MECO849
Music Practice
S1 Day 2016

Department of Media, Music, Communication and Cultural Studies

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General Information

Unit convenor and teaching staff
Convenor
Mary Mainsbridge
mary.mainsbridge@mq.edu.au
Contact via Email
By appointment

Lecturer
Brent Keogh
brent.keogh@mq.edu.au
Contact via Email

Credit points
4

Prerequisites
Admission to MCrMedia or MCrInd

Corequisites

Co-badged status

Unit description
This unit provides a critical and practical understanding of the new creative processes in contemporary music practice. Through guided creative projects, students examine the relationships between songwriting, arranging, production aesthetics, audience engagement; and the broader development of creative identity in the emerging landscape of the music industry. The unit addresses the increasing convergence of writing, production and performance practices in current and emerging contemporary music practice, and explores the impact of this on the creative process.

Important Academic Dates
Information about important academic dates including deadlines for withdrawing from units are available at http://students.mq.edu.au/student_admin/enrolmentguide/academicdates/

Learning Outcomes

1. Analyse and theorise the construction of musical identity across multiple platforms and media
2. Identify and describe a range of contrasting creative processes and strategies
3. Develop, test, and refine original musical ideas
4. Design plans for, and realise, musical works for public presentation that reflect current professional practice
5. Collaborate and communicate effectively with others in musical contexts
6. Devise and implement plans for audience engagement via online media
7. Examine and critically reflect on project outcomes

**Assessment Tasks**

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Weighting</th>
<th>Due</th>
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<tr>
<td>Project proposal and plan</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td>Week 4 - March 24, 2016</td>
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<tr>
<td>Progress assessment</td>
<td>35%</td>
<td>Week 8 - May 6, 2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Creative project</td>
<td>35%</td>
<td>Week 13 - June 10, 2016</td>
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**Project proposal and plan**

**Due:** **Week 4 - March 24, 2016**

**Weighting:** **30%**

Students will define and propose a small music project and generate a written proposal and project plan (2,000 words). The proposal will clearly outline the scope, focus and aesthetic aims of the project; key reference works from practice; and a project timeline outlining key dates for execution and final delivery.

The project proposal and plan will be submitted through the Turnitin link provided on the unit's iLearn page.

**Assessment Criteria:**

- Capacity to scope a minor music production or performance project
- Ability to locate a musical project within current professional practice and in relation to key musical influences
- Capacity to conceive and design a feasible project within a given resource context and timeframe
- Clarity of written proposal

This Assessment Task relates to the following Learning Outcomes:

- Analyse and theorise the construction of musical identity across multiple platforms and media
- Identify and describe a range of contrasting creative processes and strategies
• Develop, test, and refine original musical ideas
• Design plans for, and realise, musical works for public presentation that reflect current professional practice
• Collaborate and communicate effectively with others in musical contexts
• Devise and implement plans for audience engagement via online media

Progress assessment
Due: **Week 8 - May 6, 2016**
Weighting: **35%**

Students will deliver a 20 minute presentation summarising work in progress for the music project proposed in Week 4. The presentation will include an evaluation of the challenges and conceptual development of the project and may be accompanied by audio-visual samples. The talk will be delivered during the seminar on Friday, May 6, 2016 and will be followed by a brief question period and general discussion.

Assessment Criteria:

• Capacity to test and refine original musical ideas
• Ability to critically reflect on project outcomes to date
• Inclusion of strategies to foster audience engagement
• Clarity of oral presentation

This Assessment Task relates to the following Learning Outcomes:
• Analyse and theorise the construction of musical identity across multiple platforms and media
• Identify and describe a range of contrasting creative processes and strategies
• Develop, test, and refine original musical ideas
• Design plans for, and realise, musical works for public presentation that reflect current professional practice
• Collaborate and communicate effectively with others in musical contexts
• Devise and implement plans for audience engagement via online media
• Examine and critically reflect on project outcomes

Creative project
Due: **Week 13 - June 10, 2016**
Weighting: **35%**

Students will submit an audio recording of a musical work or video recording of a musical performance, edited and delivered to professional standards. This material will be accompanied
by a written component (2,000 words) that critically evaluates the project's creative and dissemination strategies in relation to project outcomes.

The creative work and written reflection will be submitted in a zipped folder on a specified server location. The details of this process will be discussed during the seminars.

Assessment Criteria:

- Capacity to demonstrate professional practices in the presentation of audio-visual documentation of an original musical work
- Evidence of effective project management in delivering the creative work according to the designated schedule and project aims
- Ability to critically evaluate the outcomes of performances or recording sessions

This Assessment Task relates to the following Learning Outcomes:

- Analyse and theorise the construction of musical identity across multiple platforms and media
- Develop, test, and refine original musical ideas
- Design plans for, and realise, musical works for public presentation that reflect current professional practice
- Collaborate and communicate effectively with others in musical contexts
- Devise and implement plans for audience engagement via online media
- Examine and critically reflect on project outcomes

Delivery and Resources

This unit will be delivered as a 1 x 2 hour seminar per week.

Policies and Procedures

Macquarie University policies and procedures are accessible from Policy Central. Students should be aware of the following policies in particular with regard to Learning and Teaching:

Academic Honesty Policy http://mq.edu.au/policy/docs/academic_honesty/policy.html


In addition, a number of other policies can be found in the [Learning and Teaching Category](http://www.mq.edu.au/policy/docs/disruption_studies/policy.html) of Policy Central.

**Student Code of Conduct**

Macquarie University students have a responsibility to be familiar with the Student Code of Conduct: [https://students.mq.edu.au/support/student_conduct/](https://students.mq.edu.au/support/student_conduct/)

**Results**

Results shown in *iLearn*, or released directly by your Unit Convenor, are not confirmed as they are subject to final approval by the University. Once approved, final results will be sent to your student email address and will be made available in *eStudent*. For more information visit [ask.mq.edu.au](http://ask.mq.edu.au).

**Additional information**


Information is correct at the time of publication.

**Student Support**

Macquarie University provides a range of support services for students. For details, visit [http://students.mq.edu.au/support/](http://students.mq.edu.au/support/)

**Learning Skills**

Learning Skills ([mq.edu.au/learningskills](http://mq.edu.au/learningskills)) provides academic writing resources and study strategies to improve your marks and take control of your study.

- Workshops
- StudyWise
- Academic Integrity Module for Students
- Ask a Learning Adviser

**Student Enquiry Service**

For all student enquiries, visit Student Connect at [ask.mq.edu.au](http://ask.mq.edu.au)

**Equity Support**

Students with a disability are encouraged to contact the [Disability Service](http://students.mq.edu.au/support/) who can provide appropriate help with any issues that arise during their studies.
Graduate Capabilities

PG - Capable of Professional and Personal Judgment and Initiative

Our postgraduates will demonstrate a high standard of discernment and common sense in their professional and personal judgment. They will have the ability to make informed choices and decisions that reflect both the nature of their professional work and their personal perspectives.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcomes

- Analyse and theorise the construction of musical identity across multiple platforms and media
- Identify and describe a range of contrasting creative processes and strategies
- Develop, test, and refine original musical ideas
- Design plans for, and realise, musical works for public presentation that reflect current professional practice
- Collaborate and communicate effectively with others in musical contexts
- Devise and implement plans for audience engagement via online media
- Examine and critically reflect on project outcomes

Assessment tasks

- Project proposal and plan
- Progress assessment
- Creative project

PG - Discipline Knowledge and Skills

Our postgraduates will be able to demonstrate a significantly enhanced depth and breadth of knowledge, scholarly understanding, and specific subject content knowledge in their chosen fields.

This graduate capability is supported by:
Learning outcomes

• Analyse and theorise the construction of musical identity across multiple platforms and media
• Identify and describe a range of contrasting creative processes and strategies
• Develop, test, and refine original musical ideas
• Design plans for, and realise, musical works for public presentation that reflect current professional practice
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Assessment tasks

• Project proposal and plan
• Progress assessment
• Creative project

PG - Critical, Analytical and Integrative Thinking

Our postgraduates will be capable of utilising and reflecting on prior knowledge and experience, of applying higher level critical thinking skills, and of integrating and synthesising learning and knowledge from a range of sources and environments. A characteristic of this form of thinking is the generation of new, professionally oriented knowledge through personal or group-based critique of practice and theory.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcomes

• Analyse and theorise the construction of musical identity across multiple platforms and media
• Identify and describe a range of contrasting creative processes and strategies
• Develop, test, and refine original musical ideas
• Examine and critically reflect on project outcomes

Assessment task

• Progress assessment

PG - Research and Problem Solving Capability

Our postgraduates will be capable of systematic enquiry; able to use research skills to create new knowledge that can be applied to real world issues, or contribute to a field of study or practice to enhance society. They will be capable of creative questioning, problem finding and problem solving.
This graduate capability is supported by:

**Learning outcomes**

- Analyse and theorise the construction of musical identity across multiple platforms and media
- Identify and describe a range of contrasting creative processes and strategies
- Develop, test, and refine original musical ideas
- Examine and critically reflect on project outcomes

**PG - Effective Communication**

Our postgraduates will be able to communicate effectively and convey their views to different social, cultural, and professional audiences. They will be able to use a variety of technologically supported media to communicate with empathy using a range of written, spoken or visual formats.

This graduate capability is supported by:

**Learning outcomes**

- Identify and describe a range of contrasting creative processes and strategies
- Collaborate and communicate effectively with others in musical contexts
- Devise and implement plans for audience engagement via online media

**Assessment tasks**

- Progress assessment
- Creative project