

# History of Popular Music Syllabus

2025-2026

S-Track | Block 3 (C Lunch) | Room 126

Mr. Kyle Casem

[kyle.casem@wtsdnj.com](mailto:kyle.casem@wtsdnj.com)

## **Websites & Communication:**

Website: <https://sites.google.com/wtsdnj.com/jfkmhschoirs/home>

Google Classroom: 5maca6bf

*Announcements, assignments, resources*

**Remind:** text @f7bf8c to 81010

*All students **must** sign up for Remind in order to receive notifications regarding assignments. Parents are welcome to sign up for the reminders as well.*

**Genesis:** <https://parent.woodbridge.k12.nj.us/woodbridge/parents>

*For tracking grades and academic progress.*

## **Course Description:**

This course introduces students to the various genres that have made up popular music throughout history. An in-depth look is taken at the history of music, analyzing its trends, and the political and social events that influenced it. Upon completion of the course, students will also have a greater appreciation of music through an increased understanding and awareness of its component parts. Students will study a variety of stylistic periods of music, and the works of representative composers and artists. No performance skills are required for this class, emphasis is placed on listening and analysis.

## **Routine:**

- When you enter the classroom, go to your assigned seat, and place your belongings under your chair.
- Look at the board to see what you need to do next.

## **Expectations:**

- **Arrive on time.**
- **Be prepared.** You must have all of your materials with you at the start of class.
- **Do not allow your cell phone or your headphones to be a distraction to you or your classmates.**  
Keep them away.
- **Participate.** Make an effort. Do your part. Focus. Listen to directions. Give it your best shot. Make a mistake. Learn from your mistakes.
- **Raise your hand.** Wait to be acknowledged by the teacher before you speak.
- **Be kind and respectful.** Everyone should be able to enjoy their experience in school, both within and outside of the classroom.
- **Be responsible with bathroom privileges.**
- **Ask Mr. Casem before using the piano, board, or other equipment in the room.** These are educational tools that should be treated as such.

## **Materials Needed Every Day:**

- **Something to take notes on**  
Paper, notebook, or your Chromebook
- **Something to write with**
- **Chromebook (CHARGED)**  
There are very few power outlets in the choir room, so please be sure that your Chromebook is charged. Bring this every day.
- **Earbuds/headphones**  
Please bring headphones that can connect to your Chromebook. Bring these every day.

## Grading:

50% (minor assessments) 20+ per marking period	50% (major assessments) 5+ per marking period
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- **Minor assessments:** homework, “Do Now” assignments, note-taking, listening quizzes
- **Major assessments:** tests, projects
- ***Late work will receive a 10% deduction per day late.***
  - Certain assignments may not be turned in late - they will receive a zero if not turned in by the due date.
  - Late work will not be accepted or graded until Mr. Casem receives a written message from the student (via email) for each late submission.
  - Late work submissions go to the “bottom of the pile.” Please do not expect late work to be graded immediately after I receive it.
- Extra credit/extra assignments are offered only under extenuating circumstances (see Mr. Casem for details).

## Absences:

- **It is your responsibility to find out what you missed when you are absent – ask a friend or ask Mr. Casem, then meet with me to set due dates for your make-up work.** Please be aware that Genesis will display a 0 for any missing assignments until the make-up work is completed. Students are responsible for turning in make-up work on the agreed-upon due date - late make-up assignments will automatically receive a 0.

## Electronic Device Policy:

- In accordance with district and school policies, **the use of cellphones, headphones, or electronic devices other than a school-issued Chromebook, is not permitted in the classroom.**
- Students who use these devices during class will receive **one verbal warning** from Mr. Casem to put their device away.
- **Failure to comply with the verbal warning will result in disciplinary action from the school administration.**

# JFKMHS HISTORY OF POPULAR MUSIC CONTRACT 2025-2026

Name of Student: \_\_\_\_\_

WE HAVE READ AND AGREE TO COMPLY WITH THE POLICIES STATED IN THE SYLLABUS.

X: Student Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

X: Parent Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_