INDIANA STATE UNIVERSITY

MUS 236 FA25

UDPATED: AUGUST 2025

SURVEY OF AMERICAN POPULAR MUSIC TRADITIONS

Catalog Course Description

Emphasis is placed on the music's multicultural roots based in the Anglo-, African-, and Latin-American folk traditions through an exploration of relationships of musical structures, forms, instruments, performance contexts, and the music's roles in a variety of social and cultural systems. No prior technical knowledge of music is necessary.

Faculty Information

Theodore J. Piechocinski, JD, Professor

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School of Music

Office Hours: MWF: 3:30 - 5:00 p.m. or by appointment

Course Learning Objectives

Foundational Studies Learning Objectives

- Critically evaluate the ideas of others; (FS2)
- Apply knowledge and skills within and across the fundamental ways of knowing (natural sciences, social and behavioral sciences, arts and humanities, mathematics and history); (FS3)
- Demonstrate an appreciation of human expression through literature and fine and performing arts; (FS4)
- Demonstrate the skills to place their current and local experience in a global, cultural, and historical context; (FS7)

Fine and Performing Arts Objectives

- Demonstrate aesthetic responsiveness and interpretive ability; (FA1)
- Connect works of art to their literary, cultural, and historical contexts; (FA2)
- Employ knowledge of the arts to analyze issues and answer questions relating to human experience, systems, and the physical environment; (FA3) and
- Reflect on themselves as products of and participants in traditions of the fine and performing arts. (FA4)

Required Textbook and Materials

Title: Popular Music in America: The Beat Goes On, Fifth Edition

Authors: Michael Campbell

Publisher: Boston: Schirmer Cengage Learning, 2019

Graded Elements of the Course

The overall final grade for this course is determined by weighted categories of Exams, Writing Project, Assignments/Quizzes, and Attendance/Participation