MUS M11: SONGWRITING

Originator
nbowen

College
Moorpark College

Attach Support Documentation (as needed)
Minimum_Qualifications2018.pdf

Discipline (CB01A)
MUS - Music

Course Number (CB01B)
M11

Course Title (CB02)
Songwriting

Banner/Short Title
Songwriting

Credit Type
Credit

Start Term
Spring 2024

Catalog Course Description
Explores the process, skills, and techniques of songwriting. Analyzes the chord structure, form, rhythm, melody, harmony, and lyrics of various songs. Requires demonstration of understanding through composition and performance of original song.

Taxonomy of Programs (TOP) Code (CB03)
1005.00 - *Commercial Music

Course Credit Status (CB04)
D (Credit - Degree Applicable)

Course Transfer Status (CB05) (select one only)
A (Transferable to both UC and CSU)

Course Basic Skills Status (CB08)
N - The Course is Not a Basic Skills Course

SAM Priority Code (CB09)
C - Clearly Occupational

Course Cooperative Work Experience Education Status (CB10)
N - Is Not Part of a Cooperative Work Experience Education Program

Course Classification Status (CB11)
Y - Credit Course

Educational Assistance Class Instruction (Approved Special Class) (CB13)
N - The Course is Not an Approved Special Class

Course Prior to Transfer Level (CB21)
Y - Not Applicable

Course Noncredit Category (CB22)
Y - Credit Course

Funding Agency Category (CB23)
Y - Not Applicable (Funding Not Used)

Course Program Status (CB24)
1 - Program Applicable

General Education Status (CB25)
Y - Not Applicable

Support Course Status (CB26)
N - Course is not a support course

Field trips
Will not be required

Grading method
(L) Letter Graded

Alternate grading methods
(O) Student Option- Letter/Pass
(P) Pass/No Pass Grading

Does this course require an instructional materials fee?
No

Repeatable for Credit
No

Is this course part of a family?
No

Units and Hours

Carnegie Unit Override
No

In-Class

Lecture
Minimum Contact/In-Class Lecture Hours
52.5
Maximum Contact/In-Class Lecture Hours
52.5

Activity

Laboratory

Total in-Class

Total in-Class
Total Minimum Contact/In-Class Hours
52.5
Total Maximum Contact/In-Class Hours
52.5

Outside-of-Class

Internship/Cooperative Work Experience

Paid

Unpaid

Total Outside-of-Class

Total Outside-of-Class
Minimum Outside-of-Class Hours
105
Maximum Outside-of-Class Hours
105

Total Student Learning

Total Student Learning
Total Minimum Student Learning Hours
157.5
Total Maximum Student Learning Hours
157.5

Minimum Units (CB07)
3
Maximum Units (CB06)
3

Prerequisites
MUS M02A and MUS M02AL

Advisories on Recommended Preparation
MUS M03

Entrance Skills
Entrance Skills
MUS M02A and MUS M02AL

Prerequisite Course Objectives
MUS M02A-write and identify all major and minor scales and key signatures.
MUS M02A-transpose a given melody to any specified key.
MUS M02A-construct any interval up to an octave above and below a given note.
MUS M02A-visually identify all intervals up to an octave.
MUS M02A-write and identify any triad in root position and inversion.
MUS M02A-identify simple and compound meters.
MUS M02A-identify cadence types, including perfect authentic, imperfect authentic, half, plagal, and deceptive cadences.
MUS M02A-conduct harmonic analysis of diatonic chord progressions.
MUS M02A-identify phrases and cadences in notated music.
MUS M02AL-take dictation of diatonic melodies moving by step and featuring leaps within the primary triads.
MUS M02AL-take dictation of rhythms with divided beats in a variety of meter signatures and tempos.
MUS M02AL-identify aurally all intervals up to a perfect octave—ascending, descending, and harmonic.
MUS M02AL-identify aurally qualities, inversions, and soprano notes of triads.
MUS M02AL-identify aurally dominant 7th chords.
MUS M02AL-take harmonic dictation in open position of primary triads: I, IV, V and cadential 6/4.
MUS M02AL-perform rhythms with divided beats in a variety of meter signatures and tempos.
MUS M02AL-sight-sing melodies featuring leaps within the primary triads.

Requisite Justification

Requisite Type
Prerequisite

Requisite
MUS M02A and MUS M02AL

Requisite Description
Course in a sequence

Level of Scrutiny/Justification
Closely related lecture/laboratory course

Requisite Type
Recommended Preparation

Requisite
MUS M03

Requisite Description
Course not in a sequence

Level of Scrutiny/Justification
Closely related lecture/laboratory course

Student Learning Outcomes (CSLOs)	
	Upon satisfactory completion of the course, students will be able to:
1	demonstrate ability to recognize and compose songs in these forms: Refrain, 32 Bar AABA, 12 Bar Blues.
2	compose chord progressions that are frequently used in popular music.
3	compose melodies that demonstrate range, shape, and phrase structure that are appropriate for popular music.

Course Objectives	
	Upon satisfactory completion of the course, students will be able to:
1	identify the career development path and day-to-day workings of the songwriter as it relates to the overall music industry.
2	discuss the vocabulary and procedures needed to analyze professional lead sheets.
3	discuss and explain contemporary song styles as they relate to personal songwriting goals and ambitions.
4	discuss and explain songwriting techniques of historical and contemporary songwriters by drawing upon music theory and analysis skills.
5	discuss and explain the various songwriting approaches.
6	analyze form and structure for the purpose of song development and creation.
7	compose original songs and lyrics in specified genres.
8	perform original songs as a soloist or with an ensemble.

Course Content

Lecture/Course Content
15% - Career development path and day-to-day workings of a songwriter
10% - History of songwriting
20% - Song development and performance
10% - Lyric creation
10% - Melody creation
5% - Rhythmic treatment for contrasting sections

10% - Harmonic and rhythmic analysis of songs
10% - Performance techniques
10% - Structure of contemporary songs

Laboratory or Activity Content
N/A

Methods of Evaluation

Which of these methods will students use to demonstrate proficiency in the subject matter of this course? (Check all that apply):
Written expression
Skills demonstrations

Methods of Evaluation may include, but are not limited to, the following typical classroom assessment techniques/required assignments (check as many as are deemed appropriate):
Essay exams
Film/video productions
Group projects
Individual projects
Objective exams
Oral analysis/critiques
Performances
Problem-solving exams
Recitals
Simulations
Skills demonstrations
Written analyses
Written compositions
Written creation (poem, screenplay, song)
Classroom Discussion
Projects
Participation
Reports/Papers/Journals

Instructional Methodology

Specify the methods of instruction that may be employed in this course
Audio-visual presentations
Case studies
Class activities
Class discussions
Collaborative group work
Demonstrations
Distance Education
Group discussions
Guest speakers
Instructor-guided interpretation and analysis
Instructor-guided use of technology
Lecture
Modeling
Small group activities

Describe specific examples of the methods the instructor will use:
guided listening and analysis of vocal range use within a wide variety of songs and styles

guided analysis and diagram of song structure through listening as a group activity

small group work co-writing lyrics with provided subject matter

Representative Course Assignments

Writing Assignments
song development and performance.
lyric development and thematic writing.

melody creation.

Critical Thinking Assignments
analysis of song styles as they relate to industry needs.
structural analysis of contemporary songs.
harmonic and rhythmic analysis of contemporary songs.

Reading Assignments
lyrical analysis determining and articulating literary poetic devices.
readings on the history of Billboard Top 40.
readings on the history of representation of ethnicities in American pop culture and the music industry

Skills Demonstrations
in-class performances of composed songs.
performances of a bridge written to fit a song with provided verse and chorus.
vocalization of composed melodies.

Outside Assignments

Representative Outside Assignments
scholarly journal article and/or industry magazine article reading and analysis related to song formats.
songwriter interviews.
concert attendance.

Articulation

C-ID Descriptor Number
CMUS 150X

Status
Approved

Equivalent Courses at 4 year institutions

University	Course ID	Course Title	Units
UC Merced	GASP 034A	Songwriting	4
CSU Northridge	MUS 221	Song Writing	3
CSU Channel Islands	PAMU 215	Popular Songwriting	3
Cal Poly Pomona	MU 1290	Songwriting I	2

Equivalent Courses at other CCCs

College	Course ID	Course Title	Units
Santa Barbara College	MUS 128A	Songwriting I	3

District General Education

A. Natural Sciences

B. Social and Behavioral Sciences

C. Humanities

D. Language and Rationality

E. Health and Physical Education/Kinesiology

F. Ethnic Studies/Gender Studies

Course is CSU transferable
Yes

CSU Baccalaureate List effective term:
F2018

CSU GE-Breadth

Area A: English Language Communication and Critical Thinking

Area B: Scientific Inquiry and Quantitative Reasoning

Area C: Arts and Humanities

Area D: Social Sciences

Area E: Lifelong Learning and Self-Development

Area F: Ethnic Studies

CSU Graduation Requirement in U.S. History, Constitution and American Ideals:

UC TCA

UC TCA
Approved

Date Proposed:
6/15/2021

Effective term:
Fall 2021

IGETC

Area 1: English Communication

Area 2A: Mathematical Concepts & Quantitative Reasoning

Area 3: Arts and Humanities

Area 4: Social and Behavioral Sciences

Area 5: Physical and Biological Sciences

Area 6: Languages Other than English (LOTE)

Textbooks and Lab Manuals

Resource Type
Textbook

Description
Stolpe, Andrea. *Beginning Songwriting: Writing Your Own Lyrics, Melodies, and Chords*. Berklee Press, 2015.

Resource Type
Textbook

Description
Harrison, Clive. *The Songwriting Labyrinth: Practical Tools for Decoding the Mysterious Craft*. CreateSpace, 2021.

Resource Type
Software

Description
Logic Pro. Apple.

Resource Type
Periodical

Description
Billboard Magazine

Library Resources

Assignments requiring library resources
Research using the Library's print and online resources.

Sufficient Library Resources exist
Yes

Example of Assignments Requiring Library Resources
Research, using Library online and print resources, on analyzing industry trends, particularly as these trends relate of songwriting.

Distance Education Addendum

Definitions

Distance Education Modalities
100% online

Faculty Certifications

Faculty assigned to teach Hybrid or Fully Online sections of this course will receive training in how to satisfy the Federal and state regulations governing regular effective/substantive contact for distance education. The training will include common elements in the district-supported learning management system (LMS), online teaching methods, regular effective/substantive contact, and best practices.
Yes

Faculty assigned to teach Hybrid or Fully Online sections of this course will meet with the EAC Alternate Media Specialist to ensure that the course content meets the required Federal and state accessibility standards for access by students with disabilities. Common areas for discussion include accessibility of PDF files, images, captioning of videos, Power Point presentations, math and scientific notation, and ensuring the use of style mark-up in Word documents.
Yes

Regular Effective/Substantive Contact

100% online Modality:

Method of Instruction	Document typical activities or assignments for each method of instruction
Asynchronous Dialog (e.g., discussion board)	Discussion finding musical examples of a bridge or transition featuring a modulation.
E-mail	Responses to specific questions.
Other DE (e.g., recorded lectures)	Recorded lectures.
Video Conferencing	Screen sharing of visual listening guides to relevant musical works.

Primary Minimum Qualification
COMMERCIAL MUSIC

Review and Approval Dates

Department Chair
04/13/2023

Dean
04/14/2023

Technical Review
04/20/2023

Curriculum Committee
5/2/2023

DTRW-I
MM/DD/YYYY

Curriculum Committee
MM/DD/YYYY

Board
MM/DD/YYYY

CCCCO
MM/DD/YYYY

Control Number
CCC000591017

DOE/accreditation approval date
MM/DD/YYYY