

Through this course, students will explore how to write songs in various styles through examining current trends in the music industry. Students will acquire the skills for lyric writing, music writing, basic music theory, electronic music production and recording techniques. No prior musical experience is required.

Course Objective: Concept List

Students will be able to:

1. Define basic musical notation for pitches including staff, notes, pitches, clefs, grand staff and ledger lines.
2. Identify basic rhythmic values and how to notate including, measure, bar line, double bar line, 4/4 time signature, note values, whole, half and quarter rests.
3. Define and recognize more complex rhythmic figures and time signatures including 2/4 time signature, $\frac{3}{4}$ time signature, dotted half note, ties and slurs.
4. Recognize structural elements such as repeat signs, 1st and 2nd endings.
5. Recognize the subdivision of the beat such as eighth notes and eighth rests.
6. Define and recognize in context, musical expression terms including dynamic signs, tempo marks and articulation.
7. Define and follow the concepts of the D.C, D.S., Coda and Fine.
8. Define and recognize in context the function of flats.
9. Define and recognize in context the function of sharps.
10. Define and recognize the function of naturals.
11. Define and recognize whole steps, half steps and enharmonic notes
12. Recognize song structure including the elements of intro, verse, bridge, chorus, outro, hook.
13. Create lyrics through using lyric palettes and rhyme schemes.
14. Develop catchy titles and concrete song ideas utilizing the three step lyric focus technique.
15. Analyze lyrics and then convey their own story through lyrics.
16. Identify and create their own cover song.
17. Create songs for a specialty market including holiday, parodies and comedy songs.
18. Identify and perform four chord progressions.
19. Compose Jingles.

Scope and Sequence

Songwriting

Objective	Topics/Content Delineation	Assessment
Define basic musical notation for pitches.	The staff, Notes, pitches, Treble and Bass clef and staff. The Grand Staff Ledger Lines (low and high notes)	Worksheets. Basic composition. Quiz.
Define basic rhythmic values and how to notate.	Note values. Measure, Bar line, Double Bar Line 4/4 Time signature and Note Values Whole, Half and quarter rests	Worksheets. Basic composition. Quiz.
Define and recognize more complex rhythmic figures and time signatures.	2/4 Time signature $\frac{3}{4}$ Time signature Dotted Half note Ties and slurs	Worksheets. Basic composition. Quiz.
Define and recognize structure elements and the eighth note subdivision of the beat.	Repeat sign, 1 st and 2 nd endings Eighth Notes, Eighth Rests Dotted Quarter Note	Worksheets. Basic composition. Quiz.
Define and recognize in context musical expression terms.	Dynamic Signs Tempo Marks Articulation D.C, D.S. Coda, and Fine	Worksheets. Basic composition. Quiz.
Define and recognize in context the function of chromatic notes.	Flats Sharps Naturals Whole Steps, Half Steps and Enharmonic notes.	Worksheets. Basic composition. Quiz.
Define song structure.	Intro Verse Bridge	Composition Written Analysis

	Chorus Outro Hook	
Creative lyric writing.	Lyric palette Rhyme scheme	Composition project
Developing catchy titles and great song ideas.	Three step lyric focusing.	Composition assignment.
Analyze lyrics that tell a story and then convey their own story through lyrics.		Composition assignment. Analysis project.
Identify and create their own cover song.	Sampling Cover songs Cover bands	Cover song presentation Cover song project.
Create songs for specialty market.	Holiday songs Parodies Comedy songs	Composition project
Identify and perform four chord progression.	Four chord progression on piano. Band in a Box	Composition project.
Compose Jingles	Read through chapter on jingle writing. Sample Jingles.	Composition project.