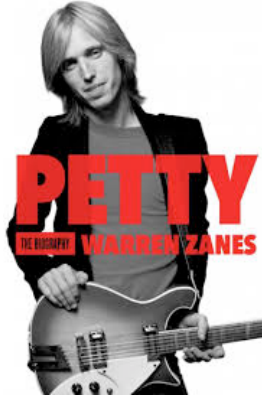


IDH 2930, Class No. 18326
(Un)Common Reads

Petty: The Biography



Fall 2018
Wednesdays, Period 11 (6:15 – 7:05 p.m.)
119 Hume

Prof. Clay Calvert

Office: 2060 Weimer Hall (College of Journalism & Communications)
Office Hours: Mondays, noon – 5:30 p.m. (and by appointment)
Office Phone: (352) 273-1096
Email: ccalvert@jou.ufl.edu

About the Course: This course centers on one required book – *Petty: The Biography* by Warren Zanes (St. Martin's 2016, paperback; Henry Holt & Co. 2015, hardback). Zanes, who is both a musician and a professor, offers a detailed narrative – one based on multiple interviews and historical research – that goes far deeper than merely telling the life story of the late Gainesvillian Thomas Earl Petty. Specifically, the book provides a riveting account of life in the music industry, the life and struggles of a band (several bands, in fact), and the life of Petty's own family, from his grandparents through to his daughters. Ultimately, Petty was a self-made man and this book provides important lessons about hard work, perseverance, leadership and burning ambition. You also may find the book interesting because it provides a fascinating historical account of the rich music scene in Gainesville. The course requires neither prior knowledge of Tom Petty nor a love of Tom Petty's music.

Visit by the Author: Warren Zanes will speak on campus in the Gannett Auditorium in Weimer Hall (College of Journalism and Communications) on the evening of Thursday, September 27, 2018. I hope you will be able to attend to hear and meet him, as well as to ask questions during the question-and-answer session.

Assignments: There are 10 written assignments. Each counts for 10% of your overall course grade (subject to reduction for lack of attendance, as described below). The written assignments are response papers to assigned readings in *Petty: The Biography*. Response papers must be a minimum of 200 words and a maximum of 350 words. In some instances, the questions you are asked will specify the required word or sentence length.

All papers must be stapled, double-spaced and typed in 12-point size in a font variation of Times Roman, Century Schoolbook or Palatino. Failure to follow these basic instructions will negatively affect your grade. In addition, grading is based on: 1) clarity of writing; 2) organization of writing; 3) spelling; 4) grammar; 5) the accuracy/correctness of your answer and the substance, depth and strength of your analysis, logic and reasoning; and 6) your ability to follow all of the instructions (including but not limited to length limits on answers).

Be ready to read parts of your papers in class or have me read them in class. Your response papers will form the core of our weekly discussions. Bring two copies of your paper to class – one to give to me at the start of class and one for you to have during class.

Grading:

Numerical grades in this course translate to the following letter grades:

A	93 – 100	C+	77 – 79	D-	60 – 62
A-	90 – 92	C	73 – 76	E	50 – 59
B+	87 – 89	C-	70 – 72		
B	83 – 86	D+	67 – 69		
B-	80 – 82	D	63 – 66		

There is no curve. The grades fall where they may within these cut-off points. Information on the assigning of grade points (for grade-point averages) as they affect your GPA is found at: <https://catalog.ufl.edu/UGRD/academic-regulations/grades-grading-policies/>

Attendance: Attendance is required and participation is expected, given that this is a seminar, not a lecture class. You are allowed two (2) free absences – for sickness or for any reason, so don't squander days if you're not really sick – during the semester without penalty. Missing three or four class meetings, however, will result in the lowering of a student's overall final course grade by a "plus" or "minus" fraction of a letter grade. For instance, an "A" would drop to an "A-," while a "B" would be drop to a "B-" grade. Missing more than four class meetings will result in the lowering of a student's overall final course grade by a full letter grade. For instance, an "A" would drop to a "B," while a "B+" would drop to a "C+" grade.

Days When Class Does Not Meet: We will not have class on the dates set forth below:

- September 26, 2018
- November 7, 2018
- November 21, 2018

Accommodations for Students with Disabilities:

Students with disabilities requiring accommodations should immediately contact the Disability Resource Center Office for complete information at:

<https://drc.dso.ufl.edu>

All support services provided to and for University of Florida students are individualized to meet the needs of students with disabilities. To obtain individual support services, each student must meet with one of the support service coordinators at the Disability Resource Center and collaboratively develop appropriate support strategies. Appropriate documentation regarding the student's disability is necessary to obtain any reasonable accommodation or support service. Procedures for obtaining accommodations are set forth at:

<https://drc.dso.ufl.edu/accommodated-testing/accommodated-testing-request/>

Answers to Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) for students regarding testing services are found at:

<https://drc.dso.ufl.edu/accommodated-testing/accommodated-testing-request/testing-faq-students/>

Please notify me on the first day of class if you require special accommodations so that we can work together to expedite the process to obtain the accommodations you require.

Evaluations:

You voluntary feedback on the quality of instruction in this course is very important and can be completed online at <https://evaluations.ufl.edu>. Evaluations are typically open during the last two or three weeks of the semester. Your feedback is very important to me, as it not only goes to my department head for year-end evaluations, but also allows me to improve the course. Thank you very much in advance for taking the time to do this!

No Extra Credit:

There are no extra credit projects, papers or exams. Please do not ask for any extra credit work. All students are treated equally based on their performance on the 10 written assignments and attendance.

Addenda:

The professor reserves the right to make reasonable changes to the reading assignments and the format of the 10 written assignments.