

2009 – 2010 Person High School Rock History Course Proposal and Rational

Mark Robertson, Instructor

Course Description:

The History of Rock and Roll course is designed to familiarize the student with the important historical aspects of rock music. Important players and groups of each era will be covered, as well as the sociological, economic and cultural factors that shaped the many styles of Rock Music.

Students in high school need classes that engage and challenge them. We as a staff need to develop new courses that reach high school students of a wide ethnic and academic range. Also, high schools need to offer non-performing fine arts classes, in particular non-performing music classes. The study of popular music will engage and challenge students to think, analyze and write about the trends of blending of cultures in the world, especially the United States. By studying the histories of popular music starting the 1950's through today, students will begin the process of understand the cultural changes that took place in the United States. Students will also begin to process of developing methods to understand how to analyze, organize and filter the themes and content of popular music. Since teenagers are the largest consumers of popular music and media, we as educators have a duty to teach students this information. If we do not teach students this subject, students are left to develop their own methods without the needed background information necessary to have a complete picture of perspective of the history their music.

Rock and Roll History does not have any additional pre-requisites but can only be taken one time. This class should be offered 4th period, every other year. Students would only be allowed to take this class one time. Offering this class 4th period also keep the students engaged through the entire school day. I have been trained to develop and teach this class through the educational department of Rock'n Roll Hall of Fame and Museum in Cleveland, Ohio. I also served for several years on the education advisor board, helping the RRH&M develop, implement and teach other teachers this subject matter. I currently own most of the audio recordings and materials to teach this class having taught this class at Kirtland High School in Kirtland, Ohio. Additional current DVDs would need to be purchased to keep the class up to date.

Syllabus and Pacing guide to follow once the basic proposal has been approved. A text book would not be required, materials would be teacher written with additional resources from the media center and internet.

Respectfully Submitted,

Mark E. Robertson
Director of Bands

Person High School