

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 Fall 2023

Course: MUS 107 History of Country Music

Credits: 3

Online Course: Approximately 9 hours per week spent online

Instructor: Olem Alves

Office: Zoom

Office Hours: by appointment

Email: 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 country music from its birth in the early 1900'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 country music world and explore how culturally-based assumptions influence perceptions related to country music. We will explore how these culturally-based assumptions influence perceptions and stigmas relating to country music 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 country music and its sub-genres by stylistic traits.
2. Demonstrate an understanding of country music history through critical and analytical listening.
3. Demonstrate an understanding of country music history and its relationship to society from the early 1900's to the present.
4. Identify and analyze complex practices, values, and beliefs reflected in country music history.
5. Demonstrate the culturally and historically defined meanings of difference in country music history and American culture.
6. Differentiate between the stylistic traits of key country artists and the eras of country music history

General Class Structure

MUS 107 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: Country Music (An illustrated history)

Dayton Duncan and Ken Burns

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. 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/Intro Forum: Quiz on Course Syllabus, Getting Started book, and Course Schedule and Due Dates 5% (1)

Share Forums: 20% (4)

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 Wednesday by 11pm of the week they are assigned except the final. Check the moodle course page for the final due date. **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. 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 country music 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 word minimum. 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 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 country 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 recording listening study guide page for each quiz contained in the course materials section of the first moodle shell. In the music study guide 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. **Use must use google chrome for the listening examples to play.**

- **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 2 hours to complete them. Both the midterm and final are 50 questions and you will have 3 hours to complete them. Please use only the resources from the class to help you with the questions. The questions will be derived from the textbook and videos for the course all contained in the required reading and activities. **Do not use wikipedia or google** to answer the questions as you are taking the test. You may **use the book** during the tests.

Quiz #2 (Written): covers chapters 1-2 in the textbook (page 1-122)

Midterm Exam: covers chapter 1-4 in the textbook (page 1-257)

Quiz #5 (Written): covers chapters 5-6 in the textbook (page 257-355)

Final Exam: covers chapters 5-8 (257-495)

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. The midterm and the final cannot be retaken, taken late or made up past the due date.**

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

College Policies

LBCC Email and Course Communications

You are responsible for all communications sent via Moodle and to your LBCC email account. You are required to use your LBCC provided email account for all email communications at the College. You may access your LBCC student email account through Student Email and your Moodle account through Moodle.

Disability and Access Statement

Use one of three approved syllabus statements located on the [Center for Accessibility Resources Faculty Resources](#) webpage.

Statement of Inclusion

To promote academic excellence and learning environments that encourage multiple perspectives

and the free exchange of ideas, all courses at LBCC will provide students the opportunity to interact with values, opinions, and/or beliefs different than their own in safe, positive and nurturing learning environments. LBCC is committed to producing culturally literate individuals capable of interacting, collaborating and problem-solving in an ever-changing community and diverse workforce.

Statement of Diverse Repertoire and Practice

The LBCC Music Program is committed to providing an excellent education that honors both the traditional canon and music from populations who have been typically underrepresented. We are committed to presenting music to our students from diverse voices throughout their time at LBCC.

Title IX Reporting Policy

If you or another student are the victim of any form of sexual misconduct (including dating/domestic violence, stalking, sexual harassment), or any form of gender discrimination, LBCC can assist you. You can **report a violation of our sexual misconduct policy directly to our Title IX Coordinator. You may also report the issue to a faculty member, who is required to notify the Coordinator, or you may make an appointment to speak confidentially to our Advising and Career Center by calling 541-917-4780.**

Campus Police/Emergency Resources

You may review emergency services and resources at the LBCC [Public Safety website](#). Campus Safety can be reached using the 'Code 2' button on any campus phone or by dialing x411 on campus or (541) 917-4440 off campus. Dial 911 for off campus emergencies.

Public Safety link for printed syllabus: <https://www.linnbenton.edu/future-students/stuff-parents-want-to-know/public-safety>

Changes to the Syllabus

I reserve the right to change the contents of this syllabus due to unforeseen circumstances. You will be given notice of relevant changes in class, through a Moodle Announcement, or through LBCC e-mail.