

Music 80V: The Beatles
Summer 2014, Second Session

Class Time: Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays 5-8:30 pm
Location: Music Center, Room 131
Instructor: Lisa Beebe, ABD
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Office hours: By appointment

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Course Description:

Through inventive songwriting, chart-topping performances, innovative approaches to the recording and marketing process and inclusion of a wide range of literary and musical influences, the Beatles impacted the course of popular music like no other group in the twentieth century. Today, after more than four decades since their dissolution, they remain an influential and popular act, gaining generation after generation of new fans. This course surveys the career of the Beatles, mainly focusing on the studio recording years (1963-1970) but also includes the events leading to their formation and an overview of the four members' solo careers. Particular emphasis is placed on the cultural and historical contexts surrounding the Beatles' career. Additionally, the course interprets the role of the Beatles as a groundbreaking multimedia phenomenon, taking into account their official cinematography and the development of their multimedia company, Apple Corps.

Course Objectives:

Through a combination of history, biography, and musical analysis, students will become familiar with the Beatles as musical group and cultural phenomenon. Throughout the course, students will gain critical skills for the analysis and study of popular music and culture. No previous musical training is required for this course; however, by the end of the session, students will be able to discuss the Beatles using some musical vocabulary.

Course Materials:

Textbook: Sections of *Revolution in the Head: the Beatles Records and the Sixties* by Ian MacDonald will be assigned in this course. Copies are available for purchase at the Literary Guillotine in downtown Santa Cruz at 204 Locust Street. A copy is also on reserve at McHenry Library (2nd floor circulation desk).

Listening: For this course, you need to be familiar with the entire Beatles official catalog in the sequence followed by Ian MacDonald (British releases, albums, AND singles). All required material is on reserve at McHenry Library Media Center; physical copies are held at the circulation desk and digital versions are available on the Apple TVs. See the Reserves list for Media Center call numbers.

Viewing: You will need to watch two films on your own time: *A Hard Day's Night* and *Let it Be*. Both are on reserve at the McHenry Library Media Center. Optional supplemental viewing is also suggested on the Reserves list.

Grading:

Assignments: 40%
Attendance/pop quizzes: 10%
Midterm: 25%
Final Exam: 30%

For a total of 105% (5% extra credit possible)

The following assignments will be due during the session:

1. A short (2-3 minute) presentation on a topic of your choice (a list of suggested topics is provided on eCommons) and a write-up of your presentation. Presentations will take place at the beginning of class throughout the session.
2. Two brief sets of questions for both *A Hard Day's Night* and *Let it Be*.
3. A set of questions comparing a song covered by the Beatles to its original version (YouTube links to original versions on eCommons).
4. A set of questions comparing the mono and stereo versions of two Beatles' songs (more information will be given in class).

Except for the presentation, turn in all assignments on eCommons, by the beginning of class (5 pm) on the due date. Late assignments are accepted for half credit until 5 pm the following day.

Pop quizzes will be given at random and cannot be made up. Quizzes will be one to two questions long and based on assigned listening, reading, or material previously covered in class.

The midterm (to be held on Monday, August 11th) will comprise all material covered from the first day of class through Friday, August 8th. The exam will be primarily multiple choice, with some short answer/short essay questions.

The final exam (to be held the last day of class, Friday, August 29th) will be comprehensive (based on all material covered in the course), but will focus more on material covered after the midterm. The final will be the same format as the midterm, but slightly longer.

No make-up exams will be offered without medical documentation.

Class Policies:

Attendance for the entirety of all class meetings is crucial for students to do well in this course. Missing one class during a 5-week session is roughly the

equivalent of missing an entire week during a 10-week quarter. If you do need to miss class, you are responsible for catching up on missed material. Pop quizzes will be given at random and cannot be made up.

Please, to benefit your learning and as a common courtesy to the instructor and those around you, refrain from interacting with electronic devices during class. Note taking on a laptop is fine, but if I notice someone being disruptive in class, I will ask that person to leave without warning.

If you decide to drop this course, please note that during Summer Session it is a student's responsibility to do so. Deadline for a full refund is Sunday, August 3rd; the final deadline to withdraw is Friday, August 15th.

Academic Integrity: Put most simply, students in this course are expected, per university policy, to submit work that is their own. Academic dishonesty, including cheating and plagiarism, will not be tolerated. Students should familiarize themselves with the UCSC Student Guide to Academic Integrity, found online at http://undergraduate.ucsc.edu/acd_integrity/student.html.

Disability Resource Center: Any student who may need an accommodation based on the impact of a disability should contact me privately to submit their Accommodation Authorization and discuss specific needs, preferably within the first week of the session. For more information, contact the Disability Resource Center at 831-45-2089 in room 146 Hahn Student Services or by e-mail at drc@ucsc.edu.

Course Schedule:

Complete assigned reading and listening *before* class:

Week 1:

Monday, July 28: Introduction and the Beatles' Early Years

Wednesday, July 30: *Please Please Me, With the Beatles*, and the beginnings of Beatlemania

Listen: *Please Please Me* and *With the Beatles*

Friday, August 1: *A Hard Day's Night* and *Beatles for Sale*

Read: *Revolution in the Head*, pages 58-60 ("Love Me Do"), 115-116 ("A Hard Day's Night"), and 120 ("Any Time at All").

Listen: *A Hard Day's Night* and *Beatles for Sale*

Due: Deadline to choose a presentation topic

Week 2:

Monday, August 4: *Help!* and *Rubber Soul* – the Beatles' new directions

****Today class will meet in the Music Center Recital Hall****

Read: *Revolution in the Head*, pages 142-144 (“Ticket to Ride”), 148-149 (“You’ve Got to Hide Your Love Away”), 152-154 (“Help!”), and 157-158 (“Yesterday”).

Watch: *A Hard Day’s Night*

Listen: *Help!* and *Rubber Soul*

Due: *A Hard Day’s Night* questions due on eCommons by beginning of class

Wednesday, August 6: Recording techniques and new technologies; *Revolver*

****Today class will meet in the Music Center Recital Hall****

Read: *Revolution in the Head*, page 159 (“It’s Only Love”), 162-166 (“Norwegian Wood”), and 185-193 (“Tomorrow Never Knows”).

Listen: *Revolver*

Friday, August 8: Wrapping up *Revolver* and Midterm Review

Read: *Revolution in the Head*, pages 212-220 (“Strawberry Fields Forever”).

Due: Assignment 3 (compare a Beatles’ cover to its’ original)

Week 3:

Monday, August 11 – Midterm; selections from the Beatles’ *Anthology*

No assigned reading – study!

Wednesday, August 13 – *Sgt. Pepper’s Lonely Hearts Club Band*

Read: *Revolution in the Head*, pages 227-234 (“A Day in the Life” and “Sgt. Pepper’s Lonely Hearts Club Band”), 243-245 (“Within You Without You” and “She’s Leaving Home”), and 248-250 (“Reprise”).

Watch: “The Rutles: All You Need is Cash,” Part 1 (YouTube link on eCommons)

Listen: *Sgt. Pepper’s Lonely Hearts’ Club Band*

Friday, August 15 – *Magical Mystery Tour*; Listening to Mono vs. Stereo Mixes

Read: *Revolution in the Head*, pages 253-256 (“Magical Mystery Tour”) and 264-269 (“I Am the Walrus”)

Week 4:

Monday, August 18: *Yellow Submarine*

Read: *Revolution in the Head*, pages 261-263 (“All You Need is Love”); “All You Need is Ears” from *All You Need is Ears*, by George Martin (posted on eCommons)

Wednesday, August 20: *The Beatles (The White Album)*

Read: *Revolution in the Head*, pages 280-291 (“Revolution 1,” “Don’t Pass Me By,” and “Revolution 9”)

Listen: *The Beatles (The White Album)*

Due: Assignment 4 (comparing mono/stereo versions of two Beatles’ songs)

Friday, August 22: The Beatles’ Inner-Circle: Yoko Ono; the “Paul is Dead” myth; and Apple Corps

Read: “America Falls,” from *All You Need is Ears* by George Martin (posted on eCommons)

Week 5:

Monday, August 25: The “Get Back” sessions and *Let it Be; Abbey Road*

Read: *Revolution in the Head*, 328-331 (“Dig a Pony”), 351-354 (“Octopus’ Garden” and “You Never Give Me Your Money”), and 358-360 (“Come Together”)

Watch: *Let it Be*

Due: *Let it Be* questions

Wednesday, August 27: The Beatles’ Solo Careers and Final Exam Review

Read: *Revolution in the Head*, pages 371-391

Friday, August 29 – Final Exam

Course Reserves List

NB: Required course materials are marked with an asterisk.

Listening – On Reserve at the Media Center (McHenry Library, basement)

*Please Please Me – LCD1786

*With the Beatles – LCD1787

*A Hard Day’s Night – LCD2185

*Beatles for Sale – LCD1785

*Help! – LCD2182

*Rubber Soul – LCD1447

*Revolver – LCD1448

*Sgt. Pepper’s Lonely Hearts Club Band – LCD1446

*Magical Mystery Tour – LCD2188

*The Beatles (“The White Album”) – LCD2186 and guide

*Yellow Submarine – LCD2189

*Abbey Road – LCD1530

*Let it Be – LCD149

*Past Masters (Volumes One and Two) – LCD148 (vol. 1) and LCD2183 (vol. 2)

The Beatles in Mono – LCD10736 (volumes 1-3)

The Beatles Anthology – LCD2187 (volumes 1-3)

Films - On Reserve at the Media Center (McHenry Library, basement)

**Let it Be* – DVD8830

**A Hard Day's Night* – DVD1281

Help! – VID1037

Magical Mystery Tour – DVD5000

Yellow Submarine – DVD22

The Ed Sullivan Show Featuring the Beatles and Various Other Artists – DVD6068

Across the Universe – DVD6045

The Beatles Anthology – DVD1457 (volumes 1-5)

Books - On Reserve at McHenry Library Circulation Desk

**Ian MacDonald, Revolution in the Head: the Beatles Records and the Sixties* –
ML156.7.B4 M23 1997

Kevin Ryan, *Recording the Beatles: the Studio Equipment and Techniques Used to
Create their Classic Albums* – ML421.B4 R93 2010

Kenneth Womack, editor, *The Cambridge Companion to the Beatles* – ML421.B4 C33
2009

George Martin, *All You Need is Ears* – ML429.M34 A3 1994