

Great Artists in American Roots Music

From its emergence amid rapid cultural change in the early 20th century, country music has resonated with people who feel left behind by a shifting world. A key genre of American roots music, it captures hardships of modern life while intentionally evoking emotional response. Whether facing troubled relationships, unemployment, homelessness, loneliness, or spiritual bereft, there is a country song for you. This course traces the history of country and American roots music through the stories and artistic developments of influential performers. Each session highlights key figures including the Carter Family, Bill Monroe, Hank Williams, and Dolly Parton.



[Great Artists in American Roots Music course promo video.](#)

Your Instructor: Taylor Ackley, PhD



Taylor Ackley, PhD, is a scholar, composer, and performer of American Roots music. He holds a PhD and a master's degree in composition, and a master's in ethnomusicology from Stony Brook University. Ackley is an independent scholar and professional musician based in northwestern Montana and is writing his first book, *Hearing Class*. A singer and multi-instrumentalist, he has performed nationwide, released four albums, and presented at major conferences in music, sociology, and ethnomusicology.

Mondays, September 28 through November 2

8am PT | 9am MT | 10am CT | 11am ET

Each live session is 90 minutes

- Monday, September 28
- Monday, October 5
- Monday, October 12
- Monday, October 19
- Monday, October 26
- Monday, November 2

To register, please contact your local Osher Institute.