This Discussion Topic will provide an opportunity to identify musical elements in historical/cultural  contexts (CLO 3).

**Background**

This discussion forum invites you to share ideas related to one of two themes from Week 13:  Bob Dylan's influence on other musicians and/or on audiences; The folk/rock divide.

**Assignment**

1. Be sure to have covered the material of Week 13 before posting.
2. Choose one of the following:
   1. Bob Dylan's influence:
      * Google phrases such as "Bob Dylan's Influence" and "Who did Dylan influence."
      * Find a musician or band purportedly influenced by Dylan and locate a relevant song on Youtube (i.e., one that someone--you, the musician, a commenter on the internet...--believes carries this influence).
      * Post this link and pass judgment on the influence in one paragraph (what does it consist of?  Is it primarily musical?  Is it primarily in the lyrics?  Does it lie in the artist/audience relationship that the music implies?  How strong is it?  How much credit should Dylan get?).  Note:  while we only cover Dylan's folk-phase in Week 13, you are welcome to expand the discussion to other parts of Dylan's career.
      * Reply in 2-3 sentences to at least one other posting.
      * Clarification:  it is not necessary that you bring up an influence or song that no one else has mentioned.  But to receive full credit for this forum you need to do more than repeat what other students have said.  In both your posting and your reply, ask yourself if you have made a contribution; perhaps you have expanded on another student's point; perhaps you have a take on the question of Bob Dylan's influence that no one else has made.
   2. Musical divides:
      * After reviewing the history of the folk/rock divide, think of another case where a large number of people have quite openly disliked a given genre or artist.  In a succinct paragraph, 1) do justice to that dislike (i.e., present it in a way that those who share it would agree with you), and then 2) defend the music in question.  **Take both sides of the issue**, in other words.
      * Reply in 2-3 sentences to at least one other posting.  Do not simply agree or disagree with what others have said.  Rather, enrich the discussion in some way.  Maybe you have a different understanding than has thus far been expressed regarding why one group of people dislikes a given musician or genre; maybe you have insight into why criticism of a musician or genre is unfair.
      * Food for thought:  who tends to dislike country music and why?  Who tends to dislike hiphop and why?  To what degree does elitism play a role in this dislike (as it evidently did in the folk/rock divide)?

**Grading**

Discussion 4 is worth 30 points broken down as follows:

* First Option (Dylan's influence):
  + Up to 5 points for identifying a musican or band purportedly influenced by Dylan and providing a Youtube link to one relevant song.
  + Up to 15 points for a detailed paragraph defining the nature and scope of that influence.
  + Up to 10 points for a reply that contributes something of substance to someone else's posting.
* Second Option (musical divides):
  + Up to 20 points for a posting that identifies a divide and insightfully defends both sides of it.
  + Up to 10 points for a reply that contributes something of substance to someone else's posting (in defense of a genre or artist, in defense of the latter's critics, or both.