Popular Music Studies
Through the Popular Music Studies Path, students focus not only on some of the most widely known and beloved musics of the present and recent past, but also grapple with complex questions of pop music’s social and cultural impacts. This path highlights a selection of courses that approach music as part of the culture industries, with attention to its aesthetic, economic, political, technological, and legal dimensions. Having honed skills in research, writing, and cultural analysis, students may go on in such directions as music criticism careers, or graduate studies in popular music.

Path advisors: Andrew Mall (faculty bio & contact info), David Herlihy (faculty bio & contact info)

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| MUSC 1201 Music Theory 1  
MUSC 1204 Analyzing Popular Genres  
MUSC 1202 Music Theory 2 (or other music theory elective) | Traditional – MUSC 2340 Divas, DJs, and Double Standards (or other traditional offering)  
Ethnomusicology – MUSC 1140 Global Pop Music (or other ethno offering)  
Contemporary – MUSC 2310 Popular Music Since 1945 (or other contemporary offering)  
Creative – MUSC 1142 Pop, Jazz, and Rock Singing (or other creative offering) | MUSI 5900 Ethnography in Creative Industries or MUSC 4651 Music Research Capstone [new course] | MUSI 2234 Festivals  
MUSC 2317 Punk Rock  
MUSC 2351 Music, Sound, and the Screen  
MUSC 2101 Black Popular Music  
MUSC 3353 Music and the Racial Imagination  
MUSC 3337 Writing About Music  
MUSI 3401 Hip Hop and the Music Industry | MSCR 2220 Understanding Media and Film  
MSCR 2400 Hip Hop in and as Media  
MSCR 3426 Popular Music as Media Form  
MSCR 3437 Media and Identity  
AFAM 1113 Black Popular Culture: Music, Movies, and More  
SOC 2100 Popular Culture  
WMNS 1101 Sex, Gender, and Popular Culture  
ANTH 3120 Consumer Cultures | Boston Globe  
Island Records  
Republic Records |

About BA in Music paths:
- BA in Music students are not required to follow one path, but are encouraged to explore them and consult relevant path advisors as they discover their passions and the field’s possibilities.
- All paths assume that the student will take MUSC 1000 Music at Northeastern, and MUSC 1001 Music in Everyday Life.
- The number of music electives recommended may exceed the number of music electives required for the major (4).
- Recommended non-music electives do not count toward major requirements.

Last updated: July 2019