

Course Directors: Ray Williams, Ron Nelson

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Course Description and Content:

This course explores the music and culture associated with the various forms of electronic dance music emanating from North America and Europe. The course also traces the history, struggles, tools, impact, power, music, influence and legacy of the DJ as a trendsetter and “morpher” of cultures. This course is designed for students not majoring or minoring in music. No previous musical training is required. Materials Fee: \$10.00.

Schedule: Class meets on Thursday in **ACW 206**: Section A: 7:00-10:00 PM

Requirements: Notebook, pen and ears. Tests require pencil and eraser. This course has no text book.

Academic Honesty: Please note the Senate Policy on academic honesty found on the York website at <http://www.yorku.ca/secretariat/legislation/senate/acadhone.htm>. Any form of cheating will result in a mark of zero.

Assignment Submission: All assignments are to be submitted directly to the instructor during class time. If this is not possible, you may submit your assignments to the Music Office in Accolade East Building 3rd Floor [371] before 3:00PM during working days. Assignments must be time-stamped by the Music Office reception personnel.

Evaluation and Grading:

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| Listening Journal | 30 |
| Tests (in class listening, context, terminology, analysis, genre) | 40 |
| Attendance [10%], Participation [15%] & Effort [5%] | 30 |

TOTAL **100**

Last Date to Drop without Academic Penalty: **February 14, 2014**

Topic Schedule and Due Dates: *(These dates may change, check course website to confirm dates)*

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| 2013 | ELECTRONICA FOCUS |
| • Sep 12, 2012 | Introduction to FA/MUSI 1590 |
| • Sep 19 – Oct 10 | Early Electronic Music, Disco, Roots of Synth Pop 1, 2 |
| • Oct 17 | Test 1 (10%) |
| • Oct 24 | Music Technology Workshop |
| • Nov 7 – Nov 28 | Roots of Synth Pop 3, House, Techno, Trance, Euro Dance, ChipTune |
| • Dec 5 | Test 2 (10%) |
| 2014 | DJ FOCUS |
| • Jan 9, 2014 | Listening Journal due (30%) [Due at the end of class] |
| • Jan 9 – Feb 6 | History of The DJ / Pioneering Radio DJs & Legends/Allan Creed /Steve Dahl |
| • February 13 | Test 3 (10%) |
| • Feb 27 - Mar 20 | Dance Floor DJ Legends – Jimmy Saville/Ian Samwell/Jeff Dexter/John Peel North American DJs–Kool Herc/Grandmaster Flash/Afrika Bambaataa/DST/ Jazzy Jeff/ Jamaica’s Reggae Pioneer DJ’s |
| • March 27 | Test 4 (10%) |
| • April 3 | Journal return, Participation Marking |

Listening Journal:

You are required to listen to popular music made by a selection of artist listed on the course website **where electronic instruments are prominent** and record information about this music in a Listening Journal. The Journal should not cover music recorded after 1990 and may not include songs played in class. These songs are listed on the course website. The Journal may be hand written but it must be well presented. The Journal will consist of separate entries for each song you listen to. In these entries, you should write about your personal feelings as you listen to the song. The Journal is a personal reflective document about how you interact with this music and not a record review or musical analysis. There must be no duplicates entries [i.e. same song by the same artist] as these entries will result in mark deductions. There must be a table of content and the songs and pages must be numbered. The journal should explore a minimum of 150 songs and be at least 30 pages long. Entries should list factual data about each song, which may include, but is not limited to: artist name, song name, composer, producer, release date, record label and chart peak position. Plagiarism, especially cut/paste from the Internet, will result in deductions of up to 100%. Journals are due at the end of class on **January 9, 2014**. Journals not received by this date will receive a mark of ZERO – no exceptions.