

MDIA 205 Popular Music Studies

Trimester 2 2012

16 July to 17 November 2012

20 Points

TRIMESTER DATES

Teaching dates: 16 July to 19 October 2012

Mid-trimester break: 27 August to 9 September 2012

WITHDRAWAL DATES

Information on withdrawals and refunds may be found at

<http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/admisenrol/payments/withdrawalsrefunds.aspx>

NAMES AND CONTACT DETAILS

Staff	Email	Phone	Room	Office Hours
Roy Shuker	roy.shuker@vuw.ac.nz	04 463 6821	Room 302, 83 Fairlie Terrace	Tuesday 11am -1pm

CLASS TIMES AND LOCATIONS

Lectures

Thursdays 2.10 – 4pm MCLT102 (Maclaurin Lecture Theatre)

Tutorials

Tutorials begin in WEEK 2. Please register for tutorials via the MDIA 205 site on Blackboard: go to “Tutorials” and then follow the instructions under the “SCubed - Tutorial Enrolment Instructions” link. Please read the instructions carefully. Tutorial rooms will be listed on S-Cubed, Blackboard and on the bulletin board outside the SEFTMS Reception, 83 Fairlie Terrace.

TEACHING LEARNING SUMMARY

There are twelve (12) lectures and eleven (11) tutorials. The lectures will include a/v material in the second half. The tutorials include individual student presentations. See the schedule for details.

COMMUNICATION OF ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Additional information will be posted on Blackboard. Only the main course guidelines and reading list are on Blackboard; due to issues of copyright and intellectual property, the full lectures are not posted there. If you are not going to use the Victoria email address set up for you, we strongly encourage you to set a forward from the Victoria email system to the email address you do use.

COURSE PRESCRIPTION

A critical introduction to the study of popular music, with an emphasis on post-1950s rock and pop music and subsequent genres. Topics covered include the international and New Zealand music industry; music scene, stars and authorship; audiences, subcultures, and fandom; textual and genre analysis; and music and cultural politics.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

Students who pass this course should be able to:

1. Demonstrate a critical understanding of the nature and interaction of the international and New Zealand music industry; music scenes; stars and authorship; audiences and fans; textual and genre analysis; and music as a form of cultural politics.
2. Put into use critical terms, concepts, and approaches that they encounter across the course.
3. Demonstrate a critical understanding of the issues and views/theories that relate to popular music culture and the various forms it takes.

EXPECTED WORKLOAD

The course is worth 20 points. The expectation is that this equates to 200 hours of study spread evenly over the twelve week trimester and breaks. There is some flexibility built into the choice of assignments, to enable students to situate the course in relation to other commitments.

You should attend at least 8 of your tutorial sessions. An attendance roll will be kept, and you will present a specific tutorial task as an integral part of the course.

READINGS

Essential texts:

Roy Shuker (2008) *Understanding Popular Music Culture*, Routledge, London & New York.

This will be a starting point and background reading for the lectures, which will largely focus on clarifying central debates and providing illustrative case studies.

A reading list of material published over the past four years (i.e. updating the textbook) will be provided at the first class.

Recommended Reading:

These are held on CLOSED RESERVE or REFERENCE in the Library.

Some key articles can be accessed electronically. There also some very useful, relevant web sites, though at times these need to be treated with caution (as, indeed, do all sources).

Available resources will be fully discussed at the first class, and in the first tutorial sessions.

There is no set of course readings.

All undergraduate textbooks and student notes will be sold from the Memorial Theatre foyer from 9–27 July 2012, while postgraduate textbooks and student notes will be available from the top floor of vicbooks in the Student Union Building, Kelburn Campus. After week two of the trimester all undergraduate textbooks and student notes will be sold from vicbooks on Level 4 of the Student Union Building.

You can order textbooks and student notes online at www.vicbooks.co.nz or can email an order or enquiry to enquiries@vicbooks.co.nz. Books can be couriered to you or they can be picked up from nominated collection points at each campus. You will be contacted when they are available.

Opening hours are 8.00 am – 6.00 pm, Monday – Friday during term time (closing at 5.00 pm in the holidays). Phone: 463 5515.

ASSESSMENT REQUIREMENTS

Internal: 100%

To complete the course, students must submit two assignments, the tutorial task, and attend at least 8 of their tutorial sessions.

All assessment relates to the three course learning objectives (provided above).

Assignment One (20%)

1000 word write-up of tutorial presentation.

Due: one week after your tutorial presentation (topics allocated in the first tutorial)

You will make a brief (10 minutes) presentation on a provided topic (these will be randomly allocated at the first tutorials). The presentation and following discussion will be useful material for writing the tutorial paper (1,000 words). This must be handed in no later than one week after the presentation. The presentation is not assessed; only the paper version will be graded.

Assignments Two and Three (40% each)

1200-1500 word essay

Due: dates vary throughout course (see further information below)

Write on any **TWO** of the following. If you submit more than two essays, the best two count towards your course assessment.

1. The NZ music industry.

DUE Monday 6 August

“The contemporary NZ music industry remains marginalised and underdeveloped within both local and international markets”. With reference to illustrative examples, critically discuss this claim.

2. Popular music and the internet.

DUE Monday 20 August

With reference to illustrative examples, critically discuss the impact of social networking sites (MySpace, etc) on the production, distribution and consumption of popular music.

3. Genre.

DUE Monday 10 September

“Popular music genres constitute an undifferentiated monolithic whole”. With reference to ONE of the following genres, critically discuss this assertion.

Options: punk rock; alternate country; reggae; indie rock.

4. The music press.

DUE Monday 24 September

With reference to specific examples, critically discuss the treatment of women in music magazines.

5. Music and politics.

DUE Monday 15 October

“Youth subcultures have no political significance”. With reference to illustrative examples, critically discuss this claim,

ASSIGNMENT COVER SHEETS

Assignment cover sheets and extension forms can be found on Blackboard or outside the Programme office, 83 Fairlie Terrace. Remember to fill in your tutor’s name.

EXTENSIONS AND PENALTIES

Extensions will be granted only in exceptional and unforeseen circumstances. Issues of workload do not constitute exceptional and unforeseen circumstances. If you require an extension, you must complete an extension request form (available on your course Blackboard site) prior to the assignment due date. This must be accompanied by relevant documentation (e.g. a doctor’s certificate) where appropriate. Tutors cannot grant extensions.

Work submitted after the deadline will be penalised by a 2.5 percent deduction from your total mark per work day. Late work also receives only minimal comments from your marker.

MANDATORY COURSE REQUIREMENTS

To complete the course, students must submit two assignments, the tutorial task, and attend at least 8 of their tutorial sessions.

CLASS REPRESENTATIVES

A class representative will be elected in the first class, and that person's name and contact details will be available to VUWSA, the Course Coordinator and the class. The class representative provides a communication channel to liaise with the Course Coordinator on behalf of students.

STATEMENT ON LEGIBILITY

You are expected to present work that meets appropriate standards. Work submitted during the course (i. e. work that is internally assessed) should be typed or prepared on a computer. Where handwritten work is required you are expected to write clearly. If this is deemed 'illegible', you will be given a photocopy of the work and asked to transcribe it to an acceptable standard (preferably typed) within a specified time frame.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY AND PLAGIARISM

Academic integrity means that university staff and students, in their teaching and learning are expected to treat others honestly, fairly and with respect at all times. It is not acceptable to mistreat academic, intellectual or creative work that has been done by other people by representing it as your own original work.

Academic integrity is important because it is the core value on which the University's learning, teaching and research activities are based. Victoria University's reputation for academic integrity adds value to your qualification.

The University defines plagiarism as presenting someone else's work as if it were your own, whether you mean to or not. 'Someone else's work' means anything that is not your own idea. Even if it is presented in your own style, you must acknowledge your sources fully and appropriately. This includes:

- Material from books, journals or any other printed source
- The work of other students or staff
- Information from the internet
- Software programs and other electronic material
- Designs and ideas
- The organisation or structuring of any such material

Find out more about plagiarism, how to avoid it and penalties, on the University's website:

<http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study/plagiarism.aspx>

WHERE TO FIND MORE DETAILED INFORMATION

Find key dates, explanations of grades and other useful information at www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study.

Find out how academic progress is monitored and how enrolment can be restricted at

www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study/academic-progress. Most statutes and policies are available at

www.victoria.ac.nz/home/about/policy, except qualification statutes, which are available via the *Calendar* webpage at www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study/calendar.aspx (See Section C).

Other useful information for students may be found at the website of the Assistant Vice-Chancellor (Academic), at www.victoria.ac.nz/home/about_victoria/avcacademic.

School of English, Film, Theatre, & Media Studies
MEDIA STUDIES PROGRAMME COURSE OUTLINE MDIA 205

COURSE PROGRAMME

<i>Week</i>	<i>Lecture date</i>	<i>Weekly topic</i>	<i>Reading (textbook)</i>	<i>Essays (due Mondays, 5pm)</i>
Week 1	19 July	Introduction: the Archies versus the MC5	Introduction	
Week 2	26 July	The music industry	Chpt 1	
Week 3	2 Aug	Technology	Chpt 2	Essay 1 (NZ industry) Due: 6 August
Week 4	9 Aug	The success continuum; Auteurs and stars	Chpt 3, 4	
Week 5	16 Aug	Genre, canon	Chpts 6	Essay 2 (Music & internet) Due: 20 August
Week 6	23 Aug	Genre: case study	Chpt 6	
Mid Trimester Break:		Monday 27 August to Sunday 9 September 2012		
Week 7	13 Sept	Music press	Chpt 9	Essay 3 (Genre) Due: 10 September
Week 8	20 Sept	Music press: case studies	Chpt 9	
Week 9	27 Sept	Subcultures, scenes and sounds	Chpt 11	Essay 4 (Music press) Due: 24 September
Week 10	4 Oct	Politics and popular music	Chpt 13	
Week 11	11 Oct	Moral panics	Chpt 14	Essay 5 (Subcultures) Due: 15 October
Week 12	18 Oct	Music policy: Class quiz	Chpt 12	