



DEPARTMENT OF FINE ARTS

COURSE OUTLINE – MU2570A2 FALL 2014

SONG WRITING I – MW 2:30-3:50PM, L228

INSTRUCTOR: Geoff Whittall

PHONE: 780-539-2823

OFFICE: L-119

E-MAIL: gwhittall@gprc.ab.ca

OFFICE HOURS: TR 1:30-3:00PM and by appointment

WEBSITE: <http://people.gprc.ab.ca/gwhittall>

PREREQUISITE(S)/COREQUISITE: MU1550

REQUIRED TEXT/RESOURCE MATERIALS:

Pattison, Pat. 2010. *Writing Better Lyrics*, 2nd ed. Writer's Digest Books.

Kachulis, Jimmy. 2004. *The Songwriter's Workshop: Harmony*. Berklee Press.

RECOMMENDED MATERIALS:

Perricone, Jack. 2000. *Melody in Songwriting: Tools and Techniques for Writing Hit Songs*. Berklee Press

Pattison, Pat. 1991. *Songwriting: Essential Guide to Lyric Form and Structure*. Berklee Press.

Kachulis, Jimmy. 2003. *The Songwriter's Workshop: Melody*. Berklee Press.

CALENDAR DESCRIPTION:

An exploration of practice, design, and structures of song writing, including lyrics, melodies, harmonic progressions, and forms. In assignments, students will use a variety of techniques to unify those aspects into successful compositions.

CREDIT/CONTACT HOURS: 3(1.5-0-1.5) 45 Hours

DELIVERY MODE(S): Lecture and Lab

OBJECTIVES (OPTIONAL): Develop an understanding of harmonic, melodic, lyrical, and formal tools to enable students to write songs that are structurally sound, musically interesting, and lyrically meaningful. Students will develop skills to successfully write lyrics, create and resolve musical tension, explore the creative processes, develop an understanding of the business aspects of creating music (copyright, publishing, and more), and produce lead sheets and recordings of their work to share with other musicians.

TRANSFERABILITY:

**** Grade of D or D+ may not be acceptable for transfer to other post-secondary institutions.**

Students are cautioned that it is their responsibility to contact the receiving institutions to ensure transferability

GRADING CRITERIA:

GRANDE PRAIRIE REGIONAL COLLEGE			
GRADING CONVERSION CHART			
Alpha Grade	4-point Equivalent	Percentage Guidelines	Designation
A ⁺	4.0	90 – 100	EXCELLENT
A	4.0	85 – 89	
A ⁻	3.7	80 – 84	FIRST CLASS STANDING
B ⁺	3.3	77 – 79	
B	3.0	73 – 76	GOOD
B ⁻	2.7	70 – 72	
C ⁺	2.3	67 – 69	SATISFACTORY
C	2.0	63 – 66	
C ⁻	1.7	60 – 62	
D ⁺	1.3	55 – 59	MINIMAL PASS
D	1.0	50 – 54	
F	0.0	0 – 49	FAIL
WF	0.0	0	FAIL, withdrawal after the deadline

EVALUATIONS:

Songwriting Projects	60%
Assignments	20%
Quizzes	20%

STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES:

Students are expected to attend every class. You should become familiar with pages 34-44 of the GPRC 2014-2015 Calendar, along with College policies about academics and student responsibilities.

STATEMENT ON PLAGIARISM AND CHEATING:

Refer to the College Policy on Student Misconduct: Plagiarism and Cheating at https://www.gprc.ab.ca/files/forms_documents/Student_Misconduct.pdf

****Note:** all Academic and Administrative policies are available at <https://www.gprc.ab.ca/about/administration/policies/>

COURSE SCHEDULE/TENTATIVE TIMELINE: –