



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](#))

Theory	Music in Context	Capstone	Recommended Music Electives	Recommended Non-Music Electives	Relevant Co-ops
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 <i>MUSC 4651 Music Research Capstone [new course]</i>	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