



COURSE OUTLINE

MUS203 Songwriting 2

Course Coordinator: Briony Luttrell (bluttrell@usc.edu.au) **School:** School of Business and Creative Industries

2021 | Semester 2

USC Sunshine Coast

ON CAMPUS

Most of your course is on campus but you may be able to do some components of this course online.

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 develop your introductory songwriting knowledge and skills into a community-facing skillset. You will be guided by lecturers and other industry practitioners as you engage in intermediate songwriting tasks including lyric writing, expanded concepts of pitch and rhythm, sound design, and musical direction. These tasks will culminate in an interdisciplinary collaborative project presented in a community based environment with you as musical director.

1.2. How will this course be delivered?

ACTIVITY	HOURS	BEGINNING WEEK	FREQUENCY
ON CAMPUS			
Laboratory 1 – In-class laboratory	3hrs	Week 1	12 times

1.3. Course Topics

Intermediate songwriting,
community-facing music making,
Musical Direction,
Stylistic songwriting
Interdisciplinary collaboration

2. What level is this course?

200 Level (Developing)

Building on and expanding the scope of introductory knowledge and skills, developing breadth or depth and applying knowledge and skills in a new context. May require pre-requisites where discipline specific introductory knowledge or skills is necessary. Normally, undertaken in the second or third full-time year of an undergraduate programs.

3. What is the unit value of this course?

12 units

4. How does this course contribute to my learning?

COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES	GRADUATE QUALITIES
On successful completion of this course, you should be able to...	Completing these tasks successfully will contribute to you becoming...
1 Develop an advanced and industry-informed practice of songwriting.	Knowledgeable Creative and critical thinker
2 Work collaboratively with other songwriters and creators to produce works of song, music & sound.	Engaged
3 Critically apply advanced concepts of popular songwriting including lyric, rhythmic, melodic, structural, and arrangement elements.	Creative and critical thinker
4 Develop modern songwriting technology practices based on industry-level practices.	Empowered
5 Apply critical listening skills to evaluate and refine songwriting practices.	Creative and critical thinker Empowered

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. Pre-requisites

Not applicable

5.2. Co-requisites

Not applicable

5.3. Anti-requisites

Not applicable

5.4. Specific assumed prior knowledge and skills (where applicable)

Not applicable

6. How am I going to be assessed?

6.1. Grading Scale

Standard Grading (GRD)

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

6.2. Details of early feedback on progress

There are regular opportunities in workshops to share ideas and work in progress for peer and teaching staff feedback.

6.3. Assessment tasks

DELIVERY MODE	TASK NO.	ASSESSMENT PRODUCT	INDIVIDUAL OR GROUP	WEIGHTING %	WHAT IS THE DURATION / LENGTH?	WHEN SHOULD I SUBMIT?	WHERE SHOULD I SUBMIT IT?
All	1	Artefact - Creative, and Written Piece	Individual	20%	2-5 minute song + a lyric sheet / lead sheet	Week 6	Online Assignment Submission with plagiarism check
All	2	Artefact - Creative, and Written Piece	Individual	40%	2-5 minutes original song + a 300 word written document	Week 10	Online Assignment Submission with plagiarism check
All	3	Artefact - Creative	Group	40%	approx 5-10 minutes of creative work (with a minimum of 2.5 minutes of original lyrical content) + 200-400 word written document	Exam Period	To be Negotiated

All - Assessment Task 1: Song Sketch - expanded practices

GOAL:	The purpose of this task is to demonstrate your developing advanced knowledge of songwriting by showcasing your understanding of selected expanded concepts.																
PRODUCT:	Artefact - Creative, and Written Piece																
FORMAT:	In this task, you will develop a song sketch which demonstrates a selection of expanded concepts from classes this semester in the service of enhancing meaning making in the song. This submission is delivered as an audio artefact and a visual representation.																
CRITERIA:	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>No.</th> <th></th> <th>Learning Outcome assessed</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>1</td> <td>Developing coherent narrative concepts in popular music lyrical and structural formats</td> <td>1 3</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2</td> <td>Application of expanded songwriting concepts at the service of meaning making</td> <td>3 5</td> </tr> <tr> <td>3</td> <td>Application of critical listening skills in the selection and alignment of songwriting choices</td> <td>5</td> </tr> <tr> <td>4</td> <td>Developing industry-level communication of songwriting ideas in prescribed formats</td> <td>4 5</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	No.		Learning Outcome assessed	1	Developing coherent narrative concepts in popular music lyrical and structural formats	1 3	2	Application of expanded songwriting concepts at the service of meaning making	3 5	3	Application of critical listening skills in the selection and alignment of songwriting choices	5	4	Developing industry-level communication of songwriting ideas in prescribed formats	4 5	
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All - Assessment Task 2: Original Stylistic Songwriting

GOAL:	The purpose of this task is to present a complete original song that demonstrates stylistic songwriting.
PRODUCT:	Artefact - Creative, and Written Piece
FORMAT:	In this task, you will develop an original song that demonstrates an applied understanding of stylistic songwriting. You will present this song as an audio file that demonstrates your songwriting, performance, and production ideas. You will also provide a short written document that explains your approach to stylistic songwriting in the creation of your song.

CRITERIA:	No.	Learning Outcome assessed	
	1	Developing and applying prosody of lyrical and musical practice in accordance with stylistic intention	1 3
	2	Critical application of musical concepts according to stylistic intentions	3
	3	Application of critical listening skills in the identification and evaluation of stylistic songwriting choices	5
	4	Developing industry-level communication of stylistic songwriting ideas in prescribed formats	4 5

All - Assessment Task 3: Songwriting and Musical Direction

GOAL:	The purpose of this task is to create and present a portfolio of songs and musical works in a collaborative setting.		
PRODUCT:	Artefact - Creative		
FORMAT:	In this task, you will work as part of an interdisciplinary team to design, create, and realise a community-facing creative work. Your contribution to the process will be in the role of Musical Director and you will be responsible for the development and delivery of songs, musical components, and sound design elements as required by the work. In addition to the elements that feature in the delivery of the work, you may also submit additional musical material inspired by the process that does not feature in the delivery of the work. You and your interdisciplinary team will need to negotiate the specifics of the format with teaching staff. You will submit a written document detailing your contribution.		
CRITERIA:	No.	Learning Outcome assessed	
	1	Development of original song and musical/sound works in line with the teams intentions	1 3
	2	Developing industry-level communication of song and musical/sound ideas in formats relevant to the project	1 4
	3	Collaboration with interdisciplinary team to develop and realise a cohesive and effective work.	2
	4	Application of critical listening skills to evaluate and refine collaborative song, music, and sound contributions	2 5

7. Directed study hours

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.

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

Please note: 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

There are no required/recommended resources for this course.

8.2. Specific requirements

Students are required to bring headphones to each class (with an adaptor for 1/4 inch sockets). Students will also need a storage device either cloud-based or flash/hard drive of more than 16 GBs.

Students are expected to make themselves available for autonomous group rehearsals. Students must therefore consider their availability on evenings and weekends as well as normal working hours. If you anticipate challenges in meeting time commitments, please consider postponing your enrolment in this course.

9. How are risks managed in this course?

Health and safety risks for this course have been assessed as low. It is your responsibility 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 and to familiarise yourself with the University's general health and safety principles by reviewing the [online induction training 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

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

The final mark is in the percentage range 47% to 49.4%

The course is graded using the Standard Grading scale

You have not failed an assessment task in the course due to academic misconduct

10.3. Assessment: Submission penalties

Late submission of assessment tasks may 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 to negotiate an outcome.

10.4. Study help

For help with course-specific advice, for example what information to include in your assessment, you should first contact your tutor, then your course coordinator, if needed.

If you require additional assistance, the Learning Advisers are trained professionals who are ready to help you develop a wide range of academic skills. Visit the [Learning Advisers](#) web page for more information, or contact Student Central for further assistance: +61 7 5430 2890 or studentcentral@usc.edu.au.

10.5. Wellbeing Services

Student Wellbeing provide free and confidential counselling on a wide range of personal, academic, social and psychological matters, to foster positive mental health and wellbeing for your academic success.

To book a confidential appointment go to [Student Hub](#), email studentwellbeing@usc.edu.au or call 07 5430 1226.

10.6. AccessAbility Services

Ability Advisers ensure equal access to all aspects of university life. If your studies are affected by a disability, learning disorder mental health issue, , injury or illness, or you are a primary carer for someone with a disability or who is considered frail and aged, [AccessAbility Services](#) can provide access to appropriate reasonable adjustments and practical advice about the support and facilities available to you throughout the University.

To book a confidential appointment go to [Student Hub](#), email AccessAbility@usc.edu.au or call 07 5430 2890.

10.7. 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>

10.8. 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