



Fall Semester HIST 371:

SOCIETY, CULTURE, AND ROCK & ROLL

This class surveys the social and cultural fabric of post-World War II United States through the prism of rock & roll music. At one level the class surveys trends and styles in rock. It tracks the rise of rock & roll in the 1950s and the corporate, political, and social backlash against it. The focus on the 1960s is on music as an expression and extension of the social, cultural, and political changes of that decade. Finally, the class examines the paradoxical developments of "corporate rock and roll" and the emergence of an abrasive, often angry music by the end of the 1970s and into the 1980s. In the end, this class will examine and explain the technological, business, and social forces that helped cement rock's position in modern popular culture.

