



MUS 100

Experiencing Popular Music

S1 Day 2018

Department of Media, Music, Communication and Cultural Studies

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General Information

Unit convenor and teaching staff

Lecturer and Tutor

Adrian Renzo

adrian.renzo@mq.edu.au

Y3A-155

Please see iLearn

Credit points

3

Prerequisites

Corequisites

Co-badged status

Unit description

This unit addresses the functions and roles of contemporary popular music. No previous musical training or knowledge is required. The unit introduces the basic principles and elements of music (such as rhythm, melody, and song structure) as well as exploring production techniques specific to popular music. A key focus is on the development of critical listening skills. The unit establishes academic frameworks by which to examine contemporary music, and considers the role of production and the operations of the contemporary music industries.

Important Academic Dates

Information about important academic dates including deadlines for withdrawing from units are available at <https://www.mq.edu.au/study/calendar-of-dates>

Learning Outcomes

On successful completion of this unit, you will be able to:

Describe the social and cultural influences that affect the production and reception of popular music.

Analyse the basic sonic elements of music within popular music recordings.

Explain how popular music functions in various contexts.

Summarise key research approaches in popular music studies.

Assessment Tasks

Name	Weighting	Hurdle	Due
Listening Tasks	30%	No	Weeks 4 and 6
Class Tests	30%	No	Weeks 5 and 9
Essay	40%	No	Weeks 7, 10 and 11

Listening Tasks

Due: **Weeks 4 and 6**

Weighting: **30%**

Assessment Outline

In Weeks 4 and 6 you will be given a series of listening tasks in class. These tasks require you to analyse popular music recordings according to the terms introduced in MUS100. All the information you need to complete these tasks is provided on iLearn and in lectures - you do not need to be a trained musician to complete the tasks.

Requirements

Listening tasks will be distributed and collected during tutorials. You will need to attend the tutorial in which you are officially enrolled.

Assessment Criteria and Standards

Marks will be awarded according to the number of questions answered correctly. For a full assessment rubric, please refer to iLearn.

Submission Instructions

Listening Tasks will be distributed at the start of tutorials in Weeks 4 and 6 and will be collected in class. There will be no opportunity to complete these tasks online.

Example Tasks

Examples of Listening Tasks will be available on iLearn, along with answer sheets. You can check your progress in this unit by completing the practice tasks and checking the answers during the first two weeks of the session.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Analyse the basic sonic elements of music within popular music recordings.

Class Tests

Due: **Weeks 5 and 9**

Weighting: **30%**

Assessment Outline

This assessment consists of two closed-book, in-class tests. Each test consists of multiple-choice questions based on the lecture content. The Week 5 test may be based on any material from Weeks 1-5. The Week 9 test may be based on any material from Weeks 5-9.

Requirements

Class Tests will be administered during tutorials. You will need to attend the tutorial in which you are officially enrolled.

Assessment Criteria and Standards

Marks will be awarded according to the number of questions answered correctly. For a full assessment rubric, please refer to iLearn.

Submission Instructions

Class Tests will be distributed at the start of tutorials in Weeks 5 and 9. Each test will last between 10 and 20 minutes and will consist of multiple-choice questions only. All Class Tests will be collected in class. There will be no opportunity to complete the tests online.

Example Tasks

Examples of multiple-choice questions will be displayed during lectures.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Describe the social and cultural influences that affect the production and reception of popular music.
- Explain how popular music functions in various contexts.

Essay

Due: **Weeks 7, 10 and 11**

Weighting: **40%**

Assessment Outline

The essay must address one of the topics in the Essay Guide, available on iLearn. The essay must demonstrate engagement with the content of MUS100.

Requirements

- Essays must be 1700 words (plus or minus 100 words, including all in-text references, not including reference list).
- Essays must address one of the set topics available in the Essay Guide available on iLearn.
- Essays must include a minimum of six (6) scholarly sources.
- Essays must follow the Harvard referencing system shown on iLearn.

Submission Instructions

In **Week 7**, you will submit:

- a thesis statement (that is, a summary of your main argument in one or two sentences)
- a sample paragraph from your essay (this may be from any part of the essay - for example, the introductory paragraph, a body paragraph, etc).

This material is due on Turnitin/iLearn by **5pm Tuesday 10 April**. You will be given individual feedback on your work and are advised to incorporate any suggestions in your essay. Please note: due to resource constraints, we are only able to provide feedback on one submission. (It is fine for you to change topics after Week 7, but remember that we can only provide feedback on your first submission.) If you have additional questions, please make use of the consultation times.

In **Week 10** you will need to submit a full hard copy version of the essay in the first 15 minutes of your tutorial for peer review. The version you bring to class must be complete (including all references and reference list). Dot-point plans and incomplete essay fragments will not count towards your mark.

In **Week 11** you will submit the final version of your essay on Turnitin/iLearn (due **5pm Tuesday 22 May**). For a guide to using Turnitin, please visit: https://www.mq.edu.au/iLearn/student_info/assignments.htm.

Assessment Criteria and Standards

Essays will be assessed according to the following criteria:

- Argument and evidence.
- Research and referencing.
- Effectiveness of structure.
- Level of written expression.
- Level of peer-review contribution.

For a full assessment rubric, please refer to iLearn.

You may be asked to meet with Adrian Renzo for a viva voce, to elaborate on your research process.

Example Tasks

Extracts from previously submitted essays will be discussed in iLearn videos. In addition, you will be able to read other students' essays in full during the peer-review session in Week 10 tutorials.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Describe the social and cultural influences that affect the production and reception of popular music.
- Analyse the basic sonic elements of music within popular music recordings.

- Explain how popular music functions in various contexts.
- Summarise key research approaches in popular music studies.

Delivery and Resources

Delivery Mode

Day (Internal).

Class Times

All lecture and tutorial times, as well as classrooms, are available on the MQ Timetables website: timetables.mq.edu.au

Lectures and tutorials for this unit begin in Week 1.

Required Readings

Required readings will be listed on iLearn. Required readings will be available through the library's MultiSearch function.

Technologies Used and Required

The assignments in this unit require word-processing skills and access to a web browser. Students will be expected to submit written material in class, and should therefore be equipped with writing materials at all times. A laptop, tablet, or smartphone will be needed in Weeks 4 and 6.

Unit Schedule

Topic schedule and additional materials will be available on iLearn.

Lectures and tutorials for this unit begin in Week 1.

Late Submissions and Special Consideration

Please see the section below: "Extensions and Late Submissions."

Policies and Procedures

Macquarie University policies and procedures are accessible from [Policy Central \(https://staff.mq.edu.au/work/strategy-planning-and-governance/university-policies-and-procedures/policy-central\)](https://staff.mq.edu.au/work/strategy-planning-and-governance/university-policies-and-procedures/policy-central). Students should be aware of the following policies in particular with regard to Learning and Teaching:

- [Academic Appeals Policy](#)
- [Academic Integrity Policy](#)
- [Academic Progression Policy](#)
- [Assessment Policy](#)
- [Fitness to Practice Procedure](#)
- [Grade Appeal Policy](#)
- [Complaint Management Procedure for Students and Members of the Public](#)

- [Special Consideration Policy](#) (**Note:** The Special Consideration Policy is effective from 4 December 2017 and replaces the Disruption to Studies Policy.)

Undergraduate students seeking more policy resources can visit the [Student Policy Gateway](https://students.mq.edu.au/support/study/student-policy-gateway) (<https://students.mq.edu.au/support/study/student-policy-gateway>). It is your one-stop-shop for the key policies you need to know about throughout your undergraduate student journey.

If you would like to see all the policies relevant to Learning and Teaching visit [Policy Central](http://staff.mq.edu.au/work/strategy-planning-and-governance/university-policies-and-procedures/policy-central) (<http://staff.mq.edu.au/work/strategy-planning-and-governance/university-policies-and-procedures/policy-central>).

Student Code of Conduct

Macquarie University students have a responsibility to be familiar with the Student Code of Conduct: <https://students.mq.edu.au/study/getting-started/student-conduct>

Results

Results shown in *iLearn*, or released directly by your Unit Convenor, are not confirmed as they are subject to final approval by the University. Once approved, final results will be sent to your student email address and will be made available in [eStudent](#). For more information visit ask.mq.edu.au.

Additional Information

MMCCS website: https://www.mq.edu.au/about_us/faculties_and_departments/faculty_of_arts/departments_of_media_music_communication_and_cultural_studies/

MMCCS Session Re-mark Application: <http://www.mq.edu.au/pubstatic/public/download/?id=167914>

Information is correct at the time of publication.

Student Support

Macquarie University provides a range of support services for students. For details, visit <http://students.mq.edu.au/support/>

Learning Skills

Learning Skills (mq.edu.au/learningskills) provides academic writing resources and study strategies to improve your marks and take control of your study.

- [Workshops](#)
- [StudyWise](#)
- [Academic Integrity Module for Students](#)
- [Ask a Learning Adviser](#)

Student Services and Support

Students with a disability are encouraged to contact the [Disability Service](#) who can provide appropriate help with any issues that arise during their studies.

Student Enquiries

For all student enquiries, visit Student Connect at ask.mq.edu.au

IT Help

For help with University computer systems and technology, visit http://www.mq.edu.au/about_us/offices_and_units/information_technology/help/.

When using the University's IT, you must adhere to the [Acceptable Use of IT Resources Policy](#). The policy applies to all who connect to the MQ network including students.

Graduate Capabilities

Creative and Innovative

Our graduates will also be capable of creative thinking and of creating knowledge. They will be imaginative and open to experience and capable of innovation at work and in the community. We want them to be engaged in applying their critical, creative thinking.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcome

- Analyse the basic sonic elements of music within popular music recordings.

Assessment tasks

- Listening Tasks
- Essay

Discipline Specific Knowledge and Skills

Our graduates will take with them the intellectual development, depth and breadth of knowledge, scholarly understanding, and specific subject content in their chosen fields to make them competent and confident in their subject or profession. They will be able to demonstrate, where relevant, professional technical competence and meet professional standards. They will be able to articulate the structure of knowledge of their discipline, be able to adapt discipline-specific knowledge to novel situations, and be able to contribute from their discipline to inter-disciplinary solutions to problems.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcomes

- Describe the social and cultural influences that affect the production and reception of popular music.
- Analyse the basic sonic elements of music within popular music recordings.
- Explain how popular music functions in various contexts.
- Summarise key research approaches in popular music studies.

Assessment tasks

- Listening Tasks
- Class Tests
- Essay

Critical, Analytical and Integrative Thinking

We want our graduates to be capable of reasoning, questioning and analysing, and to integrate and synthesise learning and knowledge from a range of sources and environments; to be able to critique constraints, assumptions and limitations; to be able to think independently and systemically in relation to scholarly activity, in the workplace, and in the world. We want them to have a level of scientific and information technology literacy.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcomes

- Describe the social and cultural influences that affect the production and reception of popular music.
- Analyse the basic sonic elements of music within popular music recordings.
- Explain how popular music functions in various contexts.
- Summarise key research approaches in popular music studies.

Assessment tasks

- Listening Tasks
- Class Tests
- Essay

Problem Solving and Research Capability

Our graduates should be capable of researching; of analysing, and interpreting and assessing data and information in various forms; of drawing connections across fields of knowledge; and they should be able to relate their knowledge to complex situations at work or in the world, in order to diagnose and solve problems. We want them to have the confidence to take the initiative in doing so, within an awareness of their own limitations.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcomes

- Analyse the basic sonic elements of music within popular music recordings.
- Explain how popular music functions in various contexts.
- Summarise key research approaches in popular music studies.

Assessment tasks

- Listening Tasks
- Class Tests
- Essay

Effective Communication

We want to develop in our students the ability to communicate and convey their views in forms effective with different audiences. We want our graduates to take with them the capability to read, listen, question, gather and evaluate information resources in a variety of formats, assess, write clearly, speak effectively, and to use visual communication and communication technologies as appropriate.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcomes

- Describe the social and cultural influences that affect the production and reception of popular music.
- Explain how popular music functions in various contexts.
- Summarise key research approaches in popular music studies.

Assessment tasks

- Class Tests
- Essay

Late Submissions

General Late Policy

Unless a Special Consideration request has been submitted and approved, (a) a penalty for lateness will apply – two (2) marks out of 100 will be deducted per day for assignments submitted after the due date – and (b) no assignment will be accepted more than seven (7) days (incl. weekends) after the original submission deadline. No late submissions will be accepted for timed assessments – e.g. quizzes, online tests.

Listening Tasks

If you experience serious and unavoidable disruption which prevents you from completing the Listening Tasks during class in Weeks 4 and 6, please apply for Special Consideration (<https://ask.mq.edu.au/kb.php?record=ce7c4e38-4f82-c4d7-95b1-4e2ee8fd075f>). Once your application has been approved, you will be advised how and when to submit your work. Unless a Special Consideration request has been submitted and approved, no late submissions will be accepted for Listening Tasks.

Class Tests

If you experience serious and unavoidable disruption which prevents you from completing the

Class Tests during tutorials in Weeks 5 and 9, please apply for Special Consideration (<https://ask.mq.edu.au/kb.php?record=ce7c4e38-4f82-c4d7-95b1-4e2ee8fd075f>). Once your application has been approved, you will be advised how and when to submit your work. Unless a Special Consideration request has been submitted and approved, no late submissions will be accepted for Class Tests.

Essay

Unless a Special Consideration request has been submitted and approved, (a) a penalty for lateness will apply – two (2) marks out of 100 will be deducted per day for assignments submitted after the due date – and (b) no assignment will be accepted more than seven (7) days (incl. weekends) after the original submission deadline.

If your Special Consideration application is declined, please contact the Unit Convenor (Adrian Renzo).