

Projected Course Schedule

(subject to change, due to snow dates etc—see Brightspace for the most current reading and listening assignments)

Some assignments to keep an eye on (note the weeks these are due):

1. Forum posts: most weeks
2. Common Assignment #1: Ted talk viewing; 1 page outline due; presentation in class
3. Common Assignment #2: Participation in on-campus event; presentation & discussion in class
4. Group Project Presentation on New York
5. Final Video Presentation/Podcast

Week 1: January 23—January 25, Intros and Course Themes

- Tuesday, January 23:

Topics: Syllabus, introductory ideas, course basics & explanation

- Thursday, January 25: Why talk about music, gender, and sexuality? And what's a canon, and how does it exclude certain peoples and works?

Reading: Anne C. Shreffler, "The Myth of the Canon's Invisible Hand" (blogpost)

Weekly assignments:

- forum posts

Week 2: January 30—February 1, Instruments, Spaces, and Genres

- Tuesday, January 30: How are spaces, musical genres, and instruments gendered?

Readings: Excerpt from Ruth Solie, "Girling at the Parlor Piano"

- Thursday, February 1: Representations of Domestic Piano Playing in Film

Listening/Viewing: Film Clip Excerpts from *Pride and Prejudice*, *Victoria*, etc.

Weekly assignments:

- forum posts

Week 3: February 6—February 8, What is Musical Exoticism?

- Tuesday, February 6: What is exoticism, and how is it expressed in music?

Readings: Excerpt from *Musicology Now* blog

- Thursday, February 8: Representations of exoticism in music, film, and video games

Listening/Viewing: clips tba

Weekly assignments:

- forum posts
- Common Assignment #1 viewing

Week 4: February 13—February 15, Virtuosity and Competitions

- Tuesday, February 13: What is virtuosity, and what does that have to do with gender? How have musical competitions historically excluded women & musicians of color?

Readings: Travis Stumbling, "Musical Virtuosity" (theavidlistenerblog.com); Excerpt from Jessye Norman autobiography, *Stand Up and Sing!*

- Thursday, February 15: Discussion of virtuosity and competition

Listening/Viewing: Excerpts from musical biopics, including *Amadeus*, *Chevalier*, etc

Weekly assignments:

- forum posts
- 1 page précis on Common Assignment #1 (Ted talk) due

Week 5: February 20: Presentations, Common Assignment #1

- Tuesday, February 20: Presentations on Common Assignment #1
- Thursday, February 22: no class, winter recess

Week 6: February 27—February 29, New York City #1—Venues and Blues Queens

- Tuesday, February 27: How did musical venues in New York City connect with gender and sexuality in the late 19th and early 20th centuries?

Readings: blog post on Dale Cockrell book, <https://www.gothamcenter.org/blog/everybodys-doinit-sex-music-and-dance-in-new-york-1840-1917>

- Thursday, February 29: How did women's blues in the 1920s offer important information about race, class, gender, and sexuality?

Reading: Excerpt from Hazel Carby, "It Jus Be's Dat Way Sometime: The Sexual Politics of Women's Blues"

Listening: Bessie Smith, "Lost Your Head Blues" and Ma Rainey, "Prove It On Me Blues"

Weekly assignments:

- forum posts
- Group Project on Gender & Sexuality in New York assigned

Week 7: March 5—March 7, New York City #2—From Disco to Riot Grrrl

- Tuesday, March 5: How did disco offer liberating opportunities on the dance floor (and connect with LGBTQ+ activism) in the 1970s?

Reading: Excerpt from Luis-Manuel Garcia, "Reading Richard Dyer's 'In Defense of Disco,' 1979."

Listening/Viewing: Discussion of "The Love I Lost," *Saturday Night Fever*, Gloria Gaynor, "I Will Survive."

- Thursday, March 7: How did riot grrrl align with feminist politics?

Reading: Excerpt from Theo Cateforis and Elena Humphreys, "Constructing Communities and Identities: Riot Grrrl New York City."

Listening/Viewing Clips: Discussion of Bikini Kill, "Rebel Girl"; Bratmobile, "No You Don't"; documentary footage

Weekly assignments:

- forum posts

Week 8: March 12—March 14, Presentations

- Tuesday, March 12: Group Presentations on New York Project
- Thursday, March 14: Group Presentations on New York Project

Weekly assignments:

- forum posts
- Group Project on New York Due

Week 9: March 19—March 21, Girl Groups of the 1960s

- Tuesday, March 19: How did intersectional identities of race, class, gender, age, and geography impact the music and careers of girls groups in the early 1960s?

Readings: Excerpt from Jacqueline Warwick, "Chapter 2: The Voice of the Girl."

- Thursday, March 21: Listening to Girls in the 1960s

Listening: The Chantels, "Maybe,"; The Shirelles, "I Met Him on a Sunday," "Will You Still Love Me Tomorrow?"; The Marvelettes, "Please Mr. Postman,"; The Shangri-Las, "Leader of the Pack."

Weekly assignments:

- forum posts

Week 10: March 26—March 28, Musicals

- Tuesday, March 26: How do audiences and readers approach the often heteronormative plots of musicals and find alternative meanings?

Readings: Excerpt from Stacy Wolf, *A Feminist History of the Broadway Musical*

- Thursday, March 28: Discussing and listening to musical theater

Listening/Viewing Clips: Discussion of excerpts from *Sound of Music*, *West Side Story*, *Hamilton*

Weekly assignments:

- forum posts
- Common Assignment #2 assigned—this may vary slightly based on scheduling of on-campus events

—No class, spring recess March 29—April 7—

Week 11: April 9—April 11, Thinking about Race & Sexuality in Music

- Tuesday, April 9: How are musical expressions of queerness impacted by race?

Reading: Excerpt from Gayle Murchison. "Let's Flip it! Quare Emancipations: Black Queer Traditions, Afrofuturisms, Janelle Monàe to Labelle."

- Thursday, April 11: Discussion of Afrofuturist examples

Listening: Discussion of LaBelle, "You Turn Me On"; Janelle Monàe, "Q.U.E.E.N feat. Erykah Badu"

Weekly assignments:

- forum posts
- Common Assignment #2 reflection due

Week 12: April 16—April 19, Presentations

- Tuesday, April 16: Common Assignment #2 presentations & reflection discussion
- Thursday, April 19: Common Assignment #2 presentation & reflection discussion

Weekly assignments:

- forum posts
- Final Video Presentation/Podcast Assigned

Week 13: April 23—April 25, Hip Hop Gender & Sexuality

- Tuesday, April 23: How does hip hop exhibit multiple takes on gender and sexuality?

Readings: Excerpt from *Sounding out! Sound Studies Blog*

- Thursday, April 25: Discussion of early women MCs; toxic masculinities; queer hip hop

Listening: tba

Weekly assignments:

- forum posts

Week 14: April 30—May 2, Trans voices

- Tuesday, April 30: How do trans voices and musicians impact music today?

Readings: Excerpt from *Sounding Out! Sound Studies Blog*

- Thursday, April 11: Listening to singing

Listening/Viewing Clips: tba

Weekly assignments:

- forum posts
- working on reflection questions

Week 15: May 7—May 9, Music/Gender/Sexuality Today

- Tuesday, May 7: How do we exhibit love and acceptance through music, rather than exclusion and shaming?

Reading: Excerpt from William Cheng, "The Worst You've Ever Sounded," *Loving Music Till It Hurts*

Listening/Viewing Clips: Discussion of Britney Spears's "leaked" version of "Alien"

- Thursday, May 9: Groupwork on reflection questions

Weekly assignments:

- forum posts
- Reflection Questions Due

Finals Week:

- Short Presentations during finals week
- Final Video Presentation/Podcast due