Nashville State Community College
English, Humanities and Creative Technologies
Music Technology

Fall 2019 Master Course Syllabus

MST 1320 – Songwriting II

(This master course syllabus template is a general guide for providing an overview of each course offered at Nashville State. Each instructor will further clarify specific criteria for grading, classroom procedures, attendance, exams and dates, etc. on his/her individual course syllabus. Prompts for individual adaptations are italicized and in parentheses; faculty should remove or replace these prompts when creating master syllabi and their own individual syllabi if they have not been removed previously.)

Course Information:

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:

Required Textbook(s) & 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
Students are 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.

In online courses, attendance is signaled by logging on to the D2L/NS Online shell, participating as prompted (e.g., responding to an instructor’s email, posting to a discussion board) and/or completing and submitting assignments. Campus closures do not affect attendance and assignment completion in online courses.

Attendance is a very important to the success of students in this class. Each week students are assigned graded activities that are to be completed in class. The instructor may provide an opportunity to make up a missed assignment or two. However it is a student’s responsibility to adapt their schedule to take advantage of an instructor scheduled make-up opportunity.

FA
According to NSCC policy, an FA is awarded to students who do not officially withdraw from a course and do not attend after the cut-off date provided in the academic calendar. Please refer to the current academic calendar available on the Nashville State web site, looking for the date that indicates it is the “Last Day to Earn F for Attendance (FA).” Students who stop attending on or before this date receive an FA; students who stop attending after this date receive an F.

For online courses, attendance is defined by submission of assignments. Students who fail a course and whose last assignment is submitted on or before the FA date will earn an FA for the course. Students who fail a course and whose last assignment is submitted after the FA date will earn an F for the course. An FN is assigned to students who do not submit any assignments.
Last Day to Earn F for Attendance (FA) - March 22, 2019

FN
An FN is awarded to students who never attended class.

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 D2L/NS Online course shells. Computers are available for student use at each campus during campus open hours.
D2L/NS Online and myNSCC
It is students’ responsibility to check D2L/NS Online course shells for all enrolled courses and myNSCC, including student email, on a regular basis. These are the official communication channels between the college and students, who are responsible for the information communicated through those channels. D2L/NS Online contains specific course information and myNSCC contains information important for other purposes.

ADA Compliance Statement
Nashville State complies with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). If you require accommodations for any courses in which you are enrolled, contact the Access Center at 615.353.3741 or 615.353.3721, or e-mail accesscenter@nscc.edu. If you are registered with the Access Center and require an alternate format for the textbook and other course materials, please contact the Access Center.

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 measures. Please review the Nashville State Student Code of Conduct policy. Please be aware that children are not allowed in class or to be left unattended on campus.

Academic Misconduct
Any form of academic dishonesty, cheating, plagiarizing, or other academic misconduct is prohibited. Students are responsible for understanding and abiding by the Academic Misconduct Policy in the Nashville State Student Code of Conduct. In addition to other possible disciplinary measures that may be applied 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.

Instances of academic dishonesty will result in the instructor assigning an “F” or a “zero” for the exercise, paper, or examination.

Academic Early Alert System
Nashville State Community College uses an Early Alert System to let students know of a faculty member’s concern in one or more of these academic areas: lack of attendance, lack of classroom participation, late or missing assignments, and/or poor performance on assignments/tests. *Please note that Early Alerts do not affect a student’s academic standing. If you receive an Early Alert email, please see your instructor and your academic advisor as soon as possible.

RAVE Emergency Alert System
Emergency events can happen at any time and Nashville State Community College wants to be able 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://www.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 & Campus Closings**

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

Even when campuses are closed, students are still responsible for completing all assigned work. When classes are cancelled, faculty will post online assignments and any additional instructions in the D2L/NS Online course shell. Check D2L/NS Online for a message from your instructor regarding your online assignment requirements. Faculty have discretion over adjusting deadlines or due date for assignments, but students are responsible for completing all assigned work by the due date established by the instructor.

**Class Cancellation Policy**

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