

Year 8 - Music 2022

TERM 1 – Australian Rock

Australian Rock

This unit focuses on the history, evolution, and key artists of the Australian Rock scene. After several stimulus pieces are analysed, the students then take ownership of their learning by selecting an artist to conduct further research on. Afterwards, students form groups and select their own roles for a final end of term performance of an Australian Rock piece. Musical concepts such as Pitch, Tone Colour and Dynamics are revised for the purpose of analysing iconic songs from this genre.

UNIT OVERVIEW

- Historical overview of the early Australian Rock scene.
- Social, political and international contexts are established for the students to understand the scope of this period.
- The Australian rock genre is studied and analysed in terms of:
- Pitch, Tone Colour, Dynamics
- Famous Australian Rock icons studied include:
- ACDC, Jet, Silver Chair, Wolf Mother, Eskimo Joe, Cold Chisel
- Famous Australian Rock Class Piece
- Progressions, Open Chords, Playing in time
- Class musicology research class
- In class demonstrations and time allocated for this summative assessment task

ASSESSMENT

Task 1
 Musicology Research
 60%
 Week 8
 Reported: Semester 1

Reporting Outcomes

4.10, 4.12

TIMING
 Weeks:
 11

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TERM 2 – Digital Music Production

Digital Music

This unit explores the manners in which computers and technology have been utilised to create music. Students acquire, develop then apply new skills in order to produce their own electronic music. Students learn to utilise a variety of tools such as DAWs, online sequencers, MIDI editors, and music production games. The Concepts of music are explained further and utilised to analyse pieces from various digital music genres.

UNIT OVERVIEW

- Revision of previous topic
- Introduction to new topic

- Digital composition task tutorial
- Origins of Computerised music

- DAW (Digital Audio Workstations)
- Layouts and features for various DAWs

- MIDI (Musical Instrument Digital interface)
- Piano Roll and editing in DAW's – Bandlab and MIDI editors

- Basic music production and editing
- Texture, Structure, Tone Colour

- Creative and Teambuilding Activities
- Isle of Tune
- Incredibox
- Combining original stem files into a mix

- Yearly Examination revision

ASSESSMENT

Task 2
Composition portfolio
40%
Week 5
Reported: Semester 1

Reporting Outcome

4.4, 4.6

TIMING
Weeks:
10

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TERM 3 – Jazz

Cool Jazz

Basics of Jazz such as blues are revised for the students to build an understanding of the subsequent sub-genres. Brief social/historical context is set which introduces students to the North American lifestyle and music of the early 20th Century. The unit quickly progresses to Cool Jazz and the use of modes for both composition, and improvisation. Students then research and develop their improvisation skills, before learning to play a few simple Jazz pieces.

UNIT OVERVIEW

- Research into the following key artists (or student’s choice):
 - Miles Davis and David Brubeck
 - Chet Baker
 - Stan Getz
- Historical overview of North American slave culture and early 20th century history
- Slave importation
- Trade routes
- Musical influences
- Cultural influences
- Revision of the 12-bar blues and early Jazz
- Holler/field chants
- Early Blues
- Formative Assessment – Group and or solo performance
- Composing your own blues piece
- Formative research task on a selected Cool Jazz Musician. Plan then create a poster to reflect your findings

ASSESSMENT

Task 3
 Performance
 40%
 Week 6
 Reported: Semester 2

Reporting Outcomes

4.2, 4.3

TIMING
 Weeks:10

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TERM 4 – Piano Studies

Piano Studies

Students are shown how to utilise the keyboard in creative ways, especially for composition. Students revise their keyboard studies from the previous year, then use this foundation to learn some advanced principles of the instrument. Various creative resources and activities are utilised for the students to experience a holistic view of the instrument. The final yearly music examination summarises the student's knowledge of all theoretical components covered throughout the year, with a view to preparing them for the stage 5 elective music course.

UNIT OVERVIEW

- Revision for Yearly Examination
- Topics, vocabulary, theory, answering questions succinctly

- Revision of keyboard and piano skills
- Note names, position of keys, fingering
- Chords – Basic triads
- Scales – Major and Minor
- Composers - Beethoven and Mozart
- Progressions - I IV V, I VI IV V, II V I
- 4 chord songs

- Styles of Playing
- Blues, Pop, Rock

- Basic Improvisation\Timing and group work
- Tonic + Guide Tones
- Pentatonic scales

ASSESSMENT

Task 4
 Yearly Examination
 60%
 Week 3
 Reported: Semester 2

Reporting Outcomes

4.8, 4.11

TIMING
 Weeks:11