

# Course Syllabus

## **Music 162A: American Popular Song**

Spring 2023

**Instructor:** James Morford

**Email:** morforjb@uw.edu

**Office hour:** By appointment via Zoom

**Teaching Assistant:** Julia Aguilar Jerez

**Email:** juliaaj@uw.edu

**Office Hours:** By appointment via Zoom

## **MUSIC 162 BA**

**Instructor:** Emily Silks (they/them/theirs)

**Email:** esilks@uw.edu

**Class time:** Mondays 12:30-1:20pm in Music Bldg. Rm. 216

**Office Hours:** By appointment via Zoom

## **MUSIC 162 BB**

**Instructor:** Maria Price (she/her/hers)

**Email:** maprice@uw.edu

**Class time:** Tuesdays 1:30-2:20pm in Music Bldg. Rm. 216

**Office Hours:** By appointment via Zoom

### **Email Policy**

Email will be our primary mode of communication throughout the quarter. You will receive email reminders for course assignments, review sessions and exams on a regular basis. We also encourage you to be in touch with us over email if you have any questions about the course material. These guidelines will help streamline our communication.

Every time you write an email for this class, please make sure to take these simple steps (and we will do the same!):

- Email us from your UW email account, NOT from a personal (non-UW) email account and NOT the Canvas messaging system. Messages from personal accounts are often lost to Spam folders. Canvas messages are often delayed, so especially if your email is urgent, we may not receive it for a while. Also, Canvas does not group messages into a single thread, so it is very difficult for us to keep track of our conversations with students
- Use your UW email. If you email us from a non-UW email address, there is a chance your message might be sent to our Spam folders.
- Sign your name, and let us know how your name appears on Canvas if you need us to look up something that uses your name.
- Do not use Canvas to make comments about an assignment or ask about your grade. It will get lost in the shuffle! Email us directly to discuss assignments and grading.
- Include a relevant subject line (“Question about Week 2 assignments” etc.)
- Use a salutation. “Hello Professor”, “Hi Dr. Morford”, or “Dear James” is sufficient. The TAs are fine with being addressed by their first names.
- Ensure your email is polite and contains few grammatical and spelling errors

- **Please email only one of your instructors at a time.** Sending emails to multiple recipients may mean the response is delayed because we will each assume that the other person has already responded! If we think another instructor can answer your question better, we will forward it to them.
- **Allow at least 24 hours for a response before reaching out again (note: this applies during business hours, not nights and weekends. If you send us an email at 4pm on a Friday, please wait until 4pm on Monday before following up).**
- **MOST IMPORTANTLY:** Prior to writing an e-mail, **please review all course materials** to see if your question is already answered on the website, syllabus, or in previous e-mails. (We will not answer emails that ask questions like “When is the exam?” but if something is unclear, please do email one of us for clarification.)

Here is a guide for which instructor to email if you have a specific question. General inquiries that don't fall into these categories can be sent to any instructor (one at a time only, please)

- **James** - email about grading/assignments for students in the A section with last names Liu through Vakharia
- **Julia** - email about Canvas site issues and troubleshooting, grading/assignments for students in the A section with last names Aaron through Jain
- **Emily** - email about DRS accommodations, grading/assignments for all students in BA section and students in the A section with last names Jawili through Liou
- **Maria** - email about Pearson textbook access and issues, grading/assignments for all students in BB section and students in the A section with last names Valderrabano through Zu

### **Course Description**

Welcome to Music 162: American Popular Song! The purpose of this online survey course is to familiarize you with the history and sounds of ‘American’ popular song, with a focus on the United States. The course will emphasize the period starting from the early twentieth century until the present day.

You will develop listening skills to enhance your appreciation and understanding of all music, not just popular music. These skills will enable you to become a more sophisticated and critical listener to—and a more savvy consumer of—popular music. Equally important are the insights into U.S. American history, culture, and society that will emerge from this survey.

There are no specific prerequisites for this course, and you do not need previous musical training to learn how to listen critically to music or to understand basic elements of musical form and style.

## Important Dates

### **Introduction session**

Monday, March 27, 3:00-4:00 PM

This **Zoom session** is designed to give an overview of the course, give some examples of the listening skills you will be developing across the quarter, and allow interested students the opportunity to ask questions. You will need to sign into the meeting with your UW NetID. **The session will be recorded for students to view if they are unable to attend**; however, we will not start recording right away to give students the ability to anonymize themselves if they wish.

### **Exams**

Exams will be available on our Canvas website for a 48-hour period, and you will have a set time to complete each exam. **Please take a moment to mark these times in your calendar so you can plan blocks of time where you can take your exams without disruption. Exams will not be reopened for any reason! Once you begin your exam, you must complete it in the time allotted.**

The exams are open book, meaning that you can use your textbook, your notes, the listening notes and other course materials to help you answer questions. That said, to do well on the exams you will still need to study regularly, with special attention to regular listening.

### **Midterm 1**

Covers Units 1-3

Available between 12:00 AM on Tuesday, April 18 and 11:59 PM on Wednesday, April 19. You will have 50 minutes to complete the exam once started. A review guide will be posted online by Friday, April 14.

## **Midterm 2**

Covers Units 4-6

Available between 12:00 AM on Tuesday, May 9, and 11:59 PM on Wednesday, May 10. You will have 50 minutes to complete the exam once started. A review guide will be posted online by Friday, May 5.

## **Final Exam**

Covers Units 7-10.

Available between 12:00 AM on Tuesday, June 6, and 11:59 PM on Wednesday, June 7. You will have 90 minutes to complete the exam once started. A review guide will be posted online by Friday, June 2.

Note: While **the final exam is not cumulative**, we strongly recommend you review Unit 1 before the final since it contains many foundational terms and concepts.

## **Live Lectures and Zoom Study Sessions**

There will be approximately six live lectures (see the [HOME PAGE](#) schedule for dates/times) for this course in addition to your weekly Panopto lectures. Each live lecture may have an associated material accompanying it (a reading, a film, a podcast, etc.) It is **strongly** encouraged that you attend these live lectures so that you may participate and ask questions about the topics covered since they will likely be topics beyond the scope of your online textbook and the regular weekly Panopto lectures. However, these live lectures will also be recorded and made available on Canvas for those who are not able to attend live. **You WILL be tested on the material covered in these lectures and in the live lecture materials, so it is**

**crucial that you engage with them, live or asynchronously, BEFORE their associated exam.**

There will also be optional Zoom Review Sessions before each exam. These will occur from 3:00-3:50pm on Monday, April 17, Monday, May 8, and Friday, June 2. These review sessions are opportunities for you to get a quick review and to discuss questions or concerns with your instructors and peers. If you have specific concerns about assignments, exams, or grades, please schedule an appointment for office hours with one of the instructors to discuss these concerns individually. **These REVIEW sessions will not introduce any new material that you are responsible for on the exams; therefore they will NOT be recorded and made available on Canvas.** If you are unable to attend these sessions, please feel free to schedule an appointment during office hours, and we'd be happy to help you review or answer any questions you have.

### **Work load and the online format**

Music 162 has been administered online for several years now. The online course will thus require a greater degree of responsibility and independence from you than an “in-person” course. Keep in mind that the work for this course is roughly equivalent to 5 hours of class per week, with additional expectations of out-of-class-time reading, listening, viewing, and studying. Thus, while it is an introductory course, there is a significant expectation for the amount of independent work time.

This is a reading-intensive course—you can expect to be reading one to three chapters of your textbook each week, with occasional additional materials for live lectures and assignments--and also requires extensive listening each week. Simply reviewing material on the website will not suffice as a method to succeed on your exams. Please be in the habit of reading ALL e-mails from your instructors (delivered to your UW account once a week) and ALL assignments from your book. **This includes reading the entire syllabus.**

### **Instructor Support**

The online format offers few opportunities for us to support you in your individual learning process. We nonetheless aim to be consistent and reliable resources for you throughout the quarter. In addition to the weekly Zoom Review Sessions, **we will**

**offer office hours via Zoom, both at regularly scheduled times and by appointment (see instructor info on page 1).**

Please drop into any of our office hours or send one of us an email to set up an e-meeting if you have any questions about the course material. If at any point you notice that you are not absorbing the material or are not performing well on quizzes and exams, please talk to an instructor as soon as possible. It is not possible to modify a grade after you have already earned it, so we encourage you to be proactive about your success in this course.

### **Required Text and Materials**

Garofalo/Waksman *Rockin' Out: Popular Music in the U.S.A.*, Updated Sixth Edition (Boston: Pearson, 2017.)

Please note that your textbook is **available only as an eBook/digital access book**, unless you request a hard copy directly from the publisher. The textbook is available through the UW Bookstore here:

<https://www.ubookstore.com/Revel-T-A-Rockin-Out-6E-17> (Links to an external site.)

[Links to an external site.](#)

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After obtaining the code to rent or purchase the digital textbook, you will be able to redeem your code and access your textbook through the “Pearson Revel” tab on our Canvas site. **You will be required to create a free Pearson account to redeem your code and access the textbook.**

Also note that library copies, older editions, and used copies of the textbook that have been altered may not align with the most recent edition. **Online exams are open-book**, so having access to the current edition of the textbook is critical for your success in this course!

All other reading material and listening material will be available on Canvas or through the library. We will also be utilizing Spotify playlists for listening examples. Please note that while Spotify playlists do **require an account for access**, it is **FREE** to make an account. (Trust us, we share your distaste for having to create all these accounts, but at least they're free.) Spotify can be used on a computer or mobile device.

It is essential to use all of the many available resources to succeed in this course, both for enriching learning outcomes, and in order to earn a good grade in this course.

**(email questions related to text and materials access to TA Maria Price at [maprice@uw.edu](mailto:maprice@uw.edu))**

## **Course Tasks**

Tasks will include the following:

- Regularly **reading** the textbook and any additional assigned readings.
- Regularly **viewing** required weekly Panopto lectures for each unit (available on Canvas now) and three live lectures (all of which will also be recorded and made available on Canvas)
- Critically **listening** to the musical examples provided on the course website and Spotify. This requires listening multiple times to each song as you study and review the course material.
- Taking **four online quizzes** to self-monitor your progress in the course; these quizzes will be graded automatically.
- Completing **two introductory assignments**, including a “Getting to Know Each Other” discussion assignment and taking the AIA quiz (see below for details).
- Completing **three discussion-based assignments**, based on your responses to readings/videos from a list selected by your instructors (see below for details).
- Taking **three scheduled exams**. Combined, the exams account for almost 2/3 of your final grade.

Please note that with the exception of exams and the live lectures, **all tasks for the class are available at the start of the course on March 27 2023 at 8:00AM and thus may be completed at any time BEFORE their respective due dates.** Please plan accordingly.

## **Participation**

### **Introductory activities**

#### **Getting to Know Each Other Discussion Thread (5 points)**



During the first week of the course, you will be asked to upload a brief bio to the “Getting to Know Each Other” discussion thread and to add a picture to your Canvas profile. Since most of our interactions will be via the Canvas site, we ask you to take this opportunity to introduce yourselves to each other and your instructors to make our online interactions more personable.

Here are some examples of questions you **may choose** to answer in your profile for the discussion thread:

- What are you studying/what is your intended major?
- What is your favorite style(s) of pop music?
- Who is your favorite artist(s)?
- Why did you choose to take this class, and what do you hope to learn?

**A note about pictures:** Many students choose to put a picture of themselves, but others choose to use things like team logos or pictures of their pets. As long as it is not hateful or indecent, you may choose any picture that is personally meaningful to you. You can look at your instructors’ Canvas profiles as examples. See the “Getting to Know Each Other” discussion thread on Canvas for more details.

### **Academic Integrity Agreement (AIA) Quiz (5 points)**

During the first few days of the course, you will complete a short quiz on the “Academic Integrity Agreement” (AIA). The AIA (see below for the full text) is our way of making sure that we have clearly outlined what is expected of our students from the beginning of the quarter. You are encouraged to contact one of your instructors if you have any questions about the AIA or AIA quiz.

**Everyone should be able to get a perfect score on the AIA quiz:** it is open note and you are allowed to take the quiz up to 3 times if you do not get a perfect score on the first try. Please note: **this is the ONLY quiz in this course that you are able to take multiple times** if you did not get a perfect score on the first try; take advantage of this.

### **Assignments 1, 2, and 3 (10 points each, or 30 points total)**

As a part of this course, you will have to complete **three** discussion-based assignments. Assignment 1 concerns Units 1-3, Assignment 2 concerns Units 4-6, and Assignment 3 concerns Units 7-10. The assignments are designed to get you to

think about the material in ways that **go beyond the textbook**, and they encourage you to interact with your classmates directly.

**Assignment 1 is due Friday, April 14, by 11:59 PM**

**Assignment 2 is due Friday, May 5, by 11:59 PM**

**Assignment 3 is due Friday, June 2, by 11:59 PM**

## **Quizzes**

All four quizzes will be open at the start of the quarter and will close at 11:59 PM on their respective due dates. Please plan ahead to complete these quizzes by the date marked in your schedule as **these quizzes will not be reopened after the deadline for any reason**. Because of this, we recommend that you plan to take quizzes a couple of days ahead of time to avoid any technical difficulties or other obstacles that may arise.

Each quiz is multiple choice and open-book. As soon as you finish and save your quiz, you will be able to view your own answers and the correct ones. Use this valuable feature to help you prepare for the exams. Each quiz is worth 5 points, and you will have one attempt to complete and submit your quiz. Please note that the quizzes are meant mainly as reviews and self-checks for knowledge; thus, **they are un-timed**.

## **Exams**

There will be three exams (two midterms and one final) taken through our class Canvas website. These exams will enable you to demonstrate your understanding of basic musical concepts and of the historical development of American popular music; and to identify essential elements of musical style and form in listening examples (chosen from the course materials) presented in the exams. Exams are open-book and open-note, however, **you must take the exams on your own**. (It is easy for us to see which tests were taken together and if they contain the exact same answers. This rarely occurs unless cheating/collaboration is taking place.)

Each midterm will consist of 25 multiple-choice, true/false, or fill-in-the-blank questions (1 point each) while the final will consist of 40 multiple-choice, true/false,

or fill-in-the-blank questions (1 point each); the maximum score is 90 points total for **all three** exams.

### **Late Policy**

Because everything except exams is available now, late work will not be accepted. Barring cases of extreme hardship accompanied by direct contact from the student's academic advisor, deadlines for this class will not be extended.

If you find that you are struggling, please feel free to contact one of the instructors and discuss your situation with us. We would be happy to help you come up with a plan that works for you to help you be successful in this course.

### **Grading**

Your final grade will be an accumulation of points earned out of a total of 150 points. Grading is done on a percentage-based system. **We do not curve or round the grades, and extra credit will not be offered.** If you are not performing well on the quizzes and the exams, we encourage you to seek help from the instructors as soon as possible.

Note: all writing assignments must be submitted in English. Writing assignments submitted in other languages will earn zero points.

Final grades will be calculated based on the scale below:

Quizzes (4 quizzes, 5 points each) = 20 points

Getting to Know Each Other & AIA quiz, 5 points each = 10 points

3 Assignments, 10 points each = 30 points

Midterm 1 and Midterm 2 (25 points each) = 50 points

Final Exam = 40 points

**Total: 150 points**

## Grade Scale

We will calculate your grades based on the following grading scale. Fractions of a percent will **not** be rounded up.

Percent	4.0 scale	Percent	4.0 scale	Percent	4.0 scale	Percent	4.0 scale
$\geq 95$	4.0	85	3.0	75	2.0	65	1.0
94	3.9	84	2.9	74	1.9	64	0.9
93	3.8	83	2.8	73	1.8	63	0.8
92	3.7	82	2.7	72	1.7	60-62	0.7
91	3.6	81	2.6	71	1.6	$\leq 59$	0.0
90	3.5	80	2.5	70	1.5		
89	3.4	79	2.4	69	1.4		
88	3.3	78	2.3	68	1.3		
87	3.2	77	2.2	67	1.2		
86	3.1	76	2.1	66	1.1		

## **Academic Integrity**

The “Academic Integrity Agreement” (AIA) outlined below is intended to explain what is expected of students in the online American Popular Song (Music 162) course. As instructors in an online classroom, we do not get the chance to get to know our students in the same way we can in a “live” classroom setting. We place a large amount of trust in our students—especially that students are taking and submitting their own online quizzes, exams, and discussion board posts for assignments—and we want you to understand what we consider the standard code of conduct to be.

Please read the AIA below, and the “Frequently Asked Questions” that follow. During the first week of classes you will be asked to take a short quiz on the AIA, which will hopefully help to further clarify what it covers. Please email one of your instructors if you would like clarification or have any questions about this agreement.

### **Academic Integrity Agreement**

*As your instructors, we expect you to be responsible for the academic integrity of your work. This means that students agree to not give or receive unauthorized aid on exams, quizzes, or assignments for this course. You are also accountable for all that you say and write on the online discussion boards, including avoiding inflammatory or offensive remarks, and using proper citations when borrowing or quoting content from another source. All participants in this class are expected to follow these policies.*

### **AIA: Frequently Asked Questions**

*What does it mean to “give or receive unauthorized aid”?*

By this, we mean everything that would commonly be described as “cheating”. This includes (but is not limited to):

- Getting or sharing test answers with/from a friend
- Having someone else fill out and submit your online quizzes or exams

*What does NOT count as cheating?*

The following things are completely acceptable in this course (and, in fact, are encouraged!):

- Studying course material in a group setting, with friends or classmates
- Using your textbook or notes while taking an online quiz or exam
- Conversing about assignment topics with friends before or after submitting your discussion posts
- Looking up additional articles, YouTube videos, or musical examples that are not in the course materials.

*What happens if I violate any of the terms of this agreement?*

In that case, you may be:

- Reported to the appropriate office on campus for academic review
- Receive a zero for the assignment, midterm, or final exam
- Or other consequences, on a case-by-case basis.

Please contact one of your instructors if you have any questions about the Academic Integrity Agreement. We would be more than happy to discuss any questions or concerns either via email or in-person.

### **A Note about Remote Learning and COVID-19**

The constantly changing nature of the COVID-19 pandemic requires that we all do our best to be flexible and adaptable as new guidelines are outlined by UW, the Center for Disease Control, and local, state, and federal governments. Moreover, we understand that things are still uncertain and any of us could get sick at some point throughout the quarter. Thus, **clear communication will be especially key this quarter as we mediate the pandemic and our education.** We the instructors will do our best to communicate any changes to you as soon as possible, and we ask that you likewise keep us apprised of your own situations as they relate to the pandemic and your success in this course in advance of deadlines, to the best of your abilities.

### **Accommodations for Disabilities and Caregiving:**

If you require academic accommodations for any reason, please feel free to discuss your individual needs and concerns with us **as soon as possible**. In most cases of significant accommodations for (dis)ability and/or health concerns, we are unable to provide accommodations without the approval of Disability Resources for Students (DRS); therefore, if you have not yet contacted them, please do so at 206-543-8924, 011 Mary Gates Hall Box 352808, uwdrs@uw.edu, and/or visit disability.uw.edu for more information. If you already have a letter from DRS outlining your needs for accommodation, please make it available to us as soon as possible. (Language inspired by Christina Sunardi, 2018.)

Similarly, if you are a parent or a caregiver to a child/children and need additional flexibility, please feel free to let us know and discuss your individual needs and concerns.

## **Resources**

Life is not always easy, and this can affect your life as a student. If you are experiencing extreme stress, psychological problems, other problems that interfere with your life as a student please keep in mind that there are resources available to help you beyond myself as your instructor. For example, services and programs are available at:

- UW Health and Wellness -<http://depts.washington.edu/livewell/> ([Links to an external site.](#))([Links to an external site.](#))
- [Links to an external site.](#)
- 
- The Counseling Center -<http://www.washington.edu/counseling/> ([Links to an external site.](#))([Links to an external site.](#))
- [Links to an external site.](#)
- 
- SafeCampus -<http://www.washington.edu/safecampus/> ([Links to an external site.](#))([Links to an external site.](#))
- [Links to an external site.](#)
- - It is recommended that you save the SafeCampus number (206.685.7233) in your phones.
- Hall Health -<http://depts.washington.edu/hhpccweb/> ([Links to an external site.](#))([Links to an external site.](#))
- [Links to an external site.](#)
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- If you need to talk to someone, you may call the Crisis Pager for the Mental Health Clinic at Hall Health at 206-583-1551. Voice mail messages are received and responded to during business hours.
- RAINN National Sexual Assault 24/7 Hotline – 800-656-4673 (or 800-656-HOPE)

If you need help outside of business hours, you may also call the King County Crisis Line at 206-461- 3222 or 1-866-4-CRISIS. You may receive a machine, so please do not be surprised if you must leave a message. If you are in the middle of a life-threatening emergency, dial 911 (language courtesy of M.N. Suhanthie Motha, 2009 and Christina Sunardi, 2016, 2018).

### **Anti-Discrimination Statement:**

We seek to foster a diverse and positive learning environment based upon community responsibility, open communication, mutual respect, and non-discrimination. Our University does not discriminate on the basis of race, sex, age, ability, veteran status, religion, sexual orientation, color, or national origin. These and any other forms of discrimination will not be tolerated. Any suggestions as to how to further a positive and open environment in this class will be appreciated and given serious consideration within our community of learning. (Inspiration taken from the UW official diversity statement; some language courtesy of M. Vercelli, 2012.)

### **Guidance to Students Taking Courses Outside of the U.S.**

Faculty members at U.S. universities – including the University of Washington – have the right to academic freedom which includes presenting and exploring topics and content that other governments may consider to be illegal and, therefore, choose to censor. Examples may include topics and content involving religion, gender and sexuality, human rights, democracy and representative government, and historic events.

If, as a UW student, you are living outside of the United States while taking courses remotely, you are subject to the laws of your local jurisdiction. Local authorities may limit your access to course material and take punitive action towards you.

Unfortunately, the University of Washington has no authority over the laws in your jurisdictions or how local authorities enforce those laws.

If you are taking UW courses outside of the United States, you may have reason to exercise caution when enrolling in courses that cover topics and issues censored in



your jurisdiction. If you have concerns regarding a course or courses that you have registered for, please contact your academic advisor who will assist you in exploring options.

If you are taking the course from outside of the U.S. and encounter issues with access to any of the materials required for the course (including Spotify, the textbook, and the materials on the Canvas site), please contact one of your instructors as soon as possible to see what, if anything, can be done.

### **Religious Accommodations**

Washington state law requires that UW develop a policy for accommodation of student absences or significant hardship due to reasons of faith or conscience, or for organized religious activities. The UW's policy, including more information about how to request an accommodation, is available at Religious Accommodations Policy (<https://registrar.washington.edu/staffandfaculty/religious-accommodations-policy/>) ([Links to an external site.](#))

[Links to an external site.](#)

). Accommodations must be requested within the first two weeks of this course using the Religious Accommodations Request form (<https://registrar.washington.edu/students/religious-accommodations-request/>) ([Links to an external site.](#))

[Links to an external site.](#)

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### **Student Athletes**

Typically, student athletes are able to complete all online work for this course (including exams) even during travel. However, if you will need accommodation during the quarter, you must supply us with appropriate documentation within the first two weeks of the quarter. This will allow us to make any necessary arrangements. If you do not supply us with the appropriate paperwork during this time, we cannot guarantee that we can accommodate you.

