

MUV280 FA24 – EMNERAPPORT

EMNEKODE: MUV280 Popular Music Studies

EMNEANSVARLIG: Stephen Amico

FAGLÆRERE: Stephen Amico, Thomas Solomon

FAGLÆRERENES VURDERING AV GJENNOMFØRING

Praktisk gjennomføring

The course consisted of a total of 14 meetings: 12 regular lectures and 2 seminars in which the students orally presented their work. The exam consisted of a term paper (*semesteroppgave*); students received advising on drafts of their papers.

Studentenes profil, karakterfordeling, strykprosent og frafall

This course is required of 2nd-year students in the bachelor program in musicology at the Grieg Academy, and is also open to other students at UiB (including exchange students, since the course is taught in English) as an elective course. Of 32 students registered in the course, 28 students completed the exam in the class and received a grade, while an additional 4 received permission from administration to submit the assignment late. Twenty of the registered students were Norwegian, with the additional number being foreign exchange.

Final grade distribution:

A	9
B	7
C	6
D	2
E	3
F	1

Studieinformasjon og dokumentasjon

A copy of the study plan for the class plus the full description/schedule for the course (lecture topics, assigned reading for each lecture, paper assignment description and due dates) was available on the student portal mitt.uib. Lecture materials (PowerPoint slides, syllabus, assignments instructions) were also made available on mitt.uib. Mitt.uib also included additional “pages” of resources, videos, sound files, and links to online websites and texts that might be of interest to students. These “pages” are updated each semester.

Tilgang til relevant litteratur

The required textbooks were available at the bookstore Akademika. Individual articles and chapters were available via mitt.uib, either via the digital reading list (gratis) or Litteraturkiosken (paid).

FAGLÆRERS VURDERING AV RAMMEVILKÅRENE

Lokaler/undervisningsutstyr: The class was taught in two rooms in the Grieg Academy, 206 and A312. Neither room had the necessary desk space or number of chairs to accommodate the unexpected, significantly larger enrollment (up to 100% larger than in past semesters – e.g., 32 this semester vs. 16 in some past semesters). Additional chairs and desks were added, but these were still insufficient to accommodate everyone comfortably. In Room A312, there were problems with the audio on two occasions. Additionally, the room’s lack of a desktop computer makes it inconvenient for those who do not wish to or cannot bring a laptop to the office each day. Overall, both rooms contributed to making teaching more difficult, and to making the students more uncomfortable.

Additional Information

- Lectures and course materials (texts) are regularly reviewed and changed as necessary so as to keep the course content up to date with significant changes in the academic literature and sociocultural context. Such changes are made in accordance with/relation to academic content, connection to research in the field and correspondence between the course and the study programmes in which the course is part.
- The pedagogical choices are in line with and facilitate the course's learning outcome description, teaching, learning and assessment methods and reflection on the student's learning and implementation as a result of these choices
- Students’ workload corresponds appropriately to credit calculation. Most students assessed the amount of work required for the course as being in line with other courses at the same level (i.e., 200-level).

FAGLÆRERS KOMMENTAR TIL STUDENTEVALUERING

Metode – gjennomføring - spørreskjema.

An anonymous online survey was created on *Mi Side*, and a link to the survey was sent to the students, with two reminders. A total of 12 responses were received. The course received an overall rating of 3.83, although the majority of the responses (75%) rated the course at either 4 (6) or 5 (3).

Teachers' comments on the results:

The majority of scores and comments from the survey show an overall high evaluation of the course, indicating that the students are satisfied with the course content, teaching and exam form. It is notable that this year's assessment figure is lower than that of past years, but this is largely due to two factors: First, the course size has increased by over 100% from that of past semesters, and professors were given no advance warning of this; the workload for the professors more than doubled, the room was unable to accommodate the number of students (a significant number had no desk space), and presentation assignments had to be modified in order to allow for all students to take part. Second, music therapy students for the first time were given the option to take MUV280 as fulfilling a course requirement for their program, but it appeared that these students in particular were quite resistant to stepping outside their disciplinary boundaries, wanting instead to approach humanities-based popular music studies via a music therapy focus and method.