Title of Class: “50 years of country-rock, 1965-present:” Creating a new American musical genre--how two immensely popular genres of music merged to create a timeless style, uniquely American in every aspect.

This class will cover the historically significant country-rock movement in American music, which started with the Byrds in LA in 1965 and spread across the country, changing the musical landscape of popular music. The class will explore in depth how two entrenched and ultra-popular roots-oriented genres--country music and rock and roll--borrowed from each other and merged to create a new genre which has since spawned many sub-genres, each with its own unique approach to country-rock.

Because albums, rather than just singles, became the prevalent form of delivering music to the consumer/listener, we will look at several artists and their key albums, as well as trends in instruments, arrangements and lyric-writing that made up the songs. Although it is free-standing on its own, this class can be considered an extension of the country music course. One does not need to take the first to enjoy and get something from the second.

Course Outline:
WEEK ONE: Pickup trucks and pot: How the seminal country-rock of Los Angeles spread like wildfire across the country. The Byrds, Buffalo Springfield, the Flying Burritos, Gram Parsons, Crosby Stills and Nash. The LA scene in the late 1960’s.

Listening:
Mr. Tambourine Man: The Byrds, 1965 Columbia
Buffalo Springfield, Buffalo Springfield 1966 ATCO
Buffalo Springfield, Last Time Around 1968 ATCO
The Notorious Byrd Brothers, 1968 Columbia
Sweetheart of the Rodeo, 1968 Columbia
The Gilded Palace of Sin, The Flying Burrito brothers, 1969 A&M
Grievous Angel, Gram Parsons, 1974 (released posthumously) Reprise
Crosby Stills and Nash, Crosby Stills and Nash (debut) 1969, Atlantic

Reading:
Twenty Thousand Roads: The Ballad of Gram Parsons and his cosmic American Music, by David Meyer 2008
These books are all written by John Einarson; any one would be great background—all three would make you an expert!!
For What It's Worth: The Story of Buffalo Springfield, 2004
Hot Burritos: The True Story of The Flying Burrito Brothers 2008

Viewing:
Woodstock, dir. by Michael Wadleigh (1970)
Festival Express, dir, by Bob Smeaton (2003)
Return to Sin City - A Tribute to Gram Parsons (2005)

**Listening:**
- *Poco, Picking up the Pieces, 1969 Epic*
- *Poco, Poco, 1970 Epic*
- *Nashville Skyline, Bob Dylan, 1969, Columbia*
- *After the Gold Rush, Neil Young, 1970 Reprise*
- *New Riders of the Purple Sage: New Riders of the Purple Sage 1971 Columbia*
- *Linda Ronstadt, Linda Ronstadt, 1972 Capitol*
- *Bustin’ Out, Pure Prairie League, 1972 RCA*
- *Garden Party, Rick Nelson and The Stone Canyon Band, 1972 Decca*
- *Heart Like a Wheel, Linda Ronstadt, 1974, Capitol*

**Reading:**
- *Simple Dreams, a musical memoir, by Linda Ronstadt, 2013*

**Viewing:**
- *New Riders of the Purple Sage: The Lost Broadcasts 1972*

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WEEK THREE: *The Boys of Summer: The Eagles:* Why they are America’s most popular band of all time. With a nod to Don Henley’s 2015 country album, *Cass County*. This class will be dedicated to Glenn Frey, R.I.P.

**Listening:**
- *The Eagles, the Eagles, 1972 Asylum*
- *Desperado, the Eagles, 1973 Asylum*
- *On The Border, the Eagles, 1974 Asylum*
- *One of these Nights, the Eagles, 1975 Asylum*
- *Hotel California, the Eagles, 1976, Asylum*
- *Cass County, Don Henley, 2015, Capitol*

**Reading:**
- *Eagles: Taking It to the Limit, by Ben Fong-Torres, 2011*

**Viewing:**
- *Hell Freezes Over DVD 1994*
- *History of the Eagles documentary DVD 2013*

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WEEK FOUR: *The solidification and expansion of country-rock as a genre,* 1975-present. Reaching across folk, rock, pop and back to the Nashville establishment, country rock is now an omnipresent musical force that can be found in many styles of music. Marshall Tucker Band.
The Outlaws, Emmylou Harris, Delbert McLinton, John Hiatt, Desert Rose Band and Lucinda Williams

Listening:
The Outlaws (debut album) 1975 Arista
Pieces of the Sky, Emmylou Harris 1975 Warners
Luxury Liner, Emmylou Harris 1977 Warners
A Decade of Hits, The Charlie Daniels band 1983 Epic
Guitar Town, Steve Earle, 1986 MCA
Stolen Moments, John Hiatt 1990 A&M

Reading:
Southbound: An Illustrated History of Southern Rock, by Scott Bomar, 2014

Viewing:
Lucinda Williams - Live from Austin, Texas DVD 1998
Delbert McClinton - A Musical Conversation & Journey 2008