

A survey of the Rock 'n' Roll Musical in the US and the UK. We will explore the new musical and social qualities of rock 'n' roll, and the discovery of ways in which these could be cinematically represented and elaborated. We will trace the Rock 'n' Roll film's break from the Classic Hollywood Musical, but also explore the survival and reconstruction of the conventions and motifs of the earlier genre. The first part of the course will be specifically concerned with the period from 1955-1975 (e.g. Rock Around the Clock, King Creole, A Hard Day's Night, Woodstock, Gimme Shelter, Superfly, Nashville, Ziggy Stardust and the Spiders from Mars, and the second with films about later forms of the music-- including heavy metal and punk -- ending with two or three more recent musical films, those that have been important in your lives and chosen by the members of the class.

ALSO RECOMMENDED FOR NON-MAJORS