



MMCC2000

Musical Authorship and Songwriting

Session 1, Weekday attendance, North Ryde 2021

Department of Media, Communications, Creative Arts, Language and Literature

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Notice

As part of [Phase 3 of our return to campus plan](#), most units will now run tutorials, seminars and other small group activities on campus, and most will keep an online version available to those students unable to return or those who choose to continue their studies online.

To check the availability of face-to-face activities for your unit, please go to [timetable viewer](#). To check detailed information on unit assessments visit your unit's iLearn space or consult your unit convenor.

General Information

Unit convenor and teaching staff

Convenor/Lecturer

Andrew Robson

andrew.robson@mq.edu.au

Contact via email

Rm 253

email for appointment

Lecturer

Diane Hughes

diane.hughes@mq.edu.au

Contact via email

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email for appointment

Credit points

10

Prerequisites

40cp at 1000 level or above

Corequisites

Co-badged status

Unit description

The phenomenon of 'the song' in contemporary music is undisputed. This unit will explore 'the song' in various cultural and historical contexts, and consider the ways in which musical authorship can be achieved through a variety of traditional and technology driven approaches. Students will deconstruct some of the most popular and critically regarded contemporary songs and compositions in order to better understand and facilitate their own creative techniques. Song and compositional structures will be a unit focus and topics will include lyrical, melodic, rhythmic, chordal, harmonic and musical components. In doing so, it will contribute to, and provide links between, existing Music units in music production, voice, guitar, music business, and popular music. Recording as a compositional tool, loop stations and aspects of music production may enable students to work with various music technologies as relevant to their creative practice. In the context of music business, the authorship and ownership of original material through publishing, performance and recording will be discussed.

Important Academic Dates

Information about important academic dates including deadlines for withdrawing from units are available at <https://www.mq.edu.au/study/calendar-of-dates>

Learning Outcomes

On successful completion of this unit, you will be able to:

ULO1: identify the context of song in popular and/or world musics.

ULO2: analyse critically the components of song structure in a variety of contexts.

ULO3: analyse forms of musical authorship and the song in publishing, performance and recording contexts.

ULO4: create and communicate effectively through an original song.

ULO5: identify and evaluate musical and lyrical components of the song.

ULO6: demonstrate the use of various technologies as appropriate.

General Assessment Information

Assessment standards

All written assessments are to be submitted via Turnitin on iLearn. Please see the unit iLearn site for more information.

Assessment standards in this unit align with the University's grade descriptors, available at: <https://staff.mq.edu.au/work/strategy-planning-and-governance/university-policies-and-procedures/policies/assessment>

Rubrics are used for all assessments and are available on iLearn.

Feedback

Feedback on assessments and student learning and performance will be provided in a range of ways. Students will receive formal individual feedback on their performance in assessments in the form of general comments, rubric and in-text comments attached to assignments marked in Grademark/Turnitin. *Students are encouraged to make use of tutorials as opportunities for feedback from the tutor on works in progress.* Marks are made available in the Gradebook function in iLearn.

Late Penalties

Unless a Special Consideration request has been submitted and approved, (a) a penalty for lateness will apply – two (2) marks out of 100 will be deducted per day for assignments submitted after the due date – and (b) no assignment will be accepted more than seven (7) days (incl. weekends) after the original submission deadline. No late submissions will

be accepted for timed assessments – e.g. quizzes, online tests.

Assessment Tasks

Name	Weighting	Hurdle	Due
Song Analyses	40%	No	11:59pm Thursday 1 April - wk 6
Original Song	60%	No	Reflection: 11:59pm Fri 28/5 wk 12, Orig Song: wk 13 TBC

Song Analyses

Assessment Type ¹: Case study/analysis

Indicative Time on Task ²: 35 hours

Due: **11:59pm Thursday 1 April - wk 6**

Weighting: **40%**

Students are required to comprehensively analyse two contrasting songs. The songs may be from popular music traditions and styles or from world musics. For this assessment, a song is considered to include lyrics, melody and musical accompaniment. Refer to iLearn for further information.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- identify the context of song in popular and/or world musics.
- analyse critically the components of song structure in a variety of contexts.
- analyse forms of musical authorship and the song in publishing, performance and recording contexts.
- identify and evaluate musical and lyrical components of the song.

Original Song

Assessment Type ¹: Creative work

Indicative Time on Task ²: 50 hours

Due: **Reflection: 11:59pm Fri 28/5 wk 12, Orig Song: wk 13 TBC**

Weighting: **60%**

Each student is required to write, reflect on and document original songs written during the course of this unit. While students are expected to work on several songs during the session and document these in their process reflection, one original song is submitted for this

assessment. Students are to include a written rationale for the song selected for submission. This task requires students to consider the development and documentation of song/s in relation to their musical goals. Refer to iLearn for further information.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- identify the context of song in popular and/or world musics.
- analyse critically the components of song structure in a variety of contexts.
- analyse forms of musical authorship and the song in publishing, performance and recording contexts.
- create and communicate effectively through an original song.
- identify and evaluate musical and lyrical components of the song.
- demonstrate the use of various technologies as appropriate.

¹ If you need help with your assignment, please contact:

- the academic teaching staff in your unit for guidance in understanding or completing this type of assessment
- the [Writing Centre](#) for academic skills support.

² Indicative time-on-task is an estimate of the time required for completion of the assessment task and is subject to individual variation

Delivery and Resources

Lectures for this unit will commence in **week 1**.

Tutorials for this unit will commence in **week 2**.

Lectures will be online - please see ilearn for the link

Tutorials will be held in the **Drama Studio (Rm187)**, 10 Hadenfeld Ave.

There will also be an online tutorial option (via Zoom). Please see ilearn for the Zoom link.

Unit readings can be accessed via the Leganto link on ilearn

Policies and Procedures

Macquarie University policies and procedures are accessible from [Policy Central \(https://policies.mq.edu.au\)](https://policies.mq.edu.au). Students should be aware of the following policies in particular with regard to Learning and Teaching:

- [Academic Appeals Policy](#)
- [Academic Integrity Policy](#)

- [Academic Progression Policy](#)
- [Assessment Policy](#)
- [Fitness to Practice Procedure](#)
- [Grade Appeal Policy](#)
- [Complaint Management Procedure for Students and Members of the Public](#)
- [Special Consideration Policy](#)

Students seeking more policy resources can visit [Student Policies](https://students.mq.edu.au/support/study/policies) (<https://students.mq.edu.au/support/study/policies>). It is your one-stop-shop for the key policies you need to know about throughout your undergraduate student journey.

To find other policies relating to Teaching and Learning, visit [Policy Central](https://policies.mq.edu.au) (<https://policies.mq.edu.au>) and use the [search tool](#).

Student Code of Conduct

Macquarie University students have a responsibility to be familiar with the Student Code of Conduct: <https://students.mq.edu.au/admin/other-resources/student-conduct>

Results

Results published on platform other than [eStudent](#), (eg. iLearn, Coursera etc.) 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 or if you are a Global MBA student contact globalmba.support@mq.edu.au

Student Support

Macquarie University provides a range of support services for students. For details, visit <http://students.mq.edu.au/support/>

Learning Skills

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

- [Getting help with your assignment](#)
- [Workshops](#)
- [StudyWise](#)
- [Academic Integrity Module](#)

The Library provides online and face to face support to help you find and use relevant information resources.

- [Subject and Research Guides](#)
- [Ask a Librarian](#)

Student Services and Support

Students with a disability are encouraged to contact the [Disability Service](#) who can provide appropriate help with any issues that arise during their studies.

Student Enquiries

For all student enquiries, visit Student Connect at ask.mq.edu.au

If you are a Global MBA student contact globalmba.support@mq.edu.au

IT Help

For help with University computer systems and technology, visit http://www.mq.edu.au/about_us/offices_and_units/information_technology/help/.

When using the University's IT, you must adhere to the [Acceptable Use of IT Resources Policy](#). The policy applies to all who connect to the MQ network including students.