

**SAULT COLLEGE OF APPLIED ARTS AND TECHNOLOGY**

**SAULT STE. MARIE, ONTARIO**



**SAULT  
COLLEGE**

**COURSE OUTLINE**

**COURSE TITLE:** Music and Popular Culture

**CODE NO. :** GAS 109                      **SEMESTER:** Fall/Winter

**PROGRAM:** General Arts and Science

**AUTHOR:** Mark Dunn

**DATE:** June 15      **PREVIOUS OUTLINE DATED:** Sept 14

**APPROVED:**                      'Angelique Lemay'                      June/15

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**DEAN**                      **DATE**

**TOTAL CREDITS:** 3

**PREREQUISITE(S):**

**HOURS/WEEK:** 2

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School of Community Services, Interdisciplinary Studies, Curriculum & Faculty  
Enrichment*

*(705) 759-2554, Ext. 2737*

**I. COURSE DESCRIPTION:**

This course will give students the opportunity to think creatively and critically about the influence of popular music on culture. Students will explore different music genres (rock, metal, hip hop and rap), their development and social significance. Students may explore music in film, commercials, war and protest, social and civil rights movements, and the contributions of specific artists to contemporary culture. The ways in which popular music has contributed to the current culture and, in turn, how culture has shaped popular music will be examined.

This course meets the requirements for the General Education Arts in Society theme.

**II. LEARNING OUTCOMES AND ELEMENTS OF THE PERFORMANCE:**

Upon successful completion of this course, the student will demonstrate the ability to:

1. Classify music into genre types

Potential Elements of the Performance:

- Recognize music genre types by rhythm and instrumentation
- Describe the origins of musical genres
- Identify the blending and influence of genres on each other

2. Identify the socio-cultural origins of each genre

Potential Elements of the Performance:

- Recognize the beginnings of individual genres
- Recognize the influence musical genres have had on culture
- Identify the cultural origins of musical genres

3. Identify features of music, artists and genre types through focused listening

Potential Elements of the Performance:

- Identify the parts of a song: verse, chorus, bridge, riff etc
- Name specific musical artists and genres by listening

4. Recognize the function of technology in the development of music

Potential Elements of the Performance:

- Describe the evolution of technologies for the dissemination of music
- Summarize the development of recording technology
- Explain the cultural significance of musical technologies
- Recognize significant milestones in the recording and performance of music
- Recognize the role of radio in the popularization of music and its influence on culture

5. Describe the social and cultural significance of music

Potential Elements of the Performance:

- Explain the role of music in personal and social identity
- Describe the role music has played in socio-cultural evolution and revolution
- Recognize the cultural prejudices that shaped the nature of popular music
- Recognize how music and musicians have been the targets of intolerance and adulation

6. Identify music with its era

Potential Elements of the Performance:

- Identify the eras in which specific genres developed and/or became widely known
- Recognize important political, social, and/or technological movements and developments that accompanied the popularization of music within different eras.

### **III. TOPICS (May Include):**

1. Music and Socio-Cultural/Economic Identity
2. The Origins of Contemporary Music
3. Musical Genres
4. The Corporatization of Music
5. Music and Technology
6. Significant Artists and Business Architects

#### IV. REQUIRED RESOURCES/TEXTS/MATERIALS:

The professor will assign readings as needed. Much of the listening material will be provided, but students will be expected to supplement resource material with their research.

#### V. EVALUATION PROCESS/GRADING SYSTEM:

Activities/Unit Responses	65%
Project:	20%
Review Assignment	15%

The following semester grades will be assigned to students:

<u>Grade</u>	<u>Definition</u>	<u>Grade Point Equivalent</u>
A+	90 – 100%	4.00
A	80 – 89%	
B	70 - 79%	3.00
C	60 - 69%	2.00
D	50 – 59%	1.00
F (Fail)	49% and below	0.00
CR (Credit)	Credit for diploma requirements has been awarded.	
S	Satisfactory achievement in field /clinical placement or non-graded subject area.	
U	Unsatisfactory achievement in field/clinical placement or non-graded subject area.	
X	A temporary grade limited to situations with extenuating circumstances giving a student additional time to complete the requirements for a course.	
NR	Grade not reported to Registrar's office.	
W	Student has withdrawn from the course without academic penalty.	

Note: For such reasons as program certification or program articulation, certain courses require minimums of greater than 50% and/or have mandatory components to achieve a passing grade.

It is also important to note, that the minimum overall GPA required in order to graduate from a Sault College program remains 2.0.

*If a faculty member determines that a student is at risk of not being academically successful, the faculty member may confidentially provide that student's name to Student Services in an effort to help with the student's success. Students wishing to restrict the sharing of such information should make their wishes known to the coordinator or faculty member.*

## **VI. SPECIAL NOTES:**

### Attendance:

Sault College is committed to student success. There is a direct correlation between academic performance and class attendance; therefore, for the benefit of all its constituents, all students are encouraged to attend all of their scheduled learning and evaluation sessions. This implies arriving on time and remaining for the duration of the scheduled session.

## **VII. COURSE OUTLINE ADDENDUM:**

1. The faculty member reserves the right to change the information contained in this course outline depending on the needs of the learner and the availability of resources.