

Composition Skills 2
[MUC 1212]

Instructor: Name: Dr. Michael Polo
Office: MUB 308
Email: mjpolo@ufl.edu
Phone: 856.404.4743

Office Hours: TBA or by appointment.

Required Text:

Persichetti, Vincent. *Twentieth Century Harmony: Creative Aspects and Practice*. New York: W. W. Norton & Company, Inc., 1961.

Articles from online music journals will be assigned throughout the semester.

Purpose of Course: The purpose is to help develop the craft of composition among young emerging student composers. Students will compose in a variety of compositional styles. Also, students will learn how to prepare and edit scores, along with professional rehearsing techniques.

Course Goals and/or Objectives: By the end of this course, students will have the ability to apply a variety of compositional techniques to their own compositions.

Course Policies:

Attendance Policy: Attendance for each class is mandatory. Should a student have prior knowledge that s/he will be unable to attend a particular class, an email to the teacher is required. Absences from class will affect a student's participation grade. More than two absences will result in the lowering of course grade by one increment for each additional absence. If a student arrives late to class twice, all subsequent late arrivals will be considered absences.

Assignment Policy: Late assignments will be accepted, however whole letter grade will be taken off for each day the assignment is late. In addition there will be listening and reading homework assignments that students will be expected to discuss during class.

Course Technology: Students are expected to have a computer with notation software such as Finale. Should a student not have notation software, s/he will be able to use the computer lab in the MUB which has a copy of Finale.

UF Policies:

University Policy on Accommodating Students with Disabilities: Students requesting accommodation for disabilities must first register with the Dean of Students Office (<http://www.dso.ufl.edu/drc/>). The Dean of Students Office will provide documentation to the student who must then provide this documentation to the instructor when requesting accommodation. You must submit this documentation prior to submitting assignments or taking the quizzes or exams. Accommodations are not retroactive, therefore, students should contact the office as soon as possible in the term for which they are seeking accommodations.

University Policy on Academic Misconduct: Academic honesty and integrity are fundamental values of the University community. Students should be sure that they understand the UF Student Honor Code at <http://www.dso.ufl.edu/students.php>.

Getting Help:

For issues with technical difficulties for E-learning in Sakai, please contact the UF Help Desk at:

- Learning-support@ufl.edu
- (352) 392-HELP - select option 2
- <https://lss.at.ufl.edu/help.shtml>

Any requests for make-ups due to technical issues MUST be accompanied by the ticket number received from LSS when the problem was reported to them. The ticket number will document the time and date of the problem. You MUST e-mail your instructor within 24 hours of the technical difficulty if you wish to request a make-up.

Other resources are available at <http://www.distance.ufl.edu/getting-help> for:

- Counseling and Wellness resources
- Disability resources
- Resources for handling student concerns and complaints
- Library Help Desk support

Should you have any complaints with your experience in this course please visit <http://www.distance.ufl.edu/student-complaints> to submit a complaint.

Grading Policies and Assignments:

Composition Assignments: Students will compose a several short compositions or composition related projects throughout the semester. The quality of the composition will not determine the grade. The refinement of notation skills and clarity in writing will be basis of grading.

Student Presentations: Students will present on a specified composer or topic.

Midterm Project: Will be determined in the beginning part of the semester to best fit the needs of the class

Listening Reports: Students will be required to write a critique of listed compositions. This critique should include an understanding of the compositional techniques utilized for each composition.

Final Project: Will be determined in the beginning part of the semester to best fit the needs of the class.

Attendance/Participation: Specific compositions will be assigned for required listening along with required reading. Students must critically listen and analyze the compositional techniques of these pieces and be prepared to participate in class discussion.

Assignment	Percentage
Composition Assignments	20%
Student Presentations	20%
Midterm Project	20%
Listening Reports	10%
Final Project	20%
Attendance/Participation	10%

Course Schedule

Week	Topic	Assignment
1	Syllabus review/Class Evaluation/Introductions/Composition	
2	Comp. Discussion/Notation/Styles	Persichetti: Ch. 1
3	Persichetti Ch. 1 Discussion/exploring with intervals/In class listening	Persichetti: Ch. 2
4	Persichetti Ch. 2 Discussion/creating scales /In class listening	Persichetti: Ch. 3/Listening Report 1
5	Persichetti Ch. 3 Discussion/Developing Harmony/ In class listening	Persichetti: Ch. 4
6	Persichetti Ch. 4 Discussion/Developing Harmony/ In class listening	Persichetti: Ch. 5/Student Presentation Proposals Due or Assigned
7	Persichetti Ch. 5 Discussion/Importance of Form/ In class listening	Persichetti: Ch. 6
8	Persichetti Ch. 6 Discussion/Finale/Editing/Printing/ In class listening	Persichetti: Ch. 7/Midterm Project Due
9	SPRING BREAK	Have Fun
10	Persichetti Ch. 7 Discussion/Class Critiques/ In class listening	Persichetti: Ch. 8
11	Persichetti Ch. 8 Discussion/Student Presentations/ In class listening	Persichetti: Ch. 9
12	Persichetti Ch. 9 Discussion/ Developing Harmony/ In class listening	Persichetti: Ch. 10/ Listening Report 2
13	Persichetti Ch. 10 Discussion/Developing Rhythm	Persichetti: Ch. 11
14	Persichetti Ch. 11 Discussion/Orchestration	Persichetti: Ch. 12
15	Persichetti Ch. 12 Discussion/Composition Discussion	Persichetti: Ch. 13
16	Persichetti Ch. 13 Discussion/Compositions Discussion	Final Project Due

Disclaimer: This syllabus represents the courses current plans and objectives. As the semester goes, those plans may need to change to enhance the class learning opportunity. Such changes, communicated clearly, are not unusual and should be expected.