

MITCHELL COMMUNITY COLLEGE
Music 211/ Fall 2007

History of Country Music
Beverly Brown, Instructor

Prerequisites: None

Corequisites: None

Semester Hours Credit: 3

Catalog Description: This course introduces the varied origins of country music and the commercialism of this art form. Emphasis is placed on historical, sociocultural, and stylistic factors related to country music and musicians. Upon completion, students should be able to identify specific styles and explain the influence of pop culture on the development of country music. *This course has been approved to satisfy the Comprehensive Articulations Agreement general education core requirement in humanities/fine arts.*

Extended Description: Emphasis will be placed on enhancing the student's enjoyment of music rather than achieving a technical mastery. Through individual research, the student will explore different musical periods. Recognition of styles and specific pieces will be attained through classroom and individual listening exercises and class discussions.

Course Objectives: The student will:

Become familiar with the nature and historical origins of country music

Experience a live country concert

Identify specific stylistic periods and how they coincide with political and social history.

Explore the diversity of country music and explore the various styles as well as individual performers

Course Goals: Music is a broad topic, and most of us rarely experience types of music outside our own personal preferences or exposure. During this course, I plan to introduce you to a wide range of music in order to expose each of you to a world that is larger than your own bias.

Attendance: Required If you miss more than five consecutive class periods, I will notify the registrar that you have been dropped from the class.

Tardiness: Don't be late! Two tardies count as one absence. Many daily grades will be taken. If you are late you may miss the grade for that day. There are no make-ups for daily grades.

Required Texts: 1. In the Country of Country, A Journey to the Roots of American Music by Nicholas Dawidoff, Randomhouse

2. Country Music, U.S.A by Bill C. Malone, second revised edition, University of Texas Press

Grading:Your grade will be based on the following:

20% 1. Daily grade from reading assignment tests, listening assignments and homework assignments.

20% 2. Major tests- dates handed out in class

20% 3. Class notebook:a.class notes b.returned graded tests c.listening journal
notebook turned in at end of semester- neatness, organization, completeness

10% 4. Final exam

10% 5. Country Music Concert Attendance/Report

20% 6. Class Presentations- to be discussed in class

I reserve the right to change the nature and number of assignments and projects based on class size, ability and time constraints.

Grading Scale:

93-100 A

85-92 B

77-84 C

69-76 D

0-68 F

Deadline Policies:

Missed Classes/Assignments: If you are absent, you are still responsible for all assignments given. Advance notice is preferable on absences when possible. Too many absences will be dealt with individually.

Missed Tests:

1. No make up will be given for daily tests/grades
2. Major tests- Do not miss these! You are a student, and you must take that responsibility seriously. Major tests can be made up with proof that the absence was medical or due to death of a loved one. You must contact me in order to make up the test. Make up tests must be taken no later than one week after the original test was given. Do not count on a make up test unless there is proof for an excused absence.

I reserve the right to count a missed test as a zero if the absence is not a verified excused absence.

Late Assignments: 50% credit, anytime after the due date

All assignments should be typed, check spelling and grammar.

Evacuation Procedures During Emergencies and Personal Health Issues:

We will review evacuation procedures in case of a fire alarm or other emergency.

If you have a medical problem that could surface during class and/or would need special assistance during an emergency, please let me know. You will need to see me in private in order for me to be aware as to how I can be of assistance if you have a problem that might happen during class time (confidentiality assured).

Support Services:

The Learning Resources Center/ Huskins Library services include reference assistance, book selection, group or individual library orientation, interlibrary loans, Internet access, and a coin-operated copier. Audiovisual services include equipment for viewing and listening, and video/audiocassette editing and duplication.

The MIND Center for Learning and Teaching, also found in the Huskins Library, includes tutoring and computer labs for assistance with keyboarding skills, writing assistance, math skills, and grammar support.

Disability Services:

Students with disabilities who believe that they need accommodations in this class are encouraged to contact the Office of Special Populations/Disability Services at 704.878.3267, Room 103 C Main Building. Please make requests as soon as possible to better ensure that accommodations are implemented in a timely fashion.

Academic Dishonesty:

The Student Handbook defines "Academic Dishonesty" as "taking or acquiring possession of any academic material (test information, research papers, notes, etc.) from a member of the college staff or student body without permission; receiving or giving help during tests; submitting papers or reports (that are supposed to be original work) that are not entirely the student's own; not giving credit for others' work (plagiarism)."

Any evidence of academic dishonesty may result in expulsion from the class and a grade of "F" for the course.

Mitchell Community College Inclement Weather Policy:

In the event of adverse weather, MCC will announce delays, cancellation of classes, or the closing of the college on local television and radio stations and on the MCC web site at <http://www.mitchellcc.edu/>. Whenever a decision is made to cancel day classes, media announcements will be made by 6:00 a.m. if possible. A decision to cancel evening classes will be made by 3:00 p.m. and announced as soon as possible. As adults, all MCC students must assume responsibility for deciding if road conditions are too hazardous to permit safe driving. Safety and good judgment are expected in each individual case. If classes are delayed, classes will resume at the start of an instructional block. Cancelled classes will make up the work according to individual faculty plans.

How to contact me: I am always available to students by email. Please feel free to contact me or see me after class to schedule an appointment. Your success is important to me personally. There are no dumb questions. **Email: bbrown2@mitchellcc.edu**

MCC's Quality Enhancement Plan (QEP) "Math Rules" is designed to enhance student learning by showing how we use math in our everyday lives. Through a series of hands on, contextual teaching and learning activities, math is made "real" by connecting classroom concepts with life experiences.