

Fall 2018  
MUC 2101

T,R – 9:35-10:25am, MUB 144  
—syllabus subject to change

## Composition Skills 3

Instructor: Dr. Andrew Babcock  
Office: MUB 221  
Office hours: M,W,F – 12:50-1:40 pm, or happily by appointment  
Email: ababcock@arts.ufl.edu (\*best way to contact me)

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### Course Description:

An introduction to the craft of contemporary music composition through guided exercises, score study, in-class projects, and discussions.

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### Course Materials:

Manuscript paper, computer notation program (Finale or Sibelius are recommended).

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### Recommended Text:

Gould, Elaine. *Behind Bars: The Definitive Guide to Music Notation*. London: Faber Music, 2011.

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### Assignments and Projects:

There will be approximately 3-4 composition projects, 2 analysis projects, 3 listening reports, various articles/readings, and in-class reading sessions of compositions. Students will prepare a report on a contemporary composer, chosen in consultation with the instructor. Due dates will be announced throughout the semester.

### Additional Course Requirements:

Students will also be asked to contribute to the class by presenting their own creative work, perform on their instruments, and bring additional listening material to share (details forthcoming). Students will present a portfolio of their work for the full composition faculty at composition juries on Monday, December 10<sup>th</sup>. All students

studying composition are encouraged to attend the weekly composition studio, Mondays at 4:05pm in Room 233.

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**Grade Distribution:**

- Attendance/Participation/Preparation: 10%
- Composition Projects: 30%
- Listening Reports: 20%
- Analysis Projects: 10%
- Student Presentation: 10%
- Final Jury Grade: 20%

Grades on projects and assignments are based on the following scale:

A = 93–100%	B = 83–86%	C = 73–76%	D = 63–66%
A- = 90–92%	B- = 80–82%	C- = 70–72%	D- = 60–62%
B+ = 87–89%	C+ = 77–79%	D+ = 67–69%	E = below 60%

Information on current UF grading policies for assigning grade points:

<https://catalog.ufl.edu/UGRD/academic-regulations/grades-grading-policies/>

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**Course Schedule** (tentative and subject to change)

<i>Week</i>	<i>Topic</i>
<b>1)</b> Aug. 23	Introduction/Course Overview /Review Syllabus
<b>2)</b> Aug. 28 & 30	Psychology of Composing and Listening / Beyond Tonality
<b>3)</b> Sep. 4 & 6	Scale Formations
<b>4)</b> Sep. 11 & 13	Melody and Voice Leading
<b>5)</b> Sep. 18 & 20	Chords and Simultaneities
<b>6)</b> Sep. 25 & 27	Developing Harmony
<b>7)</b> Oct. 2 & 4	Developing Rhythm

<b>8)</b> Oct. 9 & 11	Form
<b>9)</b> Oct. 16 & 18	Non-tonal set theory
<b>10)</b> Oct. 23 & 25	Texture and Timbre
<b>11)</b> Oct. 30 & Nov. 1	Appropriation and Influence
<b>12)</b> Nov. 6 & 8	Chance and Choice
<b>13)</b> Nov. 13 & 15	New Styles of Notation
<b>14)</b> Nov. 20 *No class Nov. 22	Minimalism
<b>15)</b> Nov. 27 & 29	Narrative and the Extramusical
<b>16)</b> Dec. 4	Final Projects and Conclusions
<b>17)</b> Dec. 10	Composition Jury

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**Course Guidelines:**

Attendance Policy

Attendance is required for participation in this course. Please arrive on time. Should you miss class, it is your responsibility to obtain notes from the day(s) you were absent not from the instructor, but rather from one of your peers. Please note that once you acquire unexcused absences exceeding 3 class meetings, your final grade will suffer one whole letter grade.

Email

Please check your UF email account regularly, as I will be sending out information about assignments, important dates, and various handouts from time to time.

Late Work

Late work is reduced one full letter grade for every day it is past due (ex. A to B). However, if you have extenuating circumstances please let me know as far in advance from the due date as you can.

### Cell Phones

Cell phone use is not permitted during class time. Please keep your phone off the computer desk and tucked away in your bag or pocket. Students caught using their phones during class will be marked absent for the day.

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### **Academic Honor Policy:**

UF students are bound by The Honor Pledge which states, “We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honor and integrity by abiding by the Honor Code. On all work submitted for credit by students at the University of Florida, the following pledge is either required or implied: “On my honor, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid in doing this assignment.” The Honor Code (<https://sccr.dso.ufl.edu/students/student-conduct-code/>) specifies a number of behaviors that are in violation of this code and the possible sanctions. Furthermore, you are obligated to report any condition that facilitates academic misconduct to appropriate personnel. If you have any questions or concerns, please consult with the instructor or TA in this class.

### **Online Course Evaluations:**

Students are expected to provide feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing online evaluations at <https://evaluations.ufl.edu>. Evaluations are typically open during the last two or three weeks of the semester, but students will be given specific times when they are open. Summary results of these assessments are available to students at <https://evaluations.ufl.edu/results/>

### **Accommodations for Students with Disabilities:**

Students with disabilities requesting accommodations should first register with the Disability Resource Center ( (352)-392-8565, [www.dso.ufl.edu/drc/](http://www.dso.ufl.edu/drc/) ) by providing appropriate documentation. Once registered, students will receive an accommodation letter which must be presented to the instructor when requesting accommodation. Students with disabilities should follow this procedure as early as possible in the semester.

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### **Health and Wellness Resources:**

U Matter, We Care:

If you or a friend is in distress, please contact [umatter@ufl.edu](mailto:umatter@ufl.edu) or (352) 392-1575 so that a team member can reach out to the student.

Counseling and Wellness Center: <https://counseling.ufl.edu/about/> (352)-392-1575; and the University Police Department: 392-1111 or 9-1-1 for emergencies.

Sexual Assault Recovery Services (SARS) : Student Health Care Center, 392-1161.

University Police Department, (352)-392-1111 (or 9-1-1 for emergencies):  
<http://www.police.ufl.edu/>

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**Academic Resources:**

E-learning technical support, (352)-392-4357 (select option 2) or e-mail to Learning-support@ufl.edu <https://lss.at.ufl.edu/help.shtml>

Career Resource Center, Reitz Union, (352)-392-1601. Career assistance and counseling:  
<http://www.crc.ufl.edu/>

Library Support, Various ways to receive assistance with respect to using the libraries or finding resources: <https://cms.uflib.ufl.edu/ask>

Teaching Center, Broward Hall, (352)-392-2010 or (352)-392-6420. General study skills and tutoring: <http://teachingcenter.ufl.edu/>

Writing Studio, 302 Tigert Hall, (352)-846-1138. Help brainstorming, formatting, and writing papers: <https://writing.ufl.edu/writing-studio/>

Student Complaints Campus:  
[https://www.dso.ufl.edu/documents/UF\\_Complaints\\_policy.pdf](https://www.dso.ufl.edu/documents/UF_Complaints_policy.pdf)

On-Line Students Complaints: <http://distance.ufl.edu/student-complaint-process/>