

New course title: (part one)

Great guitars, great songs and great harmonies: roots and royalty of country-rock, 1965-1980

Creating a new American musical genre--how two immensely popular forms of roots music merged to create a timeless style, uniquely American in every aspect.

Description: Part One

This class will cover the beginnings of the historically significant country-rock movement which started in LA in 1965, and spread across the country, changing the musical landscape of popular music. We will explore how two roots-oriented styles--country music and rock and roll--borrowed from each other and merged to create a new musical genre which has since spawned many sub-genres, each with its own unique approach to country-rock. We will look at several artists and their key albums, including: The Everly Brothers, The Byrds, the Buffalo Springfield, Gram Parsons, and the Flying Burrito Brothers.

Course Outline: Part One

WEEK ONE: *What is country-rock?* An in-depth look at the first country-rockers: The lives and career of the legendary Everly Brothers.

Listening:

The Everly Brothers, 1957, Cadence

Songs Our Daddy Taught Us, 1958, Cadence

It's Everly Time, 1960, Warner Brothers

A Date with the Everly Brothers, 1960, Warners

The Everly Brothers Sing Great Country Hits, 1963, Warners

The Everly Brothers Live in Paris 1963, Big Beat records

The Best of The Everly Brothers, 1959, Cadence

15 Everly Hits, 1963, Cadence

Reading:

The Everly Brothers: Walk Right Back, 1998, Roger White

Viewing:

Harmonies from Heaven, DVD, 2016

The Everly Brothers Reunion Concert, from London, 1983, DVD

Playlist for this class:

CD#1 --When Will I be Loved-- Everly Brothers 1960

video #1—Long time gone—1958 from Songs Our daddy taught us

video#2 —Bye Bye Love--Everly Brothers 1957

CD#2 —Wake up Little Susie--Everly Brothers 1957

videos #3 and #4—All I Have to do is Dream—Everlys 1958 Cathy's Clown--1960 (from UK concert 1960)

video#5 --Walk Right Back—1961/video from 1969 EBI concert

CD#3 —Bird Dog--Everly Brothers—1958

CD#4 --Devoted to You-- Everly Brothers 1958

CD#5--Till I Kissed You— Everly Brothers 1959

video#6 —Problems--Everly Brothers—1958

CD#6 --Crying in the Rain--Everly Brothers 1961

play video #7—Rip it Up from Shindig 1964
play CD#7--Let it be Me— Everly Brothers 1960

WEEK TWO: *Country becomes cool:* How the seminal country-rock of Los Angeles spread like wildfire across the country. The Byrds and the Buffalo Springfield make their marks with folk-rock, country-rock, and psychedelic rock.

Listening:

Mr. Tambourine Man: The Byrds, 1965 Columbia
Turn, turn, turn: The Byrds, 1965
Buffalo Springfield, Buffalo Springfield 1966 ATCO
Buffalo Springfield, Buffalo Springfield Again 1967 ATCO
Buffalo Springfield, Last Time Around, 1968
The Notorious Byrd Brothers, 1968 Columbia

Reading:

Desperados: The Roots of Country Rock, by John Einarson 2001

Viewing:

Woodstock, dir. by Michael Wadleigh (1970)

Playlist for this class:

CD #1--Mr. Tambourine man, Byrds 1965

CD #2--Feel a whole lot better, Byrds 1965

CD #3—All I Really Want to do

CD#4—Chimes of Freedom

CD#5—Satisfied mind, from 2nd album

video #1—turn, turn, turn, Byrds 1966

live—For what it's worth

CD #6--Go and say Goodbye, Buffalo Springfield 1966

CD#7—Sit down I think I love you

CD#8 --Nowadays Clancy Can't Even Sing

CD #9--Child's Claim to Fame, Buffalo Springfield 1967

CD#10—Bluebird

CD#11--Kind Woman, Buffalo Springfield 1967

CD#12--On the Way home, Buffalo Springfield 1968

CD#13—I am a child

WEEK THREE: *Pickup trucks and pot: The redneck hippie princes of country-rock:* Gram Parsons joins the Byrds, and helps them record the definitive country-rock album, Sweetheart of the Rodeo.

Listening:

Fifth Dimension (1966)

Younger Than Yesterday (1967)

Sweetheart of the Rodeo, 1968 Columbia—all of it!

Reading:

Timeless Flight: The Definitive Biography of the Byrds 3rd Edition, 1991, by Johnny Rogan

Viewing:

David Crosby; Remember My name, 2019

The Byrds under review 2007

Echoes in the Canyon 2018

Playlist for this class:

CD #1--You ain't goin' nowhere, Byrds 1968

CD #2—Mr. Spaceman, Byrds 1966

CD #3—Eight Miles High 1966

CD#4—So You wanna be a rock and roll star 1966

CD #5—My Back Pages, Byrds 1967

CD #6—Goin' Back Byrds, 1967

video #1—Wasn't Born to Follow, Byrds, from Easy Rider 196

CD #7—Christian Life, Byrds 1968

CD #8—Hickory Wind, Byrds 1968

CD#9—Wild Horses (short version)

CD #10—You're still on my mind 1968

video #2—Pretty Boy Floyd, with Roger McGuinn 2012

CD #11—Drugstore truck-drivin' man 1969

CD#12—Chestnut Mare--1970

CD#13—Lover of the Bayou--1970

WEEK FOUR: Gram Parsons forms the Flying Burrito Brothers, goes solo, and checks out at the age of 26.

Listening

The Gilded Palace of Sin, The Flying Burrito brothers, 1969 A&M

Burrito Deluxe 1970 A&M

GP, Gram Parsons 1973

Grievous Angel, Gram Parsons, 1974 (released posthumously) Reprise

Viewing:

Return to Sin City - A Tribute to Gram Parsons (2005)

Reading:

Twenty Thousand Roads: The Ballad of Gram Parsons and his cosmic American Music, by David Meyer 2008

Calling me Home: Gram Parsons the Roots of Country Rock, Bob Kealing, 2012

Playlist for this class:

video clip #1—Fallen angel #1(from the documentary film of the same name)

CD #1--Wheels, Burritos brothers

video clip #2—Christine's Tune (Devil in Disguise) Burritos 1969

CD #2, Sin City, Burritos brothers

CD#3—High Fashion Queen, Burritos brothers

CD#4—Image of Me

CD #5—That's all it took, Gram Parsons/Emmylou from GP 1973

video clip #3—Fallen angel #2

CD #6--Return of the Grievous Angel, from Grievous Angel 1974

video clip #4—Fallen angel #3

CD#7 Hearts on Fire, from Grievous Angel

CD #8 —Ooh Las Vegas, Gram, from Grievous Angel

CD#9—Sleepless Nights, from Grievous Angel

video clip #5—Fallen angel #4