



MMCC2063

Vocal Studies: Song, Composition & Arranging

Session 2, In person-scheduled-weekday, North Ryde 2022

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

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General Information

Unit convenor and teaching staff

Co-Convenor and Lecturer

Andrew Robson

andrew.robson@mq.edu.au

Contact via email

Room 256, 10 Hadenfeld Ave

Consultation by appointment

Co-Convenor

Diane Hughes

diane.hughes@mq.edu.au

Contact via email

Room 254, 10 Hadenfeld Ave

Consultation by appointment

Lecturer and Tutor

Belinda McMahon

belinda.lemonmcmahon@mq.edu.au

Contact via email

n/a

Credit points

10

Prerequisites

40cp at 1000 level or above

Corequisites

Co-badged status

Unit description

This unit focuses on singing, song, composition and musical arrangement in a range of styles. It aims to facilitate critical listening and singing through the exploration of vocal stylistic nuances and musically arranging for voice. Creative approaches to repertoire and songwriting are introduced. Students research songs and musical styles/genres and are encouraged to pursue specific interests such as Blues, Jazz, Musical Theatre, Country, Pop and Rock. The unit fosters the development of creative, interpretive, performative and analytical skills appropriate to a variety of contemporary music genres. Original songs may also be explored. No prior knowledge of singing is required.

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: engage in, and maintain, vocal practice.

ULO2: compose lyric and melodic components for ensemble arrangements.

ULO3: apply reflexive strategies for collaborative and solo musical projects.

ULO4: research and analyse stylistic exercises that employ appropriate vocal technique and vocal health/care strategies.

ULO5: evaluate through critical listening a range of stylistic nuances in singing.

ULO6: apply academic conventions in writing and referencing.

General Assessment Information

Assessment standards

1. Rubrics are used for all assessments and will be available on iLearn.
2. Assessment standards in this unit align with the University's grade descriptors, available in Schedule 1 at: <https://staff.mq.edu.au/work/strategy-planning-and-governance/university-policies-and-procedures/policies/assessment>

Written Assessment Submission

All written assessment submissions must be through Turnitin by the due date and time. For all written work, students are required to use APA referencing system for all in-text referencing and reference lists. This includes recorded material as appropriate. Please use the Library database for your own research purposes and do not use Wikipedia as a reference.

iLearn Forums

Students are required to participate in iLearn Forums for all group discussions. Please do not use social media, e.g., do not use Facebook. Due to copyright issues, the posting of lyrics, sheet music and/or videos on iLearn is not permitted. If appropriate, please post only links to resources such as websites/YouTube.

Project and Performance Assessments

No songs performed or analysed for assessments in other units may be used for assessment

tasks in this unit.

Students are not permitted to read the lyrics or sheet music during their assessments.

No practical assessments (group or solo) may be recorded (video or audio) by students nor uploaded to social media/platforms.

Performances and/or presentations are to be from memory. That is, there is to be no reading of lyrics, music or scripts. If choosing a presentation option, students are required to use PowerPoint slides and to upload these with their outline.

Singing in a language other than English is permitted for one song only. Please email a translation of the lyrics to the unit convenor prior to the assessment date.

Students will be allocated an individual assessment time for the final task.

Late Assessment Submission Penalty

Unless a Special Consideration request has been submitted and approved, **a 5% penalty (of the total possible mark) will be applied each day a written assessment is not submitted**, up until the 7th day (including weekends). After the 7th day, a mark of '0' (zero) will be awarded even if the assessment is submitted. Submission time for all written assessments is set at 11.55pm. A 1-hour grace period is provided to students who experience a technical issue.

This late penalty will apply to non-timed sensitive assessment (incl essays, reports, posters, portfolios, journals, recordings etc). **Late submission of time sensitive tasks** (such as tests/exams, performance assessments/presentations, scheduled practical assessments/labs etc) **will only be addressed by the unit convenor in a Special consideration application. Special Consideration outcome may result in a new question or topic.**

Assessment Tasks

Name	Weighting	Hurdle	Due
Musical Style Exercises	15%	No	Written: 23:55pm on 16/8/22 Practical: In Wk5 tutorials
Composing and Arranging	35%	No	Written: 23:55pm on 4/10/22 Practical: In Wk10
Song Project	50%	No	Written: 23:55pm on 26/10/22 Performances in Wk13

Musical Style Exercises

Assessment Type ¹: Practice-based task

Indicative Time on Task ²: 10 hours

Due: **Written: 23:55pm on 16/8/22 Practical: In Wk5 tutorials**

Weighting: **15%**

Students research, select and document a range of style related vocal exercises suited to their individual goals. The exercises differentiate between those for warming and cooling down the voice, and focus on those for individual vocal and stylistic development. In addition to performing exercises, students are required to submit a fully referenced outline of their vocal exercises and their relation to musical styles. Refer to iLearn for further information.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- engage in, and maintain, vocal practice.
- research and analyse stylistic exercises that employ appropriate vocal technique and vocal health/care strategies.
- apply academic conventions in writing and referencing.

Composing and Arranging

Assessment Type ¹: Creative work

Indicative Time on Task ²: 35 hours

Due: **Written: 23:55pm on 4/10/22 Practical: In Wk10**

Weighting: **35%**

For this assessment, students are required to individually write lyrics and compose a melody to a group theme consistent with a 12 bar blues structure. Collectively, students structure a musical arrangement of those segments for performance. Students are also required to submit their individual lyric segments. Each group will engage in a viva voce component. Refer to iLearn for further information.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- engage in, and maintain, vocal practice.
- compose lyric and melodic components for ensemble arrangements.
- apply reflexive strategies for collaborative and solo musical projects.
- evaluate through critical listening a range of stylistic nuances in singing.

Song Project

Assessment Type ¹: Project

Indicative Time on Task ²: 45 hours

Due: **Written: 23:55pm on 26/10/22 Performances in Wk13**

Weighting: **50%**

Students are required to research, analyse and musically communicate two contrasting songs through an individual performance OR a formal presentation. In both options, students are required to discuss the style, composition and arrangement of their songs. They will also detail the vocal nuances that are evident in the songs. The performance or formal presentation must be delivered from memory, that is, no reading of lyrics or scripts is permitted. As part of this assessment, students are required to submit a fully referenced project outline, together with song analyses, that collectively reflect unit content, individual research and preparation processes. Refer to iLearn for further information.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- compose lyric and melodic components for ensemble arrangements.
- apply reflexive strategies for collaborative and solo musical projects.
- evaluate through critical listening a range of stylistic nuances in singing.
- apply academic conventions in writing and referencing.

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 will commence in Week 1 and tutorials will start in Week 2.

Required Readings and Resources

Required readings are available through Leganto.

Set singing exercises are available on iLearn.

Additional Resources

Additional resources will be progressively introduced in tutorials as appropriate.

Individual Learning

Due to the practical and interactive components of this unit, students are encouraged to attend weekly tutorials and lectures, to read the essential readings, to conduct individual research and to work on vocal development progressively throughout the session. Students therefore need to devise a progressive rehearsal schedule that enables regular practice of vocal exercises, which is a key component of the Vocal Exercises assessment.

Vocal Health and Care

Students should have access to bottled room temperature water to all tutorials. Students are requested to advise their convenor/tutor of any vocal health issues.

Feedback

Formal and informal feedback will be available throughout the session.

Technologies used and required

A computer and Internet access are required. Music playback facility is also required.

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](#)
- [Assessment Procedure](#)
- [Complaints Resolution 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

Academic Integrity

At Macquarie, we believe [academic integrity](#) – honesty, respect, trust, responsibility, fairness and courage – is at the core of learning, teaching and research. We recognise that meeting the expectations required to complete your assessments can be challenging. So, we offer you a range of resources and services to help you reach your potential, including free [online writing and maths support](#), [academic skills development](#) and [wellbeing consultations](#).

Student Support

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

The Writing Centre

[The Writing Centre](#) provides resources to develop your English language proficiency, academic writing, and communication skills.

- [Workshops](#)
- [Chat with a WriteWISE peer writing leader](#)
- [Access StudyWISE](#)
- [Upload an assignment to Studiosity](#)
- [Complete the 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

Macquarie University offers a range of [Student Support Services](#) including:

- [IT Support](#)
- [Accessibility and disability support](#) with study
- Mental health [support](#)
- [Safety support](#) to respond to bullying, harassment, sexual harassment and sexual assault
- [Social support including information about finances, tenancy and legal issues](#)

Student Enquiries

Got a question? Ask us via [AskMQ](#), or contact [Service Connect](#).

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.

Changes since First Published

Date	Description
20/07/2022	General information update and assessment clarifications.