

Somers Public Schools

# Major Course Modification and New Course Proposal

Type of proposal: ☒ Major modification to existing course ☐ New Course

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |                                                                                                                                                                                     |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Proposed Course Title:</b> <u>UConn/ECE</u><br>Popular Music and Diversity in American Society<br>(formerly Music In Society)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | <b>Content Area:</b><br>Music                                                                                                                                                       |
| <b>This course is designed for:</b><br><u>Freshman</u> Sophomores Juniors <u>Seniors</u> Middle School                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | <b>Length of Course:</b><br>Full Year <u>Semester</u> Quarter Trimester                                                                                                             |
| <b>Prerequisites needed by students to take this course:</b><br>None.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| <b>What need(s) does this course address? How was the need identified and who was involved determining the need?</b><br>This course can provide students with an opportunity to take and advance level fine arts course in order to enhance and strengthen their understanding of music in America. Students interested in pursuing humanities or fine arts in Music would benefit from this dual enrollment course. It will also be a great opportunity for reaching the "whole student" with relevant connections to society. This will also give our students an opportunity to earn ECE credit in music at SHS. |                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| <b>Give a general overview of what this course will cover.</b><br>An introduction to popular music and diversity in America: jazz, blues, Top-40 pop, rock, hip-hop, and other genres. Musicians and their music studied in the context of twentieth-century and contemporary American society, emphasizing issues of race, gender, class, and resistance.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| <b>Who designed this course?</b><br>Jessica Wolf<br>Marika Kraus<br>UCONN ECE program                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | <b>What, if any, special background/training would the teacher need to instruct this course successfully?</b><br>Degree in Music Education (049 certification)<br>ECE certification |

What, if any, implications does this course have on staffing, other curricular areas and or space?

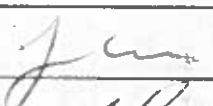
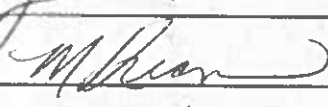
No impact on staffing, as this could be covered by Jessica Wolf, if we were to combine band classes into one period at SHS. The class could be taught in the SHS band room, and would not need additional space.

Resources Needed for this Course:

Please list the materials/resources needed along with an estimated cost including PD.

| <u>Materials/Resources</u>                                                                        | <u>Cost</u>   |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------|
|                                                                                                   |               |
| Required Textbook: American Popular Music: From Minstrelsy to MP3                                 | eBook is free |
|                                                                                                   |               |
| Required Textbook: Pop, Rock & Soul Reader, 3rd ed. (edited by David Brackett) ISBN 9780199811700 | \$65.95 each  |
|                                                                                                   |               |

Signatures below indicate that the course proposal has been discussed and feedback has been elicited on the proposal prior to completion. Interdisciplinary proposals require the signatures of members of all involved in those content areas/departments.

| Signature                                                                           | Content Area         | Date     |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------|----------|
|   | MUSIC                | 9/30/25  |
|   | MUSIC                | 9/30/25  |
|  | APPLIED ED TEAM LEAD | 10-1-25  |
|  | Hum. Inst. Leader    | 10/01/25 |
|                                                                                     |                      |          |
|                                                                                     |                      |          |
|                                                                                     |                      |          |
|                                                                                     |                      |          |

Principal Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: 9/30/25

Superintendent Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: 10/8/25

Director of Curriculum Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: 10/16/25