
Module Specifications: *School of Music*

Module Title:	Introduction to Song Writing and Arranging
Module Code:	BAPM07C
Level:	4
Credits:	15
Pre-requisites:	

Module Description:

This module enables students to explore compositional techniques employed within a range of popular music idioms and styles. These techniques are then developed in the students' own composition leading to performance, recording and appraisal of a finished composition. The students will submit a portfolio for assessment which, in addition to the recording of their own composition, will include exercises such as an annotated listening diary and a rough-work notebook.

The students will be free to explore composition in a wide range of pop music styles. Special emphasis will be given in lectures and tutorials to the development of good lyric writing which will be considered an essential part of the final submission.

Indicative Content:

- Study of selected songs and instrumental pieces from a range of popular music styles
 - Approaches to lyric writing
 - Approaches to:
 - structure
 - texture
 - groove
 - feel
 - Idiomatic use of guitar, bass guitar, keyboards, drums and voice
 - Tutorial guidance in the development and arranging of musical ideas
 - Peer and self-assessment of work in progress
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Learning and Teaching Methods:

The module will be delivered through a combination of lectures, seminars and workshop sessions.

Specific Learning Resources:

Music classroom with playback, whiteboard, sound system

Multitrack studio

A range of instruments and musicians

Bibliography

Highly Recommended

Module Specifications: *School of Music*

Bradford, CC. (2005) *Heart and Soul: Revealing the Craft of Songwriting* London: Sanctuary

Recommended

Coryat, K. (2006) *Frustrated Songwriter's Handbook* California: Backbeat

Davis, S. (1993) *Songwriter's Idea Book* London: Writers Digest Books

Luboff, P. (1992) *88 Song Writing Wrongs and How to Right Them* London: Writers Digest Books

Pattison, P. (1992) *Essential Guide to Lyric Form and Structure* London: Music Sales Ltd

Perricone, J. (2000) *Melody in Songwriting (Berklee Guide)* Boston: Berklee Press

Rooksby, R. (2007) *Arranging Songs: How to Put the Parts Together* California: Backbeat

Rooksby, R. (2006) *Writing Better Words for Your Songs* California: Backbeat

Rooksby, R. (2004) *Melody: How to Write Great Tunes* California: Backbeat

Rooksby, R. (2003) *Songwriting Source Book* California: Backbeat

Runswick, D. (1992) *Rock, Jazz and Pop Arranging* London: Faber

Background Reading

Gorow, R. (2002) *Hearing and Writing Music* 2nd ed. London: September

Module Learning Outcomes

Subject Specific Learning Outcomes

On successful completion of this module you will be able to:

LO1 | Develop original musical ideas within a range of popular music idioms.

LO2 | Arrange musical ideas creatively for appropriate ensembles.

LO3 | Demonstrate a sense of self-criticism and appraisal.

Assessment Title or element

Weighting (%)

Portfolio of developmental material and finished composition

100%

Information correct at point of publication.