Nashville State Community College
Business & Applied Arts Division
Music Technology

Master Course Syllabus

This master course syllabus is meant simply as a guide and overview of the course. Each instructor will further clarify their criteria for grading, classroom procedures, attendance, exams and dates, etc. on his/her course syllabus.

Course Title: MST-1320 Songwriting II
Credits: 3
Class Hours: 3
Course description from catalog including prerequisites and co-requisites. A continuation of MST 1220. Topics include co-writing, demo production and writing for specialty markets. Prerequisite(s): MST 1220
Not part of a Tennessee Transfer Pathway

Instructor Information:
Name:
Email:
Office Phone:
Office Location:
Office Hours:

Textbook and Other Materials:
Textbook: None
Reference Materials: TBD
Supplies: TBD

Course Outcomes:
Upon successful completion of this course, students should be able to:
1. Create original songs within assigned parameters of form and subject matter.
2. Collaborate on compositions encompassing a number of musical styles.
3. Complete simple demo productions of original songs.
4. Use creative problem solving skills in completing original song ideas.
5. Perform original songs in an on-campus songwriter’s showcase.
Course Competencies:
The following are detailed course competencies intended to support the course outcomes:

1. Identify the target audience for a given song.
2. Identify the market requirements for a number of musical genres.
3. Identify the commercial viability of a song.
4. Evaluate the lyrics and musical elements of songs from a variety of genres.
5. Ensure that lyrics, melody, and song structure are appropriate for a given musical style.
6. Use literary writing devices to effectively convey the meaning of original songs.
7. Create musically coherent melodies and rhythms appropriate to a song.
8. Transpose the key of a song to fit the musical registry of a given performer.
9. Adjust chord progressions and melodies to support the emotion and meaning of lyrics.
10. Notate songs using the Nashville Number System form of musical nomenclature.
11. Identify and communicate the purpose of a musical jingle.
12. Determine the expected outcomes of musical material that is required to be written.
13. Write a musical jingle that meets the market requirements of a hypothetical advertising client.
14. Calculate songwriting royalties for a number of hypothetical situations.
15. Produce a quality musical demo of an original song.
17. Assist in the marketing, preparation, and production of a program sponsored songwriter showcase.
18. Resolve creative differences in co-writing sessions.
19. Discern and integrate the advice of professionals and target audiences in the development and enhancement of original song ideas.

The following are general education competencies intended to support the course outcomes:

Topics to Be Covered:

1. Creative Writing Exercises
2. Co-Writing Songs
3. Critiquing Co-Written Songs
4. Negotiating Creative Control in a Co-Writing Session
5. Co-Writing Ownership and Royalty Practices
6. Producing Effective Song Demos
7. Song Presentation Tips
8. Writing for Advertising (Jingles)
9. Songwriter Video Interview Series
10. Performing in Songwriter Showcases

**Course Assessments:**
The following performance assessments will be used to demonstrate students’ understanding, knowledge and skills:
Songwriting assignments, written reports, class and field trip participation, and live performances of student written songs.

**Grading Policy:**

**Grading Scale:**

**To receive an “A” grade, student must:**
1. Complete three (3) total songs (a co-write counts as half a song) by dates assigned with typed lyrics (according to template) along with a guitar/vocal, piano/vocal, or metronome/loop work tape or CD. Instructor will offer guidelines as to form, length, etc.

2. Complete a 30-sec. jingle with typed lyrics and work tape by assigned date

3. Read “Bird By Bird” or “Why I Want To Write” and turn in a 2-page written report (typed, double-spaced) on or before

4. Participate in field trip to writer’s night and complete a written review (date TBD)

5. Perform two (2) songs at class writer’s night at end of semester (date TBD)

**To receive a “B” grade, student must:**
1. Complete two (2) total songs (a co-write counts as half a song) by assigned dates, with typed lyrics (according to template) along with a guitar/vocal, piano/vocal, or metronome click work tape or CD. Instructor will offer guidelines as to form, length, etc.

2. Complete a 30-sec. jingle with typed lyrics and work tape by designated date

3. Read “Bird By Bird” or “Why I Want To Write” and turn in a 2-page written report (typed, double-spaced) on or before

4. Participate in field trip to writer’s night and complete a written review (date TBD)

5. Perform two (2) songs at class writer’s night at end of semester (date TBD)
To receive a “C” grade, student must:
1. Complete two (2) total songs (a co-write counts as half a song) by assigned dates, with typed lyrics (according to template) along with a guitar/vocal, piano/vocal, or metronome click work tape or CD. Instructor will offer guidelines as to form, length, etc.
2. Participate in field trip to writer’s night and complete a written review (date TBD)
3. Perform one (1) song at class writer’s night at end of semester (date TBD)

To receive a “D” grade, student must:
1. Complete one (1) total song (a co-write counts as half a song) by assigned dates, with typed lyrics (according to template) along with a guitar/vocal, piano/vocal, or metronome click work tape or CD. Instructor will offer guidelines as to form, length, etc.
2. Perform one (1) song at class writer’s night at end of semester (date TBD)

To receive an “F” grade, student must:
Complete less than what is required to earn a “D”.

To receive an “FA” grade, student must:
Per TBR policy, a student who does not officially drop or withdraw from a course, but receives a failing grade, will receive an “FA” if the last day of attendance was earlier than two-thirds into the part-of-term. That date equates to the last day to withdraw from the course.

To receive an “FN” grade, student must:
An FN is awarded to students who never attended class.

Late Work Policy & Make-up Procedures for Missed Assignments and Work:
Each instructor will provide policy.

Attendance Policy
A student is expected to attend all scheduled classes and laboratories. Absences in a course may affect a student's final grade. The student is responsible for all assigned work in the course
regardless of excused or unexcused absences. Tardiness may also affect a student’s final grade.

**D2L Brightspace/NSOnline and myNSCC email**
It is the student’s responsibility to check D2L and MyNSCC email on a regular basis. These are the official communication channels between the college and students. Students are responsible for the information communicated through those channels. D2L contains specific course information and MyNSCC contains information important for other purposes.

**Technology Statement**
Nashville State’s classes are considered to be web-enhanced. Faculty have an expectation that students will use a computer and the Internet to complete assignments, engage in online discussions, and access various course materials through Desire2Learn (D2L) course shells. Computers are available for student use at each campus during campus open hours.

**ADA Compliance Statement**
Nashville State complies with the Americans with Disabilities Act. If you wish to request any special accommodations for any courses in which you are enrolled, contact the Access Center at 615.353.3741 or 615.353.3721.

**Classroom Misconduct**
Nashville State Community College has a zero tolerance policy for disruptive conduct in the classroom. Students whose behavior disrupts the classroom will be subject to disciplinary sanctions. The Nashville State Student Code of Conduct policy is available at https://s3.amazonaws.com/nscc.edu/PDFs/dean-students/Student_Code_of_Conduct_Policy.pdf

Please be aware that children are not allowed in class or unattended on campus.

**Academic Misconduct**
Any form of academic dishonesty, cheating, plagiarizing, or other academic misconduct is prohibited. Students are responsible for understanding and aiding by the Academic Misconduct Policy in the Nashville State Student Code of Conduct that can be found at https://s3.amazonaws.com/nscc.edu/PDFs/dean-students/Student_Code_of_Conduct_Policy.pdf

In addition to other possible disciplinary sanctions that may be imposed through regular college procedures as a result of academic dishonesty the instructor has the authority to assign an “F” or a “Zero” for the exercise, paper, or examination or to assign an “F” for the course. Students may appeal through the appropriate college grade appeal procedures.

**Academic Early Warning System**
Nashville State Community College has implemented an Early Warning System to notify students via e-mail about academic problems such as poor classroom attendance, poor performance on assignments/tests, poor communication skills, late/missing assignments, and/or lack of classroom participation. *Please note that Early Warning Alerts do not affect a student’s academic standing.*
**RAVE Emergency Alert System**

Emergency events can happen at any time and Nashville State Community College wants to be able to notify students if and when they occur. For this reason, all students have been enrolled in the free RAVE alert system. If you have not already done so, please log in at https://getrave.com/login/nscc to confirm and update your contact information and notification preferences. It is critical that your information be correct so that you will receive any emergency notifications. Your RAVE Username is your NSCC email address. If you've never received an email from RAVE with your password, or if you need to reset your password, select “Forgot your password?” and a new password will be emailed to you. Should the RAVE system indicate “user not found”, select Register and create your own RAVE account.

**Inclement Weather Policy**

Nashville State will use the RAVE alert system to send a text message to students, staff, and faculty about adjusted hours of operation and/or closings at individual campuses. All students should check the Nashville State web site home page at www.nscc.edu for announcements on campus closures, which may vary from campus to campus. Campus closures will also be announced on local television stations.

When classes are cancelled, an online assignment will be posted in NS Online. Check NS Online for a message from your instructor regarding your online assignment requirements.

Students should use their own best judgment in determining whether to report to campus during inclement weather when classes are not cancelled.

**Class Cancellation Policy**

If the class is cancelled, the instructor will notify all students by posting in the NSOnline/D2L course, e-mailing through NSOnline/D2L, and/or by posting a sign on the classroom door. In the event of class cancellation, students must access NSOnline/D2L to complete classwork and the assignment that will be posted in the course D2L site.