

DEREE COLLEGE SYLLABUS FOR: MU 4369 SELECTED TOPICS IN COMPOSITION, SONG WRITING AND ARRANGING		3/0/3										
(New Course Spring 2016)		UK LEVEL:6 UK CREDITS:15										
PREREQUISITES:	MU 2014 THEORY AND MUSICIANSHIP I MU 2159 THEORY AND MUSICIANSHIP II MU 3215 THEORY AND MUSICIANSHIP III											
CATALOG DESCRIPTION:	Students explore creative musical techniques and practice through the focused study of works and approaches in musical composition or song writing and arranging. Students develop fluency in creating and arranging original musical material through an examination of a variety of musical forms and techniques combined with extensive creative work culminating in a final folio of musical pieces. The topic of the seminar will be chosen by the instructor.											
RATIONALE:	Composition, song writing and arranging have always been powerful ways for music students to gain a practical and theoretical insight into how music can be put together and how such activities can be both creative acts as well as help in our understanding of existing bodies of music. Students will explore a wide range of approaches and techniques within the selected topic, with the intention of developing a broad palette from which they can begin to explore their personal musical style.											
LEARNING OUTCOMES:	After successfully completing this course students should be able to: 1. explain the creative ideas and practical techniques of studied works. 2. demonstrate practical fluency in a range of different techniques through original exercises. 3. evaluate musical techniques and creative strategies within their own approach to creative practice. 4. create individual musical pieces with related performances and reflective evaluations of these works.											
METHOD OFTEACHING AND LEARNING:	In congruence with the teaching and learning strategy of the college, the following tools are used: • Class lectures (including class discussions and group work) • Listening, reading, score reading and compositional exercises assigned as homework which are then reviewed in class • Class performance sessions (including work in smaller groups) exploring simplified scores • Office hours: students are encouraged to make full use of their instructor’s office hours, where they can ask questions, see their assigned work results and/or go over lecture material • Use of a learning management system (Blackboard) where instructors post lecture notes, assignment instructions, announcements and additional resources • Support from the Student Academic Support Services (SASS), who offer one-to-one and group workshop sessions to support the development of academic and study skills											
ASSESSMENT:	<table><tr><td colspan="2">Summative:</td></tr><tr><td>Midterm folio of exercises</td><td>40%</td></tr><tr><td>Final Folio</td><td>60%</td></tr><tr><td colspan="2">Formative:</td></tr><tr><td>Class Presentations</td><td>0</td></tr></table> The formative assessments will be used to prepare students for the Midterm and Final assessments through activities testing learning outcomes 1, 2, 3& 4.		Summative:		Midterm folio of exercises	40%	Final Folio	60%	Formative:		Class Presentations	0
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	<p>The Midterm Exercises tests learning outcomes 1, 2 & 3.</p> <p>The Final Folio tests learning outcomes 1, 2, 3 & 4.</p>
INDICATIVE READING:	Varies according to selected topic.
INDICATIVE MATERIAL: <i>(e.g. audiovisual, digital material, etc.)</i>	REQUIRED MATERIAL: Varies according to selected topic, but extensive use will be made of the digital audio recordings and scores held by the ACG library.
COMMUNICATION REQUIREMENTS:	Blackboard and an active ACG email account.
SOFTWARE REQUIREMENTS:	<p>Microsoft Word (or similar word processing program) and an internet connection for access to online music databases, digital audio recordings and support websites (available through the college library).</p> <p>The course will make use of <i>MuseScore</i> (www.musescore.org) for all notation needs. This can be run from a student's flash stick on all campus machines as well as installed on their own computers. <i>MuseScore</i> allows students free and unrestricted access to an excellent score production program.</p>
WWW RESOURCES:	<p>There are a wide range of resources available online. Students will be directed to the following kinds of sites:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The home pages of music publishers (Universal Edition, Boosey & Hawkes etc.) for composer resources (biographies, listening resources, score examples, interviews etc.). • Oxford Music Online for authoritative reference material on composers and techniques.
INDICATIVE CONTENT:	Varies according to selected topic, but will include examination and analysis of musical works (both from written scores and via aural analysis). From these will be drawn key elements to be developed into a repertoire of musical techniques and creative approaches to composition, song writing and arranging. Examples will be drawn from range of different composers and musical styles as specified by the course instructor when the selected topic is identified.