

Liverpool John Moores University

Title: POPULAR MUSIC THEORY AND RESEARCH
Status: Definitive
Code: **5504MPSH** (116114)
Version Start Date: 01-08-2011

Owning School/Faculty: Liverpool School of Art & Design
Teaching School/Faculty: St Helens College

| Team | Leader |
|------------------|--------|
| Stuart Borthwick | Y |

Academic Level: FHEQ5
Credit Value: 24.00
Total Delivered Hours: 84.00
Total Learning Hours: 240
Private Study: 156

Delivery Options

Course typically offered: Standard Year Long

| Component | Contact Hours |
|-----------|---------------|
| Lecture | 48.000 |
| Seminar | 28.000 |
| Tutorial | 8.000 |

Grading Basis: 40 %

Assessment Details

| Category | Short Description | Description | Weighting (%) | Exam Duration |
|--------------|-------------------|------------------------------|---------------|---------------|
| Essay | AS1 | An essay of 2000 words | 20.0 | |
| Report | AS2 | Research proposal 1000 words | 10.0 | |
| Dissertation | AS4 | Dissertation 5000 words | 50.0 | |
| Presentation | AS3 | Research presentation | 20.0 | |

Aims

To explore key concepts in Popular Music Studies, which will provide a theoretical overview to inform research for the dissertation element of the Module. The Module will also provide basic research training in terms of methodology and presenting research findings in a suitable academic format.

Learning Outcomes

After completing the module the student should be able to:

- 1 Explore a popular music studies topic using an appropriate theoretical perspective. B9
- 2 Plan and undertake academic research. B8
- 3 Write an extended academic essay/dissertation. B10
- 4 Self manage independent learning and performance. D4
- 5 Work autonomously and accurately to set deadlines. D5

Learning Outcomes of Assessments

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

| | | | | | |
|-----------------------|---|---|---|---|--|
| 2000 words | 1 | | | | |
| 1000 words | 2 | | | | |
| 5000 words | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | |
| Research Presentation | 5 | | | | |

Outline Syllabus

Introduction to Popular Music Studies (one semester, to include: gender, fan culture, race, critical theory, politics, globalization, texts and meaning, music scenes, technology

Research techniques/methodology

Dissertation structure

Academic writing

Development of research skills

Academic referencing and avoiding plagiarism

Learning Activities

Lectures, seminars, video-presentations, and academic tutorials.

References

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|------------------------|-----------------|
| Course Material | Book |
| Author | Adorno, T. |
| Publishing Year | 2002 |
| Title | Essays on Music |
| Subtitle | |

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|------------------|--|
| Edition | |
| Publisher | London: University of California Press |
| ISBN | |

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|------------------------|----------------------|
| Course Material | Book |
| Author | Adorno, T. |
| Publishing Year | 2001 |
| Title | The Culture Industry |
| Subtitle | |
| Edition | |
| Publisher | Oxford: Routledge |
| ISBN | |

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|------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Course Material | Book |
| Author | Bennet, A. |
| Publishing Year | 2001 |
| Title | Cultures of Popular Music |
| Subtitle | |
| Edition | |
| Publisher | Maidenhead: Open University Press |
| ISBN | |

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|------------------------|---|
| Course Material | Book |
| Author | Braun, H. |
| Publishing Year | 2002 |
| Title | Music and Technology in the Twentieth Century |
| Subtitle | |
| Edition | |
| Publisher | Baltimore: John Hopkins University Press |
| ISBN | |

| | |
|------------------------|---------------------------|
| Course Material | Book |
| Author | Cohen, S. |
| Publishing Year | 1991 |
| Title | Rock Culture in Liverpool |
| Subtitle | |
| Edition | |
| Publisher | Oxford: Clarendon Press |
| ISBN | |

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|------------------------|---|
| Course Material | Book |
| Author | Frith, S. |
| Publishing Year | 2001 |
| Title | The Cambridge Companion to Pop and Rock |
| Subtitle | |
| Edition | |
| Publisher | Cambridge: Cambridge University Press |

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|-------------|--|
| ISBN | |
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|------------------------|--------------------------|
| Course Material | Book |
| Author | Frith, S. |
| Publishing Year | 1990 |
| Title | On Record |
| Subtitle | Pop and the Written Word |
| Edition | |
| Publisher | Oxford: Routledge |
| ISBN | |

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|------------------------|--|
| Course Material | Book |
| Author | Horner, B. & Swiss, T. |
| Publishing Year | 1999 |
| Title | Key Terms in Popular Music and Culture |
| Subtitle | |
| Edition | |
| Publisher | Oxford: Blackwell |
| ISBN | |

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|------------------------|--|
| Course Material | Book |
| Author | Katz, M. |
| Publishing Year | 2004 |
| Title | Capturing Sound |
| Subtitle | How Technology has Changed Music |
| Edition | |
| Publisher | Berkeley: University of California Press |
| ISBN | |

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|------------------------|------------------------------|
| Course Material | Book |
| Author | Leonard, M. |
| Publishing Year | 2007 |
| Title | Gender in the Music Industry |
| Subtitle | |
| Edition | |
| Publisher | Farnham: Ashgate |
| ISBN | |

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|------------------------|---------------------------|
| Course Material | Book |
| Author | Longhurst, B. |
| Publishing Year | 2009 |
| Title | Popular Music and Society |
| Subtitle | |
| Edition | |
| Publisher | Cambridge: Polity Press |
| ISBN | |

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|------------------------|-------------------------|
| Course Material | Book |
| Author | Negus, K. |
| Publishing Year | 1996 |
| Title | Popular Music in Theory |
| Subtitle | |
| Edition | |
| Publisher | Cambridge: Polity Press |
| ISBN | |

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|------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Course Material | Book |
| Author | Shuker, R. |
| Publishing Year | 2008 |
| Title | Understanding Popular Music Culture |
| Subtitle | |
| Edition | |
| Publisher | Oxford: Routledge |
| ISBN | |

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|------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Course Material | Book |
| Author | Wall, T. |
| Publishing Year | 2003 |
| Title | Studying Popular Music Culture |
| Subtitle | |
| Edition | |
| Publisher | London: Hodder Arnold |
| ISBN | |

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|------------------------|---------------------------|
| Course Material | Book |
| Author | Warner, T. |
| Publishing Year | 2003 |
| Title | Pop Music |
| Subtitle | Technology and Creativity |
| Edition | |
| Publisher | Farnham: Ashgate |
| ISBN | |

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|------------------------|-------------------|
| Course Material | Book |
| Author | Whiteley, S. |
| Publishing Year | 1997 |
| Title | Sexing the Groove |
| Subtitle | |
| Edition | |
| Publisher | Oxford: Routledge |
| ISBN | |

Notes

The first semester of the Module will introduce key aspects of popular music theory that will inform the research project in the second semester. The second semester of the Module will focus on preparing the students with the skills and confidence to undertake academic research in a topic of their own choosing. This includes negotiating the topic choice with their tutor, writing a research proposal, undertaking research and presenting their findings to their class in a presentation. The Module also provides the opportunity for students to develop their writing skills in an extended academic essay.