

# Course Syllabus

Please Note: The syllabus is an implied [not legal] contract between the student and instructor as to what will take place in the course and how the student will be evaluated.

## Course Information and Policies

### General Information

**Course:** MUS 106 History of Hip-Hop and Rap Music Summer 2020

**Credits:** 3

**Online Course:** Approximately 9 hours per week spent online

**Instructor:** Olem Alves

**Office:** SSH Room 217B

**Office Hours:** by appointment

**Email:** [alveso@linnbenton.edu](mailto:alveso@linnbenton.edu)

## Course Description

This course is designed to provide the student with an opportunity to explore the musical, social and cultural aspects of hip-hop and rap music from its birth in the 1970's to its development through today, while learning about important artists in this style. We will identify and analyze complex practices, values and beliefs and the cultural and historically defined meanings of difference in the hip-hop world and explore how culturally-based assumptions influence perceptions related to hip-hop culture and rap music. We will explore how these culturally-based assumptions influence perceptions and stigmas relating to hip-hop culture and compare/contrast attitudes and values of specific eras of this culture. We will analyze pertinent

artists, events and landmark recordings in this process. This course fulfills Arts and Letters and Cultural Literacy requirements for the AAOT degree.

### Course Outcomes

1. Identify rap music and its subgenres by stylistic traits.
2. Demonstrate an understanding of hip-hop and rap music history through critical and analytical listening.
3. Demonstrate an understanding of hip-hop and rap music history and its relationship to society from 1973 to the present.
4. Identify and analyze complex practices, values, and beliefs reflected in hip-hop and rap music history.
5. Demonstrate the culturally and historically defined meanings of difference in rock music history and American culture.
6. Differentiate between the stylistic traits of key hip-hop and rap artists and the eras of hip hop and rap music history

### General Class Structure

MUS 106 is an online course. All course learning is online and as a result, the amount of time on the computer will vary, but plan on the time roughly equaling that of a traditional 3-credit course. For an online course this translates to spending approximately 9 hours per week working on a computer to successfully complete this course.

### Required Textbook and Equipment

*Textbook:* The History of Rap and Hip-Hop

Soren Baker. *The Music Library* Detroit: Lucent Books, 2012.  
p5. COPYRIGHT 2012 Gale, Cengage Learning

This is a free on-line textbook. The link is at the top of the course block.

*Equipment:* Access to a computer and internet. The current preferred browser for this course is Chrome or Firefox, however, you may use Internet Explorer or Safari if you would like to. See specific computer requirements in the Moodle book [Getting Started](#) under "Required Software and Computer Skills." This book is located in the top Welcome block of your course.

## Assessment Methods and Grading Policy

Your Final Grade will be determined by the following formula:

Getting Started Quiz: Quiz on Course Syllabus, Getting Started book, and Course Schedule and Due Dates and Definitions Quiz: 5% (2)

Share Forums: 20% (3)

Written Quizzes: 20% (2)

Listening Quizzes 25% (4)

Midterm: 15%

Final: 15%

Note: Make sure you take each quiz and turn in each share forum entry during the week that it is assigned. All share forum entries are due Wednesday by 11:00pm of the week assigned (Thursday at 11:00pm for the peer review) and all quizzes are due on Saturday by 11pm of the week they are assigned except the final which is due Monday of week #11. **The midterm, final and forum entries will not be accepted late. The listening quizzes and written quizzes can be made up to a week late of the due date and a one letter grade penalty only in extenuating circumstances with a valid excuse. Forgetting is not a valid excuse.** After a weeks time (7 days from the due date) they may not be made up.

A: 90-100% B: 80-89% C: 70-79% D: 60-69% F: below 60%  
Pluses (+) and Minuses (-) may be added to grades at instructor's discretion.

- Quiz on the Getting Started book

This quiz is open-computer (same as an open-book quiz) but is time limited. This quiz covers information found in the [Getting Started](#) book such as the Course Syllabus, the Course Schedule and Due Dates and other related documents linked to from this book. This quiz is open for the first week of classes and no make-up time is available. 2.5% of final grade. Make sure you complete by Wednesday of week #1 as this acts as attendance for the first week of classes. **You may be dropped from the class if this is not turned in by Wednesday of week #1.**

- SHARE Forums

SHARE Forums are akin to "class discussion" and provide an opportunity for everyone in the class to share their own thoughts and responses to a video, reading, or series of question(s) I provide for consideration. Click this link for more about SHARE forums. They make up 20% of your final grade. You are required to submit a SHARE Forum entry 3 times this term. You will be responding to a series of questions based on reading done and videos watched for that week or weeks work and how these materials relate to the era in hip-hop and rap history that we are studying. Use specific examples of dates, musical groups, people, artists and anything else from the reading or videos to bolster your writing. Don't be vague. Be specific in your writing. Use good writing practices and observe the 250-350 word minimum and maximum. Let me know if you have questions. I am happy to help. All entries are due on Wednesday by 11pm of the week assigned and the peer review is due Thursday by 11pm.

- Listening Quizzes

There is 4 listening quiz's throughout the term. Each quiz is 30 questions and you will have 1 1/2 hours to complete each one.

You will click on a link to a musical example and then asked a question on it. Be prepared to know the song title, group performing it, year it came out, genre of rap music, historical context and pertinent historical information surrounding the song.

To prepare for this make sure you do all the reading and watch all the videos leading up to the test and thoroughly study the Music Playlists and Biography page for each quiz contained in the course materials section of the first moodle shell. In the music playlist and biography file there will be a list of groups and videos.

If you click on the group the link will give you a biography of the group. When you click on the video it gives you the song. You should study both the biography and song for each group before taking your listening quiz.

- Written Quizzes/Midterm/Final

There are 2 written quizzes, 1 midterm and 1 final exam. These will be a combination T/F, Multiple Choice, fill in the blank and short answer. The 2 written quizzes are 30 questions each and you will have an hour and a half to complete them. Both the midterm and final are 46 questions and you will have 2 1/2 hours to complete them. Please use only the resources from the class to help you with the questions. The questions will be derived from a combination of the textbook, articles in the course shell, and the videos for the course all contained in the required reading and activities. Do not use wikipedia to answer the questions as you are taking the test.

Quiz #2 (Written): covers chapters 1-3 in the textbook (page 12-52)

Midterm Exam: covers the forward-chapter 4 in the textbook (page 6-67) and required reading and activities through week #5

Quiz #5 (Written): covers chapters 5-6 in the textbook (page 67-52)

Definitions Quiz: Covers page 126-127

Final Exam: covers chapters 5-8, the glossary in the textbook (page 68-127), and required reading and activities from week 6-8

## Weekly Assignments, Due Dates, and Late Work Policy

Our calendar week runs from 12:01am Monday through 11:00 pm the following Sunday. Unless otherwise specified, all SHARE Forum entries are due on Wednesdays of the week assigned and the peer review is due Thursday by 11pm. To summarize periodic SHARE Forums are due in two installments (on Wednesdays and Thursdays of the week they are assigned ) as explained in about SHARE forums. **SHARE Forum entries and the midterm and final will not be accepted past the given due date and cannot be made up. It is important to budget your time so as to finish assignments by their respective due dates. In extenuating circumstances, the 4 listening quizzes and the 2 written quizzes can be made up up to a week after they are due with a one grade penalty and a valid excuse. Forgetting it was due is not a valid excuse.**

## General Information and Policies

### Dropping a Course

LBCC policy → Instructors will drop you using No Show Drop if you do not attend at least one meeting of your class the first week of the term. For online courses, if you do not meaningfully participate at least once during the first week, your instructor will No Show Drop you. **In this course you must participate in the week 1 required Activities to remain enrolled.** The last day to be eligible to receive a refund for a dropped class is Sunday of week 1. Check in with your academic advisor to see how dropping a course or being dropped from a course might affect your financial aid.

## Appropriate Behavior and Academic Integrity

Appropriate behavior and respect in this course is expected. Disrespectful or disruptive conduct/comments may result in your being expelled from the course. It can be helpful to read about netiquette online at [Core Rules of Netiquette](#). Cheating and plagiarism are not acceptable. Any work that is not your own will be given "0" points. See Student Code of Conduct for more information:

Students and the instructor are subject to the code of conduct, policies, and procedures as outlined in the LBCC Class Schedule, found at:

The Music program encourages the intellectual, creative, and personal growth of its students and recognizes the need to maintain a safe and professional environment. In order to maintain an environment where these goals can be achieved the Music program promotes civility, respect, and integrity among all students, faculty, and staff.

Any acts involving physical attack, property damage, written or verbal statements that express or suggest the intent to cause physical or mental harm to another person are not conducive to professionalism and will result in intervention by the program and the college. This intervention can range from mediation to expulsion, depending on the severity of the event.

## Accessibility and Accommodations

It is LB's goal that learning experiences be as accessible as possible. If you anticipate or experience physical or academic barriers based on disability, please let me know immediately so that we can discuss options.

**To request assistance or accommodations, contact the Center for Accessible Resources**

## Non-Commercial Use of Films and/or Photos: Notice to Arts Division Students

Lane Community College is a learning-centered community college committed to providing lifelong educational opportunities for its students.

Students who enroll in performing art, graphic art, media art or fine arts classes in the College's Art Division may be filmed and/or photographed as a result of their participation in those classes. The filming or photography of students is for academic purposes only and is restricted to films and photos taken by LBCC, staff, and faculty only. **THE RESULTING PRODUCTS MAY NOT BE USED FOR COMMERCIAL PURPOSES.**

Any film, photography or videos produced from LBCC Art Division classes and/or events may be used only for instructional purposes and/or for promotion of those activities by the College, in support of its mission. Student works may be filmed and /or photographed, will be considered for public display and may be used for instruction and/or promotion of the College or College programs and events. Students who register for the art division classes, by their registration in such classes, authorize the College to use their images for College instruction and /or promotion of the College's mission. Permission must be granted by individual instructors to take photographs of or film classrooms.

You can print this syllabus by going to the **Settings** block and selecting **Print Book**.