Before signing up for this songwriting course, I had previously already written songs and recorded them. I was on a role and was seriously starting to take the steps to become a professional singer. I wanted to be known for my voice and known for the songs I wrote until a tragedy happened.

My little sister’s life was taken from her and I felt I had nowhere to run. I used to be able to write about my feelings through songs but it seemed like the way I felt just wasn’t coming to paper. I fell into depression and couldn’t go a day without crying. I was a complete mess last semester. Then the spring semester rolled around and everyone around me saw change. Music is my life and being apart of this class brought life to my low days. I was forced to write songs and finish projects that I couldn’t find the words for. Because of this class I was able to express my feelings again without crying or having panic attacks. Although this class is so simple, in my eyes it is beautiful and without it, I don’t think I would have made it through the semester. This course was exactly what I needed to get back to who I am and where I want to be.

I’m so thankful for my peers and their helpful and willing feedback. It showed me that I wasn’t the only one who got stuck in the middle of a song and I was able to learn techniques to keep the process going. I learned that rhyming is key but it not commonly used in popular music today. I’ve heard the differences in using unstable and stable verses/choruses while learning to use them correctly. I’ve learned to give constructive criticism and take others advice on certain ideas. I also was forced to take a step out of my comfort zone and try new techniques. I wasn’t used to being accompanied by an instrument and now I think I love it.

During this course I learned a ton about things like harmony, melody, and stability. We used the 3-box method and stresses to organize and emphasize the important syllables in a word to make the song sound amazing. I can say that techniques I learned, I would have never tried or even thought about before beginning this class. I will always think of this class when I write a song or use a rhyming worksheet.

The ideas that were shared will forever stick with me and I can’t wait to see my peers do big things in the future. The last thing I learned was, you do not need to have a great voice to write a perfect song. Even if I don’t make it big time with my voice, I hope to have songs published or bought by famous people and I’ll be content with just that. I’m extremely blessed and thankful for this course and I will definitely take the things that were taught to me and use them for the rest of my life.