

Module Specification

Summary Information

Module Code	5609MCIPA
Formal Module Title	Popular Music - Context and Culture
Career	Undergraduate
Credits	15
Academic level	FHEQ Level 5
Module Pass Mark	40

Learning Methods

Learning Method Type	Hours
Lecture	36
Seminar	9

Module Offering(s)

Start Month	Duration
September	28 Weeks

Aims and Outcomes

Aims	<p>In this Module, students will be provided with an engaging and contextual insight to the development and culture of post 1950 Western mainstream popular music.</p> <p>Looking at the history of 20th century Western mainstream popular music from both an</p>
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aesthetic and cultural perspective.

By drawing on cultural theory and analysis, students will, through lectures and exploratory seminars, advance their knowledge and understanding of the developments which have shaped, and continue to shape, the creation and consumption of mainstream popular music across the West.

Learning Outcomes

After completing the module the student should be able to:

Code	Description
MLO1	Analytically reveal how cultural and technological events influence developments in mainstream and popular music culture.
MLO2	Critically utilise aspects of cultural theory to inform and illuminate discussion about Popular and Mainstream music culture.
MLO3	Assess how geo-political forces impact upon the culture of mainstream and popular music.

Module Content

Outline Syllabus

Historical context of North American popular music.

The Appalachian Mountains meets the Mississippi Delta.

Iconography of Popular Music.

Cultural Theory and Popular Music

Teenagers, Television and Rock 'n' Roll.

Beatles, Dylan and Liberation.

JFK, MLK, Bobbie K, Malcolm X & Muhammed Ali.

The Business of Labels, Deals and Managers.

Stevie Wonder, Funk, Bob Marley and Disco.

Feminism in Popular Music.

Five Years in New York City - Disco, Punk and Hip-Hop.

Marketing and MTV, Madonna and Michael Jackson.

Cheap Technology and Dance Democracy.

Nihilism, Flannel Shirts and Grunge.

Ripping CDs, MP3s, Globalisation and Oligopolies.

Was Adorno right all along?

Module Overview

In this Module, students will be provided with an engaging and contextual insight to the development of post 1950 Western mainstream popular music culture.

Looking at Western popular music, from both an aesthetic and cultural perspective, students will advance their knowledge and understanding of the developments which have shaped, and continue to shape, the creation and consumption of mainstream popular music across the West.

Assessments

Assignment Category	Assessment Name	Weight	Exam/Test Length (hours)	Learning Outcome Mapping
Essay	Popular Music Essay	100	0	MLO1, MLO2, MLO3