

Music in Culture and Society – Assignment 1

Assignment 1: Review essay

Selecting a book that interests you from Section A of the module reading list, write a c. 2,500 word review essay which covers the following main points:

- ❖ summarise the contents and principal arguments of the book. Remember that content includes style, approach and subject matter: what did you find engaging or challenging in the book, and why?
- ❖ open out the review by relating the subject matter of the book to other ideas related to the module, whether from the rest of the reading list, from discussion or from your own experience.

You should write as if reviewing the book for an academic journal, remembering that your reader will not necessarily have a copy of the publication in question to hand whilst looking at your review, so the review itself must be able to stand alone.

Successful assignments will be written in stylish and engaging prose, and will display a thorough understanding of the chosen book and of related literature and ideas.

Less successful assignments will restrict discussion to the book under review, perhaps displaying a partial or confused knowledge of its content and approach.

Work should be submitted in double-spaced, word-processed form, with full citational details for all references. Marks may be lost for poor presentation, incorrect spellings, faulty grammar etc.. Short quotations from the book are placed in inverted commas, while longer quotes (40 words or more) are better laid out as single-spaced, indented paragraphs. See the *Undergraduate Handbook* for full guidance on presentation of written work, and for detailed assessment criteria.

Discussion of this assignment will be the focus of the scheduled workshop on **16th November** and you should prepare for that session by reading and making an initial response to your selected book.

Either of the tutors can be approached with questions relating to the assignment:

- ❖ Dr Stephanie Pitts – s.e.pitts@sheffield.ac.uk – 0114 2220481
- ❖ Dr Anthony McCann – A.T.McCann@sheffield.ac.uk – 0114 2220496

Submission deadline: Friday 26th November 2004 (2 copies to be submitted to the Department Office by 5.00 p.m.)