore faculty and students accept responsibility for maintaining these standards at Sierra Nevada College and are obligated to comply with its regulations and procedures, which they are expected to read and understand.

### **Consequences of Violating the Student Honor Code**

SNC students and faculty share the responsibility for maintaining an environment of academic honesty. Thus, all are responsible for knowing and abiding by the SNC Faculty/Student Honor Code published in the current SNC Catalog. Faculty are responsible for presenting the Honor Code and the consequences of violating it to students at the start of their classes AND for reporting all incidences of academic dishonesty to the Provost. Students are responsible for knowing what constitutes CHEATING, PLAGIARISM and FABRICATION and for refraining from these and other forms of academic dishonesty. Violations of the Honor Code become part of a student's academic record.

- 1<sup>st</sup> Offense: Student receives a zero for assignment/exam and counseling with faculty on the honor code, consequences for violating the honor code, and the value of academic honesty in learning.
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Offense: Student fails course and receives counseling with faculty on the honor code, consequences for violating the honor code, and the value of academic honesty in learning.
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Offense: Student is expelled.

### **ADA Accommodations**

In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, students with a documented disability are eligible for support services and accommodations. If a student wishes to request an accommodation, please contact the Director of Academic Support Services, Henry Conover, at (775) 831-1314 x7534, [hconover@sierranevada.edu](mailto:hconover@sierranevada.edu), office in Prim Library: PL-304.

### **The SNC Email System**

The SNC email system is the official communication vehicle among students, faculty members and administrative staff and is designed to protect the confidentiality of student information as required by the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974 Act (FERPA). Students should check their college email accounts daily during the school year.

Students have a right to forward their SNC e-mail to another e-mail account (for example, @hotmail or @gmail). However, confidentiality of student information protected by FERPA cannot be guaranteed for SNC e-mail forwarded to an outside vendor. Having email redirected does not absolve a student from the responsibilities associated with official communication sent to his or her SNC email account.

## Prim Library Resources

Using the library's resources effectively (not just Internet resources) contributes to developing each of SNC's core themes by exposing students to high quality academic resources, diverse opinions, new ideas, and a future that includes building on a liberal arts education. In this course, you will be expected to utilize the library's resources (either on-site or remotely) as you complete your assignments.

Prim Library Resources for Music courses are found in the mezzanine section listed as M (actual music literature written in music format) ML (general information about Music) .

1. Reference materials (located just beyond the front desk and for use inside Prim Library):

We will use all of these in class

Sadie, S. (2001 ) *The new grove dictionary of music and musicians*. New York: Grove  
REFERENCE ML 100.N4B

Komara, E. (2006) *Encyclopedia of the Blues*. New York, NY: Routledge  
REFERENCE ML 102 .B6 E53 2006 Vol. 1-2

Larkin, C. (1995) *Guinness Encyclopedia of Popular Music*. Enfield, Middlesex, England:  
Guinness Publishing.  
REFERENCE ML 102 PG66 G 84 V.1-6

Schinder, S. (2008) *Icons of Rock* .Westport, Conn.: Greenwood Press  
REFERENCE ML 3534 .S336 2008 V.2

Crampton, L. (2005) *Rock and Roll, year by year*. New York, NY: DK press.  
REFERENCE ML 3534 .S336 2008 V.2

2. Books (that can be checked out):

In general, books related to music Library of Congress Classification are found as follows:

M indicates actual written music

ML indicates literature written about music.

MT indicates books about music Theory

3. Lib Guides: <http://Libguides.sierranevada.edu> These web pages contain instructions about how to use resources available at Prim Library, how to evaluation the appropriateness of information from the Internet for a research paper, how to cite sources, and other topics related to finding and using information.

LOGIN information for SNC Prim Library Electronic Databases <http://libguides.sierranevada.edu/library>  
When you need to access SNC's licensed database content from off campus:

Students: Use your first initial and your last name as the username and your 9 digit student ID number as the password.

## The Sierra Nevada College Mission Statement:

Sierra Nevada College graduates will be educated to be scholars of and contributors to a sustainable world. Sierra Nevada College combines the liberal arts and professional preparedness through an interdisciplinary curriculum that emphasizes entrepreneurial thinking and environmental, social, economic and educational sustainability.

## The Core Themes:

Liberal Arts,  
Entrepreneurial Thinking

Professional Preparedness  
Sustainability

## **Course Outline and Assignments**

### **WEEK 1**

**Tuesday, August 19** - Overview of course content, activities, goals and learning objectives.

In class: Musical terms

**Thursday, August 21** – Rock Is

Reading due: Chapter 1 -pps 1-21

### **WEEK 2**

#### **THE ROOTS OF ROCK AND ROLL**

**Tuesday, August 26** – Roots and Evolution – Africa and Britain, Minstrel and Popular music

Reading due: Chapter 2 – Before Rock - pps. 21-39

**Thursday, August 28** – Roots, continued

Reading due: Chapter 3 - The Roots of Rock. - pps. 37-48

Blues, Jump bands, Louis Jordan, Gospel

### **WEEK 3**

**Tuesday, September 2**

Reading due: Chapter 3 – The Roots of Rock, cont'd. pps 48-62

Country, Afro-Cuban

Video: American Roots Music: Carters, Jimmie Rodgers, Hokum, Thomas D Dorsey, Boogie Woogie, Western Swing, Leadbelly, Woody Guthrie, Pete Seeger, Blue Grass, Lefty Frizzell, Hank Williams, Sonny Boy Williamson

**Thursday, September 4**

Reading due: Chapter 4 – Rhythm and Blues - pps. 67-98

Fats Domino, Bo Diddley, Doo-Wop, Sam Cooke, Ray Charles

### **WEEK 4**

**Tuesday, September 9**

Reading due: Chapter 5 – Rock and Roll - pps 100-118

Alan Freed, Bill Haley, Elvis, Sam Phillips, Chuck Berry, Little Richard, Jerry Lee Lewis, Buddy Holly

**Thursday, September 11**

Reading due: Chapter 5 – Rock and Roll - pps 119-128

Rock and Rhythm and Blues in the Early Sixties.

The Brill building, Chubby Checkers, Roy Orbison, the Beach Boys

## **WEEK 5**

**Tuesday, September 16**

Reading due: Chapter 6 – Girl Groups, Garage bands

Marvin Gaye, Diana Ross, Sam and Dave, Percy Sledge, Otis Redding,  
Aretha Franklin, James Brown

**Thursday, September 18**

Reading due: Chapter 6 – Folk, Rockabilly, and Surf Music

Woody Guthrie, Roy Orbison, Carl Perkins, Beachboys,

## **WEEK 6**

**Tuesday, September 23**

Reading due: Ch. 7 – Bob Dylan – pps. 162-168

Video: American Roots Music II/5-6, ROCK #6

**Thursday, September 25**

Reading due: Ch. 7 – The Beatles – pps. 168-179

## **WEEK 7**

**Tuesday, September 30**

Reading due: Chapter 8 – Motown and Soul – pps. 180-198

**Thursday, October 2**

Reading due: Chapter 9 – From Blues to Rock pps. 199-226

The Kinks, Rolling Stones, Clapton, Hendrix  
Heavy Metal, The Who, Led Zeppelin

## **WEEK 8**

**Tuesday, October 7**

**Mid-term Exam**

**Thursday, October 9**

Reading due: Chapter 10 – San Francisco, Funk, Latin - pps. 227-248

Jefferson Airplane, Janis, Creedence, Santana

## **WEEK 9**

**Tuesday, October 14**

Reading due: Chapter 11 – Rock as Art pps. 247-271

Doors, Frank Zappa, The Who, Pink Floyd

**Thursday, October 16**

Leading due: Chapter 12 – Singer Songwriters – pps 272-288.

Van Morrison, Simon and Garfunkle, CSN&Y. James Taylor,  
Joni Mitchell, Carole King, Randy Newman

## **WEEK 10**

**Tuesday, October 21**

Reading due: Chapter 13 – Black Music in the 70's – pps – 290-307

Michael Jackson, Al Green, Stevie Wonder

**Thursday, October 23**

Reading due: Chapter 14- Mainstream

Elton John, Chicago, Eagles, Fleetwood Mac

**WEEK 11**

**Tuesday, October 28**

Reading due: Chapter 15 – Oh no, here comes disco –pps. 337-356

Reggae, Funk, Disco ,

**Thursday, October 30**

Reading due: Chapter 16 – Punk – pps. 357-373

**WEEK 12**

**Tuesday, November 4**

Reading due: Chapter 17 – Electronic and rap – pps. 374-397

**Thursday, November 6**

Reading due: Chapter 18 – Pop – pps 399-421

Madonna, Prince, Tina, Christina

**WEEK 13**

**Tuesday, November 11**

Reading due: Chapter 19, 20- Recent Rock, Alternatives 422-466

More Reggae and Punk, Springsteen, U2, Dave Matthews

**Thursday, November 13**

Reading due: Chapter 19, 20- Recent Rock, Alternatives 422-466

More Reggae and Punk, Springsteen, U2, Dave Matthews

**WEEK 14**

**Tuesday, November 18**

Book Reviews due

**Thursday, November 20**

Book Reviews, continued

**THANKSGIVING BREAK – November 24-28**

**WEEK 15**

Tuesday, December 2 – Presentations

Thursday, December 4- Presentations, cont'd.

**Monday, Dec 8<sup>th</sup> – Study Day**

**FINAL EXAM – Wednesday, December 10, 11:30am -2:30pm**



