

Course Outline

Code: MUS101

Title: Intro to Songwriting and Performance

School: Creative Industries
Teaching Session: Semester 2
Year: 2020
Course Coordinator: Dr Andy Ward, award4@usc.edu.au
Course Moderator: Dr Lachlan Goold, lgoold@usc.edu.au

Please go to the USC website for up to date information on the teaching sessions and campuses where this course is usually offered.

1. What is this course about?

1.1 Description

In this course, you will study the foundations of songwriting, live sound, and staged performance. You will be guided by lecturers and industry practitioners as you engage in the basics of lyrics writing, harmony, melody, and musical form. You will apply these skills in a number of music performance tasks including live recording, live sound, stage presence, performance practice and collaborative music making. This knowledge will culminate in a live performance and recording of your original song.

1.2 Field trips, WIL placements or activities required by professional accreditation

Activity	Details
Nil	Nil

2. What level is this course?

100 level Introductory - Discipline knowledge and skills at foundational level, broad application of knowledge and skills in familiar contexts and with support. Normally associated with the first full-time year of an undergraduate program.

3. What is the unit value of this course?

12 units

4. How does this course contribute to my learning?

Specific Learning Outcomes	Assessment tasks	Graduate Qualities or Professional Standards mapping
On successful completion of this course, you should be able to:	You will be assessed on the learning outcomes in task/s:	Completing these tasks successfully will contribute to:
Develop a shared musical vocabulary led by 21st Century popular approaches to music creation	1, 2 and 3	Knowledgeable. Creative and critical thinkers.
Build a knowledge of the key elements of songwriting and lyric writing	1, 2 and 3	Knowledgeable. Creative and critical thinkers.

Specific Learning Outcomes On successful completion of this course, you should be able to:	Assessment tasks You will be assessed on the learning outcomes in task/s:	Graduate Qualities or Professional Standards mapping Completing these tasks successfully will contribute to:
informed by both artistic and industry practice.		
Perform music and lyrical works of your own creation as part of an ongoing process of development for a portfolio of creative works.	3	Engaged.
Develop industry-informed technical knowledge in live performance practice according to a 21 st Century music practice.	2 and 3	Knowledgeable. Creative and critical thinkers.
Explore songwriting theory in an industry best practice framework according to intellectual property considerations.	3	Ethical.
Develop critical listening and self-analysis skills essential to songwriting practice in the 21st Century.	1, 2 and 3	Creative and critical thinkers.

5. Am I eligible to enrol in this course?

Refer to the [USC Glossary of terms](#) for definitions of “pre-requisites, co-requisites and anti-requisites”.

5.1 Enrolment restrictions

Nil

5.2 Pre-requisites

Nil

5.3 Co-requisites

Nil

5.4 Anti-requisites

Nil

5.5 Specific assumed prior knowledge and skills (where applicable)

Nil

6. How am I going to be assessed?

6.1 Grading scale

Standard – High Distinction (HD), Distinction (DN), Credit (CR), Pass (PS), Fail (FL)

6.2 Details of early feedback on progress

An opportunity exists in every workshop to produce and perform creative pieces individually and/or in small peer groups. However, in Week 4 students will received feedback from tutors.

6.3 Assessment tasks

Task No.	Assessment Product	Individual or Group	Weighting %	What is the duration / length?	When should I submit?	Where should I submit it?
1	Artefact - Creative	Individual	20%	5 minutes	Week 5	In Class
2	Artefact - Creative	Individual	40%	5 minutes and 500 words	Week 10	In Class
3	Artefact - Creative, and Written Piece	Group	40%	5 minutes of original sound recording of a live performance	Week 1 of centrally scheduled exams	In Class
			100%			

Assessment 1: Song Sketch: Performance of Original Song

Goal:	This assessment task will develop and evaluate skills in lyric writing, basic songwriting and performance including elements of music theory like harmony and structure.
Product:	Artefact - Creative
Format:	In this task, you will write an original song and perform this work in class time. You will be required to vocalise and either self-accompany or collaborate with one other student to accompany you. Using the foundation knowledge of songwriting and performance practice you deliver your work to your student cohort in a university-facing environment.
Criteria:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demonstrate understanding of lyric writing principles discussed in this course • Demonstrate novel construction of narrative • Implement popular song structures • Demonstrate ability to design appropriate harmonic elements • Demonstrate foundation principles of stage presence and audience engagement

Assessment Task 2: Collaborative Music Making

Goal:	This assessment task will place your developing songwriting skills into a common industry framework of practice.
Product:	Artefact - Creative
Format:	In this task you will use your original song as the text for a collaborative creative work. You will deploy your knowledge of practice and rehearsal theory to turn their original song from task 1, into a group arranged work. Your work will include multiple musical layers with different musical functions as outlined in the learning materials. In a reflective journal document, you will outline your experience of the process and discuss how your role may have been improved by your own efforts.
Criteria:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Apply instrumentation and arrangement concept in a live performance • Demonstrate ability to work creatively in a group environment • Demonstrate ability in critical thinking and self-analysis • Demonstrate foundation performance principles in a group context • Demonstrate knowledge of rehearsal and practice theory as outlined in the course

Assessment Task 3: Live Performance, Recording and Staging.

Goal:	This assessment task will place your collaborative work in a larger industry informed process including technical knowledge in sound production and staging.
Product:	Artefact - Creative, and Written Piece
Format:	In this task, you will take part in a three step process to perform and technically facilitate an industry-informed university facing event. You will: use your technical knowledge of live

	sound and staging to produce a live performance; perform your group arrangement of your original song; and record a creative work for another student group in a live performance context.
Criteria:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demonstrate technical ability in live staging and sound • Demonstrate ability to work as part of a larger industry-informed event production environment • Demonstrate songwriting and lyric writing knowledge in a 'social risk' environment • Appropriate technical delivery of a live sound recording accord to the principles outlined in the course • Demonstrate foundation principles of stage presence and audience engagement

7. Directed study hours

The directed study hours listed here are a portion of the workload for this course. A 12 unit course will have total of 150 learning hours which will include directed study hours (including online if required), self-directed learning and completion of assessable tasks. Directed study hours may vary by location. Student workload is calculated at 12.5 learning hours per one unit.

Location:	Directed study hours for location*:
USC Sunshine Coast	Computer workshop: 3 hours

**This course will be delivered via technology-enabled learning and teaching. All lectures will remain in this mode for Semester 2 2020. When government guidelines allow, students that elected on-campus study via the class selection process will be advised when on campus tutorials and practical sessions will resume.*

8. What resources do I need to undertake this course?

Please note that course information, including specific information of recommended readings, learning activities, resources, weekly readings, etc. are available on the course Blackboard site. Please log in as soon as possible.

8.1 Prescribed text(s) or course reader

Nil

8.2 Specific requirements

Nil

9. How are risks managed in this course?

Health and safety risks for this course have been assessed as low.

It is your responsibility as a student to review course material, search online, discuss with lecturers and peers, and understand the health and safety risks associated with your specific course of study. It is also your responsibility to familiarise yourself with the University's general health and safety principles by reviewing the [online Health Safety and Wellbeing training module for students](#), and following the instructions of the University staff.

10. What administrative information is relevant to this course?

10.1 Assessment: Academic Integrity

Academic integrity is the ethical standard of university participation. It ensures that students graduate as a result of proving they are competent in their discipline. This is integral in maintaining the value of academic qualifications. Each industry has expectations and standards of the skills and knowledge within that discipline and these are reflected in assessment.

Academic integrity means that you do not engage in any activity that is considered to be academic fraud; including plagiarism, collusion or outsourcing any part of any assessment item to any other person. You are expected to be honest and ethical by completing all work yourself and indicating in your work which ideas and information were developed by you and which were taken from others. You cannot provide your assessment work to others. You are also expected to provide evidence of wide and critical reading, usually by using appropriate academic references.

In order to minimise incidents of academic fraud, this course may require that some of its assessment tasks, when submitted to Blackboard, are electronically checked through SafeAssign. This software allows for text comparisons to be made between your submitted assessment item and all other work that SafeAssign has access to.

10.2 Assessment: Additional requirements

Eligibility for Supplementary Assessment

Your eligibility for supplementary assessment in a course is dependent of the following conditions applying:

- a) The final mark is in the percentage range 47% to 49.4%
- b) The course is graded using the Standard Grading scale
- c) You have not failed an assessment task in the course due to academic misconduct

10.3 Assessment: Submission penalties

Late submission of assessment tasks will be penalised at the following maximum rate:

- 5% (of the assessment task's identified value) per day for the first two days from the date identified as the due date for the assessment task.
- 10% (of the assessment task's identified value) for the third day
- 20% (of the assessment task's identified value) for the fourth day and subsequent days up to and including seven days from the date identified as the due date for the assessment task.
- A result of zero is awarded for an assessment task submitted after seven days from the date identified as the due date for the assessment task.

Weekdays and weekends are included in the calculation of days late.

To request an extension, you must contact your Course Coordinator and supply the required documentation to negotiate an outcome.

10.4 Study help

In the first instance, you should contact your tutor, then the Course Coordinator. Additional assistance is provided to all students through Academic Skills Advisers. To book an appointment or find a drop-in session go to [Student Hub](#).

Contact Student Central for further assistance: +61 7 5430 2890 or studentcentral@usc.edu.au

10.5 Wellbeing Services

Student Wellbeing Support Staff are available to assist on a wide range of personal, academic, social and psychological matters to foster positive mental health and wellbeing for your success. Student Wellbeing is comprised of professionally qualified staff in counselling, health and disability Services.

Ability Advisers ensure equal access to all aspects of university life. If your studies are affected by a disability, mental health issue, learning disorder, injury or illness, or you are a primary carer for someone with a disability, [AccessAbility Services](#) can provide assistance, advocacy and reasonable academic adjustments.

To book an appointment with either service go to [Student Hub](#), email studentwellbeing@usc.edu.au or accessability@usc.edu.au or call 07 5430 1226

10.6 Links to relevant University policy and procedures

For more information on Academic Learning & Teaching categories including:

- Assessment: Courses and Coursework Programs
- Review of Assessment and Final Grades
- Supplementary Assessment
- Administration of Central Examinations
- Deferred Examinations
- Student Academic Misconduct
- Students with a Disability

Visit the USC website:

<http://www.usc.edu.au/explore/policies-and-procedures#academic-learning-and-teaching>

10.7 General Enquiries

In person:

- **USC Sunshine Coast** - Student Central, Ground Floor, Building C, 90 Sippy Downs Drive, Sippy Downs
- **USC Moreton Bay** – Service Centre, Ground Floor, Foundation Building, Gympie Road, Petrie
- **USC SouthBank** - Student Central, Building A4 (SW1), 52 Merivale Street, South Brisbane
- **USC Gympie** - Student Central, 71 Cartwright Road, Gympie
- **USC Fraser Coast** - Student Central, Student Central, Building A, 161 Old Maryborough Rd, Hervey Bay
- **USC Caboolture** - Student Central, Level 1 Building J, Cnr Manley and Tallon Street, Caboolture

Tel: +61 7 5430 2890

Email: studentcentral@usc.edu.au