

## Liverpool John Moores University

Title: Analysing and Researching Popular Music  
Status: Definitive  
Code: **4012POP** (117884)  
Version Start Date: 01-08-2013

Owning School/Faculty: Liverpool School of Art & Design  
Teaching School/Faculty: Liverpool School of Art & Design

Team	Leader
Simone Krueger	Y
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**Academic Level:** FHEQ4      **Credit Value:** 24.00      **Total Delivered Hours:** 69.00  
**Total Learning Hours:** 240      **Private Study:** 171

### Delivery Options

Course typically offered: Standard Year Long

Component	Contact Hours
Workshop	69.000

**Grading Basis:** 40 %

### Assessment Details

Category	Short Description	Description	Weighting (%)	Exam Duration
Presentation	AS1		20.0	
Essay	AS2		30.0	
Reflection	AS3	Research Proposal	50.0	

### Aims

*To introduce students to various approaches to understand the social, cultural and political role played by popular music in society.*

*To introduce students to research strategies used in popular music studies, including practical, theoretical, methodological and ethical issues when completing research.*

## Learning Outcomes

After completing the module the student should be able to:

- 1 1. To explain popular music studies' methodology
- 2 2. To apply appropriate methods for analyzing popular music.
- 3 3. To discuss the usefulness of quantitative and/or qualitative research approaches for studying popular music.

## Learning Outcomes of Assessments

The assessment item list is assessed via the learning outcomes listed:

Presentation	1
Essay	2
Reflection	3

## Outline Syllabus

*Studying popular music as text: Content analysis; Semiotics; Genre study*  
*Studying music production: music industry; Globalisation; technology*  
*Studying audiences of popular music: media effects; music and taste; music and meaning.*  
*Quantitative versus qualitative research methods; literature review; Ethics; Proposal writing.*

## Learning Activities

Lectures, seminars, workshop discussions, problem-based learning.

## References

<b>Course Material</b>	Book
<b>Author</b>	Borthwick, S. and Moy, R.
<b>Publishing Year</b>	2004
<b>Title</b>	Popular Music Genres
<b>Subtitle</b>	An Introduction
<b>Edition</b>	
<b>Publisher</b>	Edinburgh University Press, Edinburgh
<b>ISBN</b>	

<b>Course Material</b>	Book
<b>Author</b>	Burton, G.
<b>Publishing Year</b>	2005
<b>Title</b>	Media and Society
<b>Subtitle</b>	Critical Perspectives

<b>Edition</b>	
<b>Publisher</b>	Open University Press, Berkshire
<b>ISBN</b>	

<b>Course Material</b>	Journal / Article
<b>Author</b>	Cloonan, M.
<b>Publishing Year</b>	2005
<b>Title</b>	What is Popular Music Studies? Some Observations
<b>Subtitle</b>	
<b>Edition</b>	
<b>Publisher</b>	British Journal of Music Education 22(1) pp. 77-93
<b>ISBN</b>	

<b>Course Material</b>	Book
<b>Author</b>	Creswell, J.W.
<b>Publishing Year</b>	2005
<b>Title</b>	Educational Research
<b>Subtitle</b>	Planning, Conducting and Evaluating Quantitative and Qualitative Research
<b>Edition</b>	
<b>Publisher</b>	Pearson Education, New Jersey
<b>ISBN</b>	

<b>Course Material</b>	Book
<b>Author</b>	Fiske, J.
<b>Publishing Year</b>	1989
<b>Title</b>	Understanding Popular Culture
<b>Subtitle</b>	
<b>Edition</b>	
<b>Publisher</b>	Unwin Hyman, London
<b>ISBN</b>	

<b>Course Material</b>	Journal / Article
<b>Author</b>	Horner, B. and Swiss, T.
<b>Publishing Year</b>	1999
<b>Title</b>	Key Terms in Popular Music and Culture
<b>Subtitle</b>	
<b>Edition</b>	
<b>Publisher</b>	Blackwell, Oxford [part. Kassabian 'Popular', pp. 112-23]
<b>ISBN</b>	

<b>Course Material</b>	Book
<b>Author</b>	Kruger, S.
<b>Publishing Year</b>	2008
<b>Title</b>	Ethnology in the Performing Arts
<b>Subtitle</b>	A Student Guide
<b>Edition</b>	

<b>Publisher</b>	Palatine, Lancaster
<b>ISBN</b>	

<b>Course Material</b>	Book
<b>Author</b>	LeCompte, M.D. and Schensul, J.J. (eds)
<b>Publishing Year</b>	1999
<b>Title</b>	Ethnographer's Toolkit, 7 Volumes
<b>Subtitle</b>	
<b>Edition</b>	
<b>Publisher</b>	Altamira Press, Oxford
<b>ISBN</b>	

<b>Course Material</b>	Book
<b>Author</b>	Middleton, R.
<b>Publishing Year</b>	1990
<b>Title</b>	Studying Popular Music
<b>Subtitle</b>	
<b>Edition</b>	
<b>Publisher</b>	Open University Press, Buckingham
<b>ISBN</b>	

<b>Course Material</b>	Book
<b>Author</b>	Negus, K.
<b>Publishing Year</b>	1996
<b>Title</b>	Popular Music in Theory
<b>Subtitle</b>	An Introduction
<b>Edition</b>	
<b>Publisher</b>	Polity Press, Cambridge
<b>ISBN</b>	

<b>Course Material</b>	Book
<b>Author</b>	Sampsel, L.J.
<b>Publishing Year</b>	2008
<b>Title</b>	Music Research
<b>Subtitle</b>	A Handbook
<b>Edition</b>	
<b>Publisher</b>	Open University Press, Berkshire
<b>ISBN</b>	

<b>Course Material</b>	Book
<b>Author</b>	Shuker, R.
<b>Publishing Year</b>	2001
<b>Title</b>	Understanding Popular Music
<b>Subtitle</b>	
<b>Edition</b>	2nd
<b>Publisher</b>	Routledge, London
<b>ISBN</b>	

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<b>Course Material</b>	Book
<b>Author</b>	Stokes, J.
<b>Publishing Year</b>	2003
<b>Title</b>	How to do Media and Cultural Studies
<b>Subtitle</b>	
<b>Edition</b>	
<b>Publisher</b>	Sage, London
<b>ISBN</b>	

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## Notes

This module provides a solid foundation to the popular music studies degree by introducing students to various approaches to understand the social, cultural and political role played by popular music in society, including research strategies used in popular music studies. It will explore studying popular music as text, the music institutions and audiences. Students will be introduced to the process of research, learning about the basic characteristics of quantitative and qualitative research together with the procedures for implementing the two approaches at each step of the research process.