

**Faculty of Arts
Teaching & Service Awards 2017
Nominator Statement**

Steve Armstrong
Teaching Excellence
MUSC1322: Music Language 2

Steve deserves this award because of his efficiency and effective style of teaching. His lectures and tutorials are always engaging and entertaining, but not a moment is wasted in unnecessary explanations of simple concepts or any sort of rambling.

His down-to-earth approach is very refreshing, especially in an arts faculty where often the intrinsic interest of a subject is drowned in useless drivel about particular buzz words that do nothing more than get us marks.

What sets Steve apart is that not only do we learn the content, but we actually understand it too. I believe his efficiency and knack for teaching is greatly undervalued.

**Faculty of Arts
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Steven Armstrong
Teaching Excellence
MUSC1322: Music Language 2

Teaching Music language can be a daunting task. I have not met too many musicians that speak of their study with found memories. Steven, however, makes this subject very interesting and practical.

Thanks to his passion to the music theory, I can now appreciate classical music from a totally different perspective and for helping me to play music with shape.

Also, I believe Steven cares for his students very much. He will give us enough information but not spoon fed, teaching us how to think or what to notice.

I believe teachers like him is rare find in an academic field.

I would very much like him to be acknowledged for his contribution as an excellent tutor.

**Faculty of Arts
Teaching & Service Awards 2017
Nominator Statement**

Steven Armstrong

MUSC1321: Music Language 1

Teaching Excellence

I'd like to recommend Steven Armstrong for constantly demonstrating teaching excellence. Steve is passionate and very knowledgeable about all areas of music, however, I'd especially like to mention how approachable he is concerning his harmony class. He's perfectly suited to teaching harmony and always explains difficult concepts with great patience and clarity. He is also very willing to give up his spare time to meet students outside of normal lecture and tutorial times.

From time to time you require that with music and Steve's friendly good nature allows students to feel very at ease in this presence. Being relatively young himself, Steve has an ability to easily connect with young students and always make his lectures interesting and relevant for my age group. For all these reasons I believe Steven Armstrong deserves to be awarded for teaching excellence.

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Steven Armstrong

MUSC1321: Music Language 1

Teaching Excellence

Being in my first year of university, I was told that educators would care less about my educational wellbeing and that everything had to be done on my own with minimal support. Steven however, is exceptional and challenges that notion; not only has he accentuated the extent to which he values pedagogy, he is honest, he practices what he preaches and he provides students such as myself with the best quality of education.

He does not boast about his passions and musical abilities but instead provides a firm and effective approach. I genuinely look forward to his lectures and tutorials as I know that although sometimes the content can take time to understand, Steven engages students and encourages productivity at all times.

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Nominator Statement**

Steven Armstrong

MUSC1321: Music Language 1

Teaching Excellence

Steven Armstrong deserves this award for a number of reasons. He is a teacher who is truly passionate what he teaches, which has made a massive impact on my enjoyment of the course.

We all need teachers like Steven, who do not just show students what they need to know, but actively works to make the course material better and more engaging. Looking at his lecture presentations, it is obvious to see that he spends hours creating them and finding just the right examples.

Steven makes everybody in his class feel comfortable and welcome. It is also clear to see that all the students in his lectures are hanging off every word. Dedicated, interesting, enthusiastic, friendly, and professional; Steven is the kind of teacher that I believe makes UWA a top university.

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Steven Armstrong

MUSC1321: Music Language 1

Teaching Excellence

Very knowledgeable in the area and passionate about passing on that knowledge. Taylor's feedback to each student to enhance their learning.

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Steven Armstrong

MUC1321: Music Language 1

Teaching Excellence

Steve is always willing help to students in his own time, i.e. outside normal contact hours, one on one and go through tests that have been done or help with any topics people are struggle with. He is always coming up with clever ways to help us remember things and to help us understand things.

He is always trying to make lectures more enjoyable, such as trying to slip in a joke every now and again. He is really good at simplifying things down to help explain concepts and he is always happy to help.

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Steve Armstrong

MUSC1321: Music Language 1

Teaching Excellence

Steve is really passionate about what he teaches. He genuinely wants to change the way harmony is taught in a positive way and the way he has taught has honestly made me a lot more confident in my ability to understand music.

He is always helpful and is always willing to go out of his way to make himself available and ensure that we all understand what we're doing and that we learn from our mistakes. He's hard working and truly deserves this nomination.

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Steven Armstrong

MUSC1321: Music Language 1

Teaching Excellence

Steven taught the class in a passionate, relatable and friendly way, while encouraging us to challenge ourselves and engage with the process of discovery as a way of learning. He also made time to discuss problems with individual students, which gave a deeper level of understanding of the course concepts.

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Steven Armstrong

MUSC1321: Music Language 1

Teaching Excellence

As a non music student doing a music core unit, Steve has been able to explain concepts that are difficult, thoroughly through his engaging presentations in Lectures. He is able to use animation and clear examples to reiterate main points - which makes it very easy to remember.

The way he presents is also very humorous - which keeps the learning environment fun. He also keeps the idea fresh by not having to read from a text book.

The workshops he holds are also very beneficial to my learning - we are led clearly working through examples he creates.

**FACULTY OF ARTS
TEACHING & SERVICE AWARDS 2016
NOMINATOR SUPPORTING STATEMENT**

Steven Armstrong
MUSC1321- Music Language 1
Teaching Excellence

Steve has brought such energy and enthusiasm to his lectures and tutorials. It is clear that he is passionate about Harmony and that has really rubbed off onto the cohort. Very approachable, gives helpful and clear explanations.

**FACULTY OF ARTS
TEACHING & SERVICE AWARDS 2016
NOMINATOR SUPPORTING STATEMENT**

Steven Armstrong
MUSC1321- Music Language 1
Teaching Excellence

He brought life to a once dull class and has honestly inspired all of us to do the best we can. Never quite had a teacher like him that cares about his students so much.

FACULTY OF ARTS TEACHING & SERVICE AWARDS 2016 NOMINATOR SUPPORTING STATEMENT

Steven Armstrong
MUSC1321- Music Language 1
Teaching Excellence

Steve is a great teacher who always tries his hardest to provide information on the topic in a relevant and understandable format. He goes above and beyond in terms of content, and always does his best to explain things we might have problems with in an engaging manner.

FACULTY OF ARTS TEACHING & SERVICE AWARDS 2016 NOMINATOR SUPPORTING STATEMENT

Steven Armstrong
MUSC1321 - Music Language 1
Teaching Excellence

Steve is an extremely approachable and helpful teacher who doesn't make you feel stupid for not understanding any of the concepts, while also pushing you to try your hardest in a good-humoured way. Steve managed to make what could have been an extremely dry subject into an enjoyable one with his enthusiasm and obvious enjoyment in teaching.

FACULTY OF ARTS TEACHING & SERVICE AWARDS 2016 NOMINATOR SUPPORTING STATEMENT

Steven Armstrong
MUSC1321- Music Language 1
Teaching Excellence

Steven is the best lecturer/tutor I've had in my time at UWA. He always goes above and beyond what he needs to to ensure that every single one of his students is learning correctly and understands all the concepts. He meets with students who are struggling, and works with them until they understand, and constantly does things he doesn't have to do just to ensure that all of his students do well. He gets to know each individual student and understands all the different requirements they may have. A fantastic educator.

**FACULTY OF ARTS
TEACHING & SERVICE AWARDS 2016
NOMINATOR SUPPORTING STATEMENT**

Steven Armstrong
MUSC1321- Music Language 1
Teaching Excellence

Steve is a great lecturer and tutor. He always gives 100% and tries extra hard for his students to get the most out of their learning.

**FACULTY OF ARTS
TEACHING & SERVICE AWARDS 2016
NOMINATOR SUPPORTING STATEMENT**

**Steven Armstrong
MUSC1321 - Music Language 1
Teaching Excellence**

Engaging, well-informed lecturer who takes time to cater for students' individual needs.

FACULTY OF ARTS TEACHING & SERVICE AWARDS 2016 NOMINATOR SUPPORTING STATEMENT

Steven Armstrong

MUSC1321 – Music Language 1

Teaching Excellence

Steven puts a lot of work into preparing lectures and tutorials, explains content very well and in a way that is easy to understand. He communicates with students well, very friendly and very encouraging.

**FACULTY OF ARTS
TEACHING & SERVICE AWARDS 2016
NOMINATOR SUPPORTING STATEMENT**

**Steven Armstrong
MUSC1321- Music Language 1
Teaching Excellence**

He is diligent in his teaching.

**FACULTY OF ARTS
TEACHING & SERVICE AWARDS 2016
NOMINATOR SUPPORTING STATEMENT**

**Steven Armstrong
MUSC1321- Music Language 1
Teaching Excellence**

Steven is the coolest teacher I have ever had.

**FACULTY OF ARTS
TEACHING & SERVICE AWARDS 2016
NOMINATOR SUPPORTING STATEMENT**

Steven Armstrong
MUSC1321- Music Language 1
Teaching Excellence

Teaches subject matter clearly and concisely, easy to approach, and has a great passion for his subject.



UWA STUDENT GUILD'S STUDENT CHOICE AWARDS

This certificate is awarded to:

Steven Armstrong

Tutor

MUSC1322

Arts (Music)

Congratulations on being recognised as a member of UWA staff who demonstrates a strong commitment to excellence, learning and student engagement.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "EO", written over a horizontal line.

Elizabeth O'Shea

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "Tom Beyer", written over a horizontal line.

Tom Beyer



UWA STUDENT GUILD'S STUDENT CHOICE AWARDS

He is friendly, approachable, knows his work, answers questions well and makes sure we cover the material in tutorials. He has time for everyone and engages the class by being funny and telling short music stories but still gets the tutorial completed. Thanks Steve for making tutes fun, informative, helpful, and a place where questions can be asked freely.

Faculty of Arts

Teaching and Service Awards 2016

Nominator Supporting Statement

Steven Armstrong

MUSC1322 - Music Language 2

Teaching Excellence

He has clear objectives for the course stated in the course outline and is excellent at teaching the difficult components of the course. He is very understanding of all students needs and helps us in any way possible.

Faculty of Arts

Teaching and Service Awards 2016

Nominator Supporting Statement

Steve Armstrong

MUSC1322 - Music Language 2

Teaching Excellence

As a mature age student, it is sometimes difficult to go to your younger lecturer cap in hand. Steve has proven to be approachable at all times to discuss matters regarding his unit. He makes himself available to assist as required. His presentation of information throughout lectures is clear and precise and he has an incredible understanding and passion for the unit he teaches.

I can't recommend him highly enough.

Faculty of Arts

Teaching and Service Awards 2016

Nominator Supporting Statement

Steven Armstrong

MUSC1322 - Music Language 2

Teaching Excellence

The Music Language 2 unit is one of the hardest units I believe in the music degree and I previously did this particular unit with a different professor and ended up failing.

This year, Steven took over and my whole perspective towards harmony has completely changed. He explains concepts in an efficient and cohesive manner.

His attitude and teaching excellence has greatly improved this unit and I'm sure all of my peers agree too.

Faculty of Arts
Teaching and Service Awards 2016
Nominator Supporting Statement

Steve Armstrong

MUSC1322 - Music Language 2

Teaching Excellence

Steve is consistently searching for new ways to help us understand concepts that may otherwise be dense and overwhelming - his efforts to present concise information and give us realistic, applicable skills are greatly appreciated.

Faculty of Arts

Teaching and Service Awards 2016

Nominator Supporting Statement

Steven Armstrong

MUSC1322 - Music Language 2

Teaching Excellence

Steven is a passionate lecturer and tutor who goes above and beyond what is necessary to engage his students and implore them to become active critical thinkers. Having only recently graduated himself he has the advantage of knowing the issues and struggles of students as he is not disconnected from them, allowing him to structure his teaching and the basis of his pedagogy to best suit the needs of his students.

Steven has remodelled a compulsory unit for music students (and perhaps previously somewhat worthless unit) into an interesting and compelling topic to learn. He has taken the foundations of the unit and engaged his students through creating a contemporary basis for discussion and creating meaningful tasks for assessment.

Faculty of Arts

Teaching and Service Awards 2016

Nominator Supporting Statement

Steven Armstrong

MUSC2525 - Music Language 4

Teaching Excellence

My musical language unit (particularly harmony) has been messed around a lot, with a complete abandonment of structured learning and lack of insight into why it is we are learning. Steven has taken it upon himself to not only fill in the gaps of our harmonic knowledge but inspire us constantly with insight into why it is we are learning this subject.

I have learnt more about harmony in 1 semester with him than I have my time at university combined. This is why I feel Steven deserves this award.

Faculty of Arts

Teaching and Service Awards 2016

Nominator Supporting Statement

Steven Armstrong

MUSC2525 - Music Language 4

Teaching Excellence

Steven Armstrong has done an amazing job of taking over and restructuring the harmony component of the Music Language units. He is invested in all individuals who take his classes, and is always willing to put in extra time with students, both one on one and in groups when necessary.

He has taught harmony in a way that is much more easily understandable and applicable to the rest of our music studies than in previous semesters. Taking the harmony component of Music Language 4 has been both enjoyable and a great learning experience this semester due to Steven.