

COMPOSITION SKILLS 4 | MUC 2102

(11.26.25)

University of Florida | School of Music | Spring 2026

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Schedule: T/R 10:40-11:30am | MUB 145

Office hour: via Zoom and by appointment (made at least 24 hours before meeting)

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course prepares students with skills, experience, and expectations necessary for a composer via individual instruction, score study, discussion, and projects.

REQUIRED MATERIALS

- Manuscript papers and pencils.
- Notation software. Any but preferably Dorico or Sibelius.
- Editing software if applicable.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

Students will complete the following requirements upon completing this course:

- Compose a minimum of nine minutes of music in the combination of three composition projects.
- Deliver a weekly listening journal on three pieces, totaling 36 pieces for the semester.
- Present a portfolio of three compositions culminating the three composition projects to the juries.
- Complete assigned reading, analysis, presentations, and exercises.

ATTENDANCE

Attendance is critical to the success of the course. It is expected that students will attend every meeting to engage in a constructive environment beneficial to the growth as a composer. Students must bring the required materials to every class meeting.

Should there be any issue or circumstance interfering with the attendance, students must contact the instructor for viable solutions. An excused absence is justified by legitimate documents, such as a doctor's note in case of illness, or a university's note for participation in an extracurricular activity. More than three unexcused absences will result in decreasing one increment of the final grade.

COMPOSITION PROJECTS

There are three composition projects, each of which spans approximately one third of the semester. Students will choose an instrumentation of their choices according to the conditions set forth at the beginning of the semester. Students are responsible for finding players for the purpose of demonstration in class and recording for the portfolio.

LISTENING JOURNALS

At the beginning of the semester, a listening repertoire will be provided for aesthetic broadening and training. This list consists of 36 works across genres, periods, and schools of composition. Each week, students will write a short journal on any three works until they complete their grand journal on the repertoire by the end of the semester. Some questions will guide how students should respond to the listening list.

ASSIGNMENTS

Throughout the semester, there will be occasional assignments in the form of reading, analysis, presentation, and exercises. They will be designed according to the nature of the students' creativity in their composition projects, facilitating the output. The times for performing these assignments vary but will be within reasonable timeline.

EVALUATION

Composition Projects: 55%

Assignments: 10%

Listening Journal: 10%

Juries: 15%

Class Attendance, Engagement, and Participation: 10%

GRADING SCALE

LETTER	PERCENTAGE
A	93–100
A-	90–92.9
B+	86–89.9
B	83–85.9
B-	80–82.9
C+	76–79.9
C	73–75.9
C-	70–72.9
D+	66–69.9
D	63–65.9
D-	60–62.9
F	Below 60

STUDENT HONOR CODE

Students are expected to comply with the Student Honor Code. Any violation to the academic regulations will bring about the consequence of a failing grade on the course and will be subjected to the review of Student Conduct and Conflict Resolution. Please consult the Student Honor Code and Student Conduct code at:

<http://sccr.dso.ufl.edu/policies/student-honor-code-student-conduct-code/>

CAMPUS RESOURCES

Health and Wellness

Counseling and Wellness Center:
<https://counseling.ufl.edu/>
or call 352-392-1555

U Matter, We Care:
<https://umatter.ufl.edu/>
or call 352-392-1575
Student Health Care Center:
<https://shcc.ufl.edu/>
or call 352-392-1161 for 24/7

University Police Department:
<https://police.ufl.edu/>
or call 352-392-1111 (or 911 for emergencies)

Academic Resources

E-learning technical support:
<https://helpdesk.ufl.edu/>
or call 352-392-4357

Library Support:
<https://uflib.ufl.edu/>

Career Connection Center:
<https://career.ufl.edu/>
or call 352-392-1601

COURSE EVALUTION

Students are expected to provide professional and respectful feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing course evaluations online via GatorEvals. Guidance is available at <https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/students/> Students will be notified when the evaluation period opens, and can complete evaluations through the email they receive from GatorEvals, in their Canvas course menu under GatorEvals, or via <https://ufl.bluera.com/ufl/> Summaries of course evaluation results are available to students at <https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/public-results/>.

WEEKLY SCHEDULE

This weekly schedule is provisional and subject to modification at any time based on the real situation. Students will be notified in advance, should there be any change.

Week	Day	Topic	Notice
1	T 1/13	Introduction, Syllabus	In-class survey, listening list discussion
	R 1/15	Composition Portfolio Discussion	Setting goals for the portfolio
2	T 1/20	Teacher's Presentation	Present Composition Portfolio Plan
	R 1/22	In-class Composition Exercise	Weekly Listening Journal 1 is due 1/22
3	T 1/27	Composition 1 Workshop	
	R 1/29	Composition 1 Workshop	Weekly Listening Journal 2 is due 1/29
4	T 2/03	Composition 1 Workshop - Demonstration	Composition 1 draft is due 2/02
	R 2/05	Composition 1 Workshop - Demonstration	Weekly Listening Journal 3 is due 2/05
5	T 2/10	Presentation of Composition 1 + Feedback	Composition 1 due is 2/09
	R 2/12	Presentation of Composition 1 + Feedback	Weekly Listening Journal 4 is due 2/12
6	T 2/17	Open Discussion	
	R 2/19	In-class Composition Exercise	Weekly Listening Journal 5 is due 2/19
7	T 2/24	Composition 2 Workshop	
	R 2/26	Composition 2 Workshop	Weekly Listening Journal 6 is due 2/26
8	T 3/03	Composition 2 Workshop - Demonstration	Composition 2 draft is due 3/02
	R 3/05	Composition 2 Workshop - Demonstration	Weekly Listening Journal 7 is due 3/05
9	T 3/10	Presentation of Composition 2 + Feedback	Composition 2 is due 3/09
	R 3/12	Presentation of Composition 2 + Feedback	Weekly Listening Journal 8 is due 3/12
10	M 3/17	NO CLASS Spring Break	
	W 3/19	NO CLASS Spring Break	
11	T 3/24	Open Discussion	
	R 3/26	In-class Composition Exercise	Weekly Listening Journal 9 is due 3/26
12	T 3/31	Composition 3 Workshop	

	R 4/02	Composition 3 Workshop	Weekly Listening Journal 10 is due 4/02
13	T 4/07	Composition 3 Workshop - Demonstration	Composition 3 draft is due 4/06
	R 4/09	Composition 3 Workshop - Demonstration	Weekly Listening Journal 11 is due 4/09
14	T 4/14	Presentation of Composition 3 + Feedback	Composition 3 is due 4/13
	R 4/16	Presentation of Composition 3 + Feedback	Weekly Listening Journal 12 is due 4/16
15	T 4/21	Review Composition Portfolio	Portfolio for juries is due 4/21 Compilation of weekly listing journal is due 4/21