



Course syllabus

Faculty of Arts and Humanities

Department of Music and Art

1MV130 Hitlåten historia från 1960 till idag, 6 högskolepoäng

The History of the Hit Song – 1960 to Present Time, 6 credits

Main field of study

Musicology

Subject Group

Musicology

Level of classification

First Level

Progression

G1N

Date of Ratification

Approved by Faculty of Arts and Humanities 2018-01-15

The course syllabus is valid from autumn semester 2018

Prerequisites

General entry requirements and English B (Field-specific entry requirements 2/A2). as well as passed result from a special admission's test to the Songwriting Programme.

Objectives

After completing the course, the student should be able to:

- account for important genres and works (hit songs) in popular music from the 1960s until today,
- problematise the concept of hit song from various perspectives,
- discuss and reflect on how traditions in popular music are created and passed on,
- discuss changes in the supply and demand of music during the past 50 years.

Content

This course provides an introduction to contemporary Western popular music from the 1960s until today, focusing on hit songs. Different styles and periods in popular music are studied, with the aim of distinguishing key characteristics to develop an understanding of different sounds. Important parts of this understanding include the ways in which styles in popular music have been created and passed on, but also how they have been spread. The course includes a combination of listening to music and discussing and reflecting, as well as a historical overview of the chosen time period. The course material therefore includes both music and text.

All assignments in the course are compulsory.

Type of Instruction

The teaching is based on the students' active participation, individually and in groups.

Teaching is delivered in the form of lectures, practical applications and seminars. A major part of the course includes individual studies.

Examination

The course is assessed with the grades A, B, C, D, E, Fx or F.

The course is examined through written assignments and seminar assignments.

The grade A is the highest grade and the grade E is the lowest grade for passing the course. The grade F means that the student's performance is assessed as failed. For students who do not pass the first examinations, retake examinations are provided in accordance with local regulations at the university.

Course Evaluation

At the end of the course, a course evaluation is conducted. Results and analysis of the course evaluation are communicated to the students who have taken the course and the students who are taking the course when it is offered the next time. The evaluation is anonymous. The course evaluation is filed according to departmental regulations.

Other

Assessment criteria for the A–F scale are communicated to the students in a separate document. The students are informed about the assessment criteria when the course starts, at the latest.

Required Reading and Additional Study Material

Cateforis, Theo. (ed) *The rock history reader*, New York: Routledge, 396 p. The latest edition.

Covach, John. *What's that sound?: an introduction to rock and its history*, New York: W.W. Norton & Co, 640 p. The latest edition.

Additional Study Material

Buskin, Richard. *Classic Tracks: The Real Stories Behind 68 Seminal Recordings*. Sample Magic. 419 p. The latest edition.

Myers, Marc. *Anatomy of a Song*. Grove Press / Atlantic Monthly Press. 336 p. The latest edition.

Owsinski, Bobby. *Deconstructed Hits – Classic Rock, Vol 1: Uncover the Stories & Techniques Behind 20 Iconic Songs*. Alfred Music. 148 p. The latest edition.

Owsinski, Bobby. *Deconstructed Hits – Modern Pop & HipHop: Uncover the Stories & Techniques Behind 20 Iconic Songs*. Alfred Music. 128 p. The latest edition.