

Liverpool John Moores University

Title: Cultural Themes and Aesthetics
Status: Definitive
Code: **5010POP** (117889)
Version Start Date: 01-08-2013

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

Team	Leader
Ron Moy	Y
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Academic Level: FHEQ5 **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
Essay	AS1		25.0	
Essay	AS2		25.0	
Essay	AS3		50.0	

Aims

1. To explore specific cultural themes using the critical reference of popular music case studies
2. To investigate the critical field of popular music aesthetics via an exploration of the work of key theorists

Learning Outcomes

After completing the module the student should be able to:

- 1 1) Analyse popular music recordings with reference to specific critical themes and cultural issues.
- 2 2) Apply the work of a popular music theorist within an aesthetic analysis of musical texts.
- 3 3) Articulate in written form an aesthetic and cultural theme within an analysis of an individual piece of music.

Learning Outcomes of Assessments

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

Essay	1
Essay	2
Essay	3

Outline Syllabus

Part One: sessions relating musical case studies to cultural themes such as protest and politics, postmodernism, globalization & hegemony and gender and sexuality.
Part Two: sessions exploring the aesthetics of areas such as authorship, standardization, affect, high and low culture, production and mix, grain of the voice and virtuosity.

Learning Activities

Lectures, screenings, listening sessions, workshop discussions, formative group planning and presentations.

References

Course Material	Book
Author	Altman, R. et al
Publishing Year	1992
Title	Sound Theory, Sound Practice
Subtitle	
Edition	
Publisher	Routledge, London
ISBN	

Course Material	Book
Author	Barthes, R.
Publishing Year	1973

Title	The Grain of the Voice
Subtitle	
Edition	
Publisher	Paladin,
ISBN	

Course Material	Book
Author	Berger, A.
Publishing Year	2003
Title	The Portable Postmodernist
Subtitle	
Edition	
Publisher	Alta Mira, California
ISBN	

Course Material	Book
Author	Cunningham, M.
Publishing Year	1996
Title	Good Vibrations
Subtitle	
Edition	
Publisher	Castle, Chessington
ISBN	

Course Material	Book
Author	Frith, S.
Publishing Year	1996
Title	Performing Rites
Subtitle	On the Value of Popular Music
Edition	
Publisher	Oxford University Press, Oxford
ISBN	

Course Material	Book
Author	Peddie, I. (ed)
Publishing Year	2006
Title	The Resisting Muse
Subtitle	Popular Music and Social Protest
Edition	
Publisher	Ashgate, Aldershot
ISBN	

Course Material	Book
Author	Wyn Jones, C.
Publishing Year	2008
Title	The Rock Cannon
Subtitle	

Edition	
Publisher	Ashgate, Aldershot
ISBN	

Notes

This module involves both the cultural and musical analysis of texts. It investigates key concepts such as hegemony, mythology, globalization and postmodernism. The second half of the module analyses lyrical, vocal, production and instrumental components within texts and performances. Exploration of the work of some key theorists is also undertaken and applied to aesthetics.