

University of Florida School of Music
Fall Semester 2016

MUC 1211, Composition Skills 1

Instructor: Dr. Paul Basler, Professor of Music
Office: MUB 352; 273-3188 / basler@ufl.edu
Office Hours: TBA

Seminar exploring the use of styles and devices of contemporary art music

Prerequisite:

Rudimentary Music Skills; Coreq: MUT1121 or written permission of instructor.
Required for all majors in theory/composition.

Class Meeting venue/time:

MUB 232, MW, Period 4

Material Required:

music manuscript paper, laptop computer with
Finale or Sibelius music notation software
Soft Pencil(s) [No. 2 or softer]

Grade Scale:

A	100-93	C	81-77
B+	92-90	D+	76-74
B	89-85	D	73-69
C+	84-82	E	68 and below

Grade Determinate:

20%	Class Participation (see Policies #4)
60%	Daily Assignments/Listening/Projects
20%	Final Project

Policies:

- 1) Late work is not accepted.
- 2) Attendance is required at all classes. Should a class be missed, it is the student's responsibility to see the lecture notes from the missed class are obtained from a classmate and any work assigned completed by their return (a class list will be supplied to help facilitate this policy).
- 3) All students of The University of Florida are expected to conduct themselves in a reasonable and professional manner at all times as described in the Student Honor Code; please refer to The Code for specifics.
- 4) Composition, like practicing an instrument or voice, should take place daily; it is a skill that can be refined with patience and observation. Student participation and interaction are essential elements of this class!
- 5) The requirements, emphasis, and timing of this course may be changed or adjusted to meet the specific needs of the class as determined by the instructor.

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- 6) All composition students are required to attend the weekly Composition Studio Class on Mondays at 4:05 p.m. Attendance at the studio class will be factored into your class participation grade in Composition Skills 2.

LISTENING REPORTS: A written critique of compositions on each listening list. These typed reports should contain objective prose describing the works on the listening list that demonstrates an understanding of the techniques used to produce the work as well as the aesthetic of the composition.

COMPOSITION ASSIGNMENTS/PROJECTS: The composition assignments will be handed in by the due date in computer notation (Finale) and bound for professional presentation. Class projects could be, for example, the presentation of a contemporary composition recording (written within the last 30 years) at the beginning of each class.

FINAL CONCERT PRESENTATION: A composition is not "finished" until it is presented in concert. Each composition assignment will be presented by the class in a concert setting. The class members will organize an organizational structure that will produce a program and flyer/poster for each of the concert presentation. The class is encouraged to find alternative spaces appropriate for the presentation concert.

FINAL PROJECT: Creative work to demonstrate understanding and application of principles discussed and experienced during the course of the semester. The final project will be presented during the final examination time for the course. All final projects will be considered for performance at the SCI Student Chapter concert.

JURY: All students studying at the Skills or Private level are required to present their work, print as well as recordings (or live), at a jury at the end of the semester. The panel will consist of all composition faculty, and students will receive written comments from all members as well as a grade which will be included as part of their course grade.

UNBALANCED CONNECTION CONCERTS: Students are required to attend the Unbalanced Connection concerts. Failure to attend each of these composition recitals will result in a reduction of the student's grade by one increment (A to B+, B+ to B, etc.)

COMPOSITION STUDIO: All students studying composition at the University of Florida, as a major or non-major, must attend and participate in the Composition Studio. The studio meets every Monday during the 4:05 hour starting the second week of class. Each student is required to present on at least one studio meeting. Less experienced composers may wish to share a session with another composer. All topics music be approved by Dr. Basler at least two weeks prior to the presentation date. Dr. Basler must also be given a title for the presentation for the presentation when approval is requested.

SAFETY HINT: Always keep several back-up copies of your music files on multiple devices; if you have a personal computer you may wish to keep one copy on your personal hard-drive.

For students with disabilities – to request classroom accommodations, contact the Assistant Dean of Students/Director of the Disability Resources Program at P202 Peabody Hall or call 392-1261 (V), 392-3008 (TDD).