

# **Revised General Education Course Proposal**

## **MUS 2557G THE EVOLUTION OF JAZZ AND ROCK**

### **1. Catalog Description**

**MUS 2557G. The Evolution of Jazz & Rock. (3-0-3), F, S. JAZZ AND ROCK.** Music appreciation for the general student--listening and responding to music in its cultural context. Significant contributors to the development of Jazz and Rock are presented and landmark recordings are heard and discussed. Prerequisites: None. Open to music majors for elective credit only. This course is writing-active.

### **2. Objectives of the Course**

#### a) General Education Objectives

In successfully completing this course, the student will:

- 1) Learn to communicate musical values through appropriate vocabulary.
- 2) Place these uniquely American art forms into their proper historical, social, religious, and philosophical contexts.
- 3) Understand how popular music has and continues to shape popular culture.
- 4) Increase knowledge of the aesthetic values that are intrinsic to popular music.

#### b) Specific Course Objectives

In successfully completing this course, the student will:

- 1) Apply the normative terminology to describe Jazz and Rock music.
- 2) Make connections with other forms of Western and non-Western music.
- 3) Learn basic skills necessary to interpret and evaluate music in other contexts.

### **3. Outline of the Course**

This course will meet for 15 weeks of 45 fifty-minute class periods.

- Week 1: Music Fundamentals, Listening Skills
- Week 2: Formal Structures in Jazz and Instrument Roles
- Week 3: Influences on Jazz: Ragtime and Blues
- Week 4: The Beginning in New Orleans
- Week 5: Early Swing: Ellington & Basie
- Week 6: Bebop: A Revolution
- Week 7: Birth of the Cool: Miles Davis, John Coltrane
- Week 8: Rhythm and Blues; The Roots of Rock
- Week 9: Early Rock & Roll

Week 10: Post R & R Period: Surf, Teen Idols, Girl Groups  
Week 11: The Beatles & the British Invasion  
Week 12: Bob Dylan & Folk Rock; San Francisco  
Week 13: Motown; Jazz-Rock & Art Rock  
Week 14: Heavy Metal Prototypes, Acid Rock  
Week 15: Influences of the 1970's

#### 4. Evaluation of Student Learning

a) **4 Exams 90%**

Twelve percent of each exam will be devoted to listening skills. Students will be required to identify musical features that are distinctive of Jazz and Rock music. The first three exams will include essay questions.

**Weekly in-class response papers 10%**

b) This course is writing-active based on the amount of writing on the first three exams and the weekly in-class response papers.

#### 5. Rationale

a) **Purpose and Need**

MUS 2557G will be in the Fine Arts segment of the General Education program. Ideally, listening to music should be a critical experience that involves both an aesthetic appreciation of a musical work and the knowledge to make sound judgments about its cultural worth. In Jazz & Rock, the student will encounter an important body of American music and become aware of the criteria by which popular music is judged and appreciated. Course material is presented in its appropriate historical context and provides the mechanics for students to participate in critical evaluation through writing or conversing about music. In this way, this course provides an appreciation for the fine arts and links the past with the present by a study of changes in the methods of artistic expression. Further, the variety of musical expression, as represented by the variety of musical styles offered in this course, will not only deepen students' appreciation of these musical traditions, but also provide insights into the many different ways that music is encountered in the modern world.

b) **Justification of the level of the course:**

This course is designed for the general student at all grade levels; thus, it is offered at a lower division number. There are no prerequisites.

c) **Similarity to Existing Courses:** This course does not duplicate any existing courses.

d) **Requirement or Elective:** This course partially fulfills the lower division requirements for the music concentration and music minor. It is open to music majors for elective credit only.

#### 6. Implementation:

a) **Faculty to whom this course may be assigned:**

Sam Fagaly, Allan Horney, Parker Melvin

**b) Text and Supplementary Materials to be used:**

Coker, Jerry. *Listening to Jazz*. Englewood Cliffs, NJ: Prentice-Hall, 1978.

Gridley, Mark. *Jazz Styles*, 7th ed. Englewood Cliffs, NJ: Prentice-Hall, 2000.

Stuessy, Joe. *Rock & Roll: History and Stylistic Development*. Englewood Cliffs, NJ: Prentice-Hall, 1998.

Compact discs, cassette tapes, and videotapes on reserve at SMC of Booth Library.

**c) Additional costs to students:** None

**d) Term in which course will first be offered:** Fall 2000

7. **Community College Transfer:** A community college course may be judged as equivalent to this course.

8. **Date approved by the Department:** April 13, 2000

9. **Date approved by the College Curriculum Committee:**

10. **Date approved by CAA:**

**Department Contact:** Dr. Roger Stoner

**Campus phone:** 3010