

CTCH 420 AA - Popular Music: Theory and Methods

Professor: Dr Charity Marsh
Office: RC 049
Office Hours: By appointment - please email
Contact Info: Charity.Marsh@uregina.ca

Class Time: Wednesday 10am-12:45pm
Location: RC 040

Course Textbook: *Popular Music and the Politics of Hope: Queer and Feminist Interventions*.
Eds. Susan Fast and Craig Jennex. New York: Routledge. 2019.

Readings: Additional readings will be posted to UR Courses.

Course Evaluation	Worth	Due Date
Participation Assignments	20%	various
Project Proposal	10%	Jan. 29
Project Paper	30%	April 8
Presentation	20%	April 1 or April 8
Concert Analysis	15%	Feb 5
Herstory of Popular Music (Group)	5%	March 5

All assignment parameters will be posted to UR courses and will be discussed in class. Every assignment must be completed or the final mark will be NP.

A note on attendance and preparedness: You are required to attend all classes. You are also required to come to class having read/ watched/ listened to the materials assigned for the week. All course content discussed in class, as well as reading assignments and events will be covered in assignments. Lecture material will include more than the readings assigned. In order to succeed in the course, you will need to attend and participate.

Assignment Breakdown:

Participation Assignments (20%)

Throughout the course there will be the following four participation assignments, each worth 5%. Each assignment will be a 400-500 word response to a specific question asked about aspects of the course material. Each assignment and question will be posted to UR courses. The first assignment will be about the Dolly Podcast. The second participation assignment will be a question responding to Natural Sympathies presentation on March 12th. The third assignment will be about Music and Self-Identity. The fourth assignment will focus on the GRR documentary we see on March 26th.

Project Proposal/ Project/ Presentation (60%)

This project (with its 3 parts) is worth 60% of your final mark. This is significant and each part should be done with great care. For this project you will choose one female or non-binary popular music artist to research and present on. As part of this process you will offer a brief biography, a herstory of their musical career, any political debates or significant contributions

they have made musically, socially, culturally, and you will choose one or two songs/ music videos/ performances to analyze, present, and write theoretically about in your final paper. Once you have chosen the artist, you must find one additional scholarly article (with my help if needed) to assign for a class reading. The artist you choose may not already be included on the syllabus. We will discuss this further in class.

The project parameters are as follows:

Project Proposal - Worth 10% - Due Jan. 29th at 10am

In 2 pages provide the following information:

- the name of the artist
- why you have chosen this artist and their significance
- songs/ performances/ music videos you are going to analyze and present on
- a thesis/ statement of intent for your final paper
- at least 3 scholarly readings you will be using for your analysis
- a potential article you will be assigning to the class

Presentation - Worth 20% - April 1 and April 8

In 45 mins present your artist (a brief bio, musical herstory, and your analysis of the works). During the presentation you should address the reading assigned to the class with 2-3 discussion questions. Each presentation should be well prepared, organized, and fully address the project assignment. You will receive feedback from me during class that you should incorporate into your final paper.

Project Paper - Worth 30% - Due April 16 (noon)

In 12-15 pages (double spaced, etc.) please write a full analytical paper on 2 songs, performances, music videos, etc. of the artist that you have chosen. In your analysis you should include an introduction with a thesis and statement of intent. Throughout you should make strong major arguments backed by evidence found in the scholarly readings from the course and your additional reading. Your analyses of the music/ performance/ videos chosen, should be detailed and take into account the comments given during your presentation. This is a formal essay. Please edit carefully. Use parenthetical references within the body of the essay, include a list of references. You may also use footnotes to add any additional material that does not need to be included in the actual essay.

Concert Analysis (15%) - Due Feb 5 at 10am

Please see full details on UR Courses. We will attend the following concert together as a class: Little Miss Higgins & Ellen Froese on Sunday, Jan. 26th from 8pm-11:30pm at the Artesian on 13th Avenue. You will need to purchase your tickets from me - \$22 per ticket.

Herstory of Popular Music (5%) - Due March 5

This is a group assignment that you will prepare for prior to the class on March 4th and then work on together as a group. For this assignment we will be creating a slide show of a herstory of women popular musicians. This document will include images, songs/ albums/ events, that should be included within a herstory of popular music. The final product will be presented at the Girls Rock Adult Camp during a workshop that I will facilitate on March 7th.

Weekly Schedule

Week #1	Jan 8	“i’m not America’s nightmare. i’m America’s dream” Popular Music and the Politics of Hope Fast & Jennex, NPR, Dolly
Readings/ Listening:		
Week #2	Jan 15	“and when men like me come around/ my daddy said shoot” Displacing Whiteness Smith, Jennex, Dolly
Readings/ Listening:		
Week #3	Jan 22	“this golden ring/ don’t shine no more” Feminist Activism in Country Music Cocaine and Rhinestones: A Podcast; Royster, Dolly
Readings/ Listening:		
Week #4	Jan 29	“the last of my kind” Little Miss Higgins & Ellen Froese
Class will be on Sunday, Jan. 26th from 8pm-11:30pm at the Artesian - purchase your tickets		
Readings/ Listening:		Stras
Week #5	Feb 5	“do whatever the heck you want” Music and Self-Identity Jarman, Fox
Readings/ Listening:		
Week #6	Feb 12	“No matter how old, how young, how sick, I mean something.” Naiman, Baade
Readings/ Listening:		
Week #7	Feb 19	Reading Break
Week #8	Feb 26	“bits and pieces of truth” Decolonizing Sound Woloshyn, Pryzybylski
Readings/ Listening:		
Week #9	March 4	“okay ladies now let’s get in formation” Smith, Beyonce’s <i>Lemonade</i>
Readings/ Listening:		
Week #10	March 11/12	“Rebel Girl/ You’re the Queen of My World” Changing up the Canon: A Herstory of Popular Music Rodgers, Natural Sympathies Music Film <i>Porous</i>
Readings/ Listening:		
Thursday, March 12		Amber Goodwyn (aka Natural Sympathies) will present at 10am
Week #11	March 18	“I’m a hunter/ I’ll bring back the goods” Bjork’s <i>Homogenic</i> and <i>Dancer in the Dark</i> Marsh & West, Marsh
Readings/ Listening:		
Week #12	March 25	I’m Gonna Play Loud: Girls Rock Regina and the Ripple Effect Marsh
Readings/ Listening:		
<u>This week’s classes will be held on Thursday, March 27th at the RPL (Central Library) 6-9pm.</u>		

Week #13 April 1 Presentations
Readings/ Listening: TBA

Week #14 April 8 Presentations
Readings/ Listening: TBA

Procedures and Dates for Dropping Courses

All changes to course registration can be done through UR courses (or if need be through Faculty or College office) but it must be done. Students who are not attending but have not formally withdrawn are still considered to be registered, are liable for fees, and are assigned a failing grade of NP for failing to complete the course. **Non-attendance does not constitute withdrawal.**

Last day to drop a course and receive 100% refund	Jan. 21, 2020
Last day to drop a course without a transcript record	Jan. 21, 2020
Last day to withdraw from a course and receive 50% refund	Feb. 4, 2020
Last day to withdraw from a course without a failing grade	March 15, 2020

Academic Misconduct:

Please refer to 5.14. Student Behaviour, 2017 - 2018 Undergraduate Calendar. What constitutes academic misconduct is outlined in 5.13.2 [Academic Misconduct] in the 2017 – 2018 Undergraduate Calendar or <https://www.uregina.ca/student/registrar/publications/undergraduate-calendar/assets/pdf/2017-2018/attendance-evaluation.pdf>

Harassment Awareness:

“The University of Regina promotes a learning environment that is free from all forms of harassment and discrimination.” The University "will neither tolerate nor condone any inappropriate or irresponsible conduct, including any form of behaviour which creates an intimidating, hostile or offensive environment for work or study through the harassment of an individual or group on the basis of a) race and all race-related grounds such as ancestry, place of origin, color, ethnic origin, citizenship and creed or b) sex, gender or sexual orientation". The policy can be viewed at <http://www.uregina.ca/presoff/vpadmin/policymanual/hr/2010510.shtml>

University of Regina Counseling Services



Feeling Stressed? Always worried?

Some stress is normal when you're going to university but **1 in 5 students** will suffer from enough distress that they **would benefit from counseling**.

What can I do?

The U of R offers counseling services free of charge for students at the U of R. These services are confidential and easy to access for students – simply go to the second floor of Riddell, Room 251 to make an appointment.

When should you go?

Knowing when to schedule an appointment can be tough. Some common issues you might need help with include if you are test anxious, if you've experienced a trauma like losing a family member or a close friend, or if you've recently ended a relationship.

If the feelings you're experiencing are more intense or severe, counseling services can also provide urgent service within 3 days and referrals as needed.

What options are available to me for?

Personal Counseling – This is a great option if you'd like one on one attention for things like anxiety and panic, relationship conflict, depression, grief and loss, academic issues, body image and substance abuse. The U of R offers all students several free sessions per semester. Try it – talking about your problems can be more helpful than you would think!

Group Counseling – Simply put, you're not alone. Many students are experiencing the same things as you. The U of R offers a wide variety of group counseling opportunities that can help teach many skills for managing your mental health, including: Meditation and Relaxation, Building Healthy Relationships, Stress Management, and Self-Care.

But I can't afford counseling...

Seeking counseling doesn't have to be cost prohibitive. Many students can benefit from the free sessions offered by the U of R's counseling services.

If you need more coverage make sure you contact URSU and www.iHaveAPlan.ca. Expenses related to mental health, including seeing a psychologist, and some medications are partially covered by your student health and dental plan!

What else can I do?

Self-care - taking better care of yourself, can help! Eating better, working out, smoking and drinking less, and balancing school with fun can all help with mental health!

Stressed out but don't know how to fix it? URSU's Student Advocate can help you free of charge!

- Academic Appeals
- Disciplinary Appeals
- Student Loan Appeals
- E-mail advocate@ursu.ca to schedule an appointment today!
- Emergency Bursaries
- Notary Public
- Rentalsman Appeals

