

John Covach

Professor of Music and Director of the Institute for Popular Music; Professor of Theory at Eastman School of Music at University of Rochester

Rochester, NY, US

John Covach is an expert on the history of popular and rock music, 12-tone music, and the philosophy and aesthetics of music.

Biography

John Covach is Director of the University of Rochester Institute for Popular Music, Professor of Music in the College Music Department, and Professor of Theory at the Eastman School of Music. Professor Covach teaches classes in traditional music theory as well as the history and analysis of popular music. His online courses at Coursera.org have enrolled more than 350,000 students in over 175 countries worldwide. Professor Covach has published dozens of articles on topics dealing with popular music, twelve-tone music, and the philosophy and aesthetics of music. He is the principal author of the college textbook *What's That Sound? An Introduction to Rock Music* (W.W. Norton) and has co-edited *Understanding Rock* (Oxford University Press), *American Rock and the Classical Tradition and Traditions*, *Institutions*, and *American Popular Music* (Routledge), *Sounding Out Pop* (University of Michigan Press), as well as the forthcoming *Cambridge Companion to the Rolling Stones*. He is one of the founding editors for *Tracking Pop* (Michigan), a series devoted to scholarly monographs on popular music. He appears regularly on radio and television in North America and England, and his writing may be found in *Time*, *Newsweek*, *The Huffington Post*, *CNN.com* and *FoxNews.com*. As a guitarist, Covach has performed widely on electric and classical guitar in both the US and Europe and recorded with the progressive rock band, *Land of Chocolate*. He currently performs with several bands, including *Going for the One*.

Industry Expertise

Writing and Editing, Music, Education/Learning, Research

Areas of Expertise

Rock 'n' Roll, Music and Culture, Progressive Rock in the 1970s, The Beatles, Popular Music, The Rolling Stones, Philosophy and Aesthetics of Music, Music Industry, British Invasion

Affiliations

Institute for Popular Music : Director

Education

University of Michigan

Ph.D. Music Theory and Composition

University of Michigan
M.A. Music Theory and Composition

University of Michigan
B.A. Music Theory and Composition

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