



Summer 2025 Schedule of Classes

Critical Thinking course

CTCM 2530 - H80 (CRN#24359) Interdisciplinary Critical Thinking and Communication (HONR)

Second Half Term Summer | On-Line Synchronous

Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday 5:30 pm - 8:30 pm

Jason Black

"Music, Communication, & Social Change" In this course, we will explore the central importance of popular music as a rhetorical form in the United States (20th and 21st centuries). We will specifically emphasize how music is a conduit for social change. Music is understood here as not just a product, but rather as a process. Thus, we define music as "the capacity for humans to create, perform, organize cognitively, react physically and emotionally to, and interpret the meanings of humanly organized sounds" (Rice). We will specifically root our analysis of music as a rhetorical form (e.g., song lyrics and music videos) in two frames: (1) the Rhetorical Tradition and (2) Ethnomusicology. The Rhetorical Tradition emphasizes the way communication forms like music creates meaning in society which, in turn, helps us: make sense of our human experiences; constitute our identities; and live our public lives together" (Black). The distinction of "public" necessitates that the Rhetorical Tradition contributes cultural, social, and political elements to our definition of music. Ethnomusicology is the study of how and why people deploy and consume music – the ways we "do musicking" together – as rhetors/musicians and audiences, respectively (Rice). Together, the Rhetorical Tradition and Ethnomusicology permit us the soulful ability to analyze music through both critique and appreciation. Music, Communication & Social Change focuses on examinations of song lyrics and music videos within topical contexts connected with social change including Civil/Human Rights, Gender Activism, LGBTQIA Communication, Anti-War/Peace Efforts, Decolonization, Mental Health, Labor Activism, Immigrant Music, Gen-X Political Activism, and BIPOC Liberation.

Prerequisite: WRDS 1103/1104

Restrictions: Sophomore and higher

Must be enrolled in Honors (AAHP, BHP, UHP, or departmental) OR be a Levine Scholar; OR have permission of the Honors College. To obtain permission please contact Colette Chenault at cchenaul@charlotte.edu.

Summer 2025 Schedule of Classes

Upper Division elective courses

HONR 3700 - H80 (CRN#31103) Honors College Topics: *Come Out Fighting: Documenting the Modern Black Freedom Struggle From Charlotte, NC*

First Half Term Summer | On-Line Synchronous

Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday 6:00 pm - 8:30 pm

Willie Griffin

Racial integration and voting rights have been promulgated as the primary, and often only, objectives of the Modern Civil Rights Movement. Politicians, public school curricula, and mainstream media have helped to cultivate this belief over the course of several decades. We will reconsider this belief, interrogate the successes and failures of the movement, and examine the crucial dimension of economic justice to better analyze the legacy of structural inequity in areas such as policing, employment, education, and housing. Using the latest scholarship, oral and digital histories, along with records from the black press charting the movement's trajectory, this course aims to reshape what Julian Bond referred to as the "master narrative" of the Civil Rights Movement. Charlotte's local history, often overlooked in Civil Rights scholarship until the 1970s, will be central to our exploration of the historical roots of the Modern Black Freedom Struggle, its development into the mid-twentieth century, as well as its legacies in the twenty-first century. We will seek to gain a better understanding of how African Americans waged battles for social and economic justice and the systematic responses to their struggle. Major topics include, but are not limited to, the Black Radical Tradition, White Supremacy, Jim Crow, the New Negro, the Great Migration, Black Nationalism, Civic & Labor Organizing, the New Deal, World War II, Mass Mobilization and Grassroots Organizing, Televised Civil Rights Era in the urban and rural South, Sit-Ins, Freedom Rides, SNCC, Freedom Songs, Black Power, and Black Lives Matter.

Prerequisite: CTCM 2530

Restrictions: Junior and higher

Must be enrolled in Honors (AAHP, BHP, UHP, or departmental) OR be a Levine Scholar; OR have permission of the Honors College. To obtain permission please contact Colette Chenault at cchenaul@charlotte.edu.
