

Blog Assignment Sheet Writing 2, Spring 2007

The Purpose

This will be a place for you to think through topics, ideas, and issues about music before writing about them formally. I will give you a list of topics (on the next page), and you will be evaluated using the “blog rubric” which I will also hand out to you. ***You will have lots of latitude in terms of what to do with your blog, so I suggest that you use it. Have some fun with this assignment, but make sure that you do it. IF YOU DECIDE TO GO OFF TOPIC, JUST START YOUR ENTRY WITH THIS PHRASE: “I’M GOING A BIT OFF TOPIC FOR THIS WEEK’S BLOG.”***

The Audience

The folks who will be reading and responding to this blog are your classmates and me. You will set up the blog so that everyone in class will be able to read and respond to it, but it will not be open to response from anyone outside of the class. **We will set up the blog in class, but your last seven responses will done on your own OUTSIDE OF CLASS.**

Evaluation

Your blog will be evaluated twice during the semester: once before midterms, and once towards the end of class. Students will be evaluated on completing the appropriate number of entries in sufficient depth. You will create your own blog in the second week of class (using the Blogger site, <http://www.blogger.com>), and then you will be required to write **once a week** about our readings. You should write the equivalent of seven pages. **This is a multimedia project**, so you are encouraged to include pictures, links to cool websites, and other media. Also, you must respond at length (at least 250 words) to a peer’s blog entry five times over the course of the semester.

Percentage of total grade: 20%

Due Dates:

Blog Topics

Week Three

What is your opinion of contemporary popular music? Use examples from the class debate, your essay, and other things to talk about what is right, and wrong, in terms of popular music.

Week Four

What reading most interested you and why? Also, how might you use the reading in your paper on the social history of popular music?

Week Five

Read and respond, in whatever fashion you want, to **any one** of the readings this week. Try playing with poetry, song lyrics, a letter, or any genre you want to try out.

Week Six

Answer this question, drawing from our readings for this week: is hip hop music and culture, generally, a force for good or ill in our culture? Think, in particular, about how it might affect both adults and children separately.

Week Seven

Using the readings from this week respond to this question: what are the good, and the bad, that have come about because of technology of music?

Week Eight

What is, for you or your group, the question that you want to answer with your research on music? Also, what is the potential significance, to UCSB and the wider world, of your research?

Week Nine

Read and respond, in whatever fashion you want, to **any one** of the readings this week. Try playing with poetry, song lyrics, a letter, or any genre you want to try out.

Week Ten

What are some things you learned about music, research, and writing in this class? Also, what are some things that we didn't address in our ten weeks together that you would have liked to learn?