



Course syllabus

Faculty of Arts and Humanities
Department of Music and Art

1MU807 Populärmusikalisk komposition, 7,5 högskolepoäng
Composing Popular Music, 7.5 credits

Main field of study

Music

Subject Group

Music

Level of classification

First Level

Progression

G1F

Date of Ratification

Approved 2012-08-15

Revised 2016-01-13 by Faculty of Arts and Humanities.

The course syllabus is valid from spring semester 2016

Prerequisites

1MU806 Music Theory Tools II, 7.5 credits

Objectives

After completing the course, the student should be able to:

- distinguish and use various musical forms and structures in popular music,
- identify and use various techniques for creating melodies,
- apply various methods for harmonisation and exemplify this in their own work,
- distinguish different techniques and methods for writing lyrics and apply these in their own writing,
- in speech and writing account for and reflect on the variety of artistic expressions and the historical development of popular music,
- discuss and assess artistic works connected to the content of the course,
- justify their own choices from a creative perspective,
- create and produce their own songs in various genres, including lyrics, melodies, chords and arrangements.

Content

The course includes the following:

- analyses of musical structures and forms in popular music, as well as practical exercises,
- techniques for creating melodies,
- methods for harmonisation,

- strategies for writing lyrics and studies of language rhythm and melodies (prosody),
- theoretical and historical perspectives on composing popular music,
- analyses and critical discussions of relevant musical material,
- methodical and creative choices in writing lyrics and producing songs in different genres.

All practical parts are compulsory, unless otherwise agreed with the examiner.

Type of Instruction

Teaching is delivered in the form of lectures, seminars, supervision, group exercises, practical applications in the form of laboratory sessions or workshops, and thematic and/or project-oriented studies.

Examination

The course is assessed with the grades Fail (U), Pass (G) or Pass with Distinction (VG).

In order to receive the grade of Pass, the student must achieve the intended learning outcomes. The course is examined through digital assignments on music production, written and oral examinations, and seminars. Irrespective of the form of examination, the performance of the individual student is assessed and examined.

For students who do not pass the first examinations, retake examinations are provided in accordance with local regulations at the university.

Course Evaluation

At the end of the course, a course evaluation is conducted and compiled into a report, which is made available to students and filed and stored according to departmental regulations.

Other

Any costs in connection to assignments etc. are paid by the student.

Required Reading and Additional Study Material

Required Reading

Hillered, Eva. *Lathund för låtskrivare*. Förlaget Singing Songwriting Studio. 263 p. The latest edition.

Pattison, Pat. *Writing Better Lyrics – The Essential Guide to Powerful Songwriting*. Writer's Digest Books. 304 p. The latest edition.

Additional study material chosen in consultation with the examiner.