

Composition Workshop Class
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The goal of this class is to develop compositional skills by learning the fundamentals of musical form, melodic and rhythmic construction, elements of harmony and counterpoint, as well as discussing your work with other students, studying a variety of established techniques through listening and writing and analysis exercises. Class meetings will be a mixture of discussing specific topics, reviewing together the students' work, and previewing the following week assignment using examples provided by the instructor.

We will have weekly assignments of short exercises and/or music analysis as well as a final project of a longer length. Weekly assignments are not meant to be particularly creative, just short exercises. Students are expected to:

- Bring a recording of the assignments (mp3 player, iPod, laptop, phone, etc.) or be willing to provide a live performance
- Notate their compositions, or provide a graphic description, or a diagram
- Provide copies of the material for the other students.

If you plan to perform your assignment you should bring your specific instrument to class.

Week	Topic	Assignment Due	Final Project
1	Overview of the class		
2	Melody – Types of melody. Phrases and Periods.	Write one or more short melodies (2-6 measures each in 4/4 tempo, using only quarter or half tones)	no
3	Melody – The Tonic Pitch – Scale –Variation Principle	Write short melodies of the three types described in class.	no
4	Melody – Harmony	Write variations of one melody.	no
5	Melody – Counterpoint	Do a harmonic analysis of one of our melodies and harmonize it in at least two different ways.	yes
6	Melody – Rhythm	Write at least two different counterpoints of one or more of your melodies.	yes
7	Form – AB, ABA, Popular Song	Write a short piece (4-8 measures in 4/4 tempo) for un-pitched percussion. Write a rhythmic variation of one of your melodies.	yes
8	Form – Canon, Chaconne	Music Analysis & Final Project Preview	yes
9	Form – Structural Elements	Music Analysis & Final Project Preview	yes
10	Class Analysis	Music Analysis & Final Project Preview	yes
11	Class Analysis	Final Project Preview	yes
12		Final Project	yes

Besides Pencil & Paper and a good eraser, below is a list of useful software, and some Web-sites.

Class Web Site

http://davideverotta.com/A_folders/Teaching/CW.html

Notation Software

Finale: www.finalemusic.com (either Finale or Finale PrintMusic)

MuseScore (free) <http://musescore.org/>

Sibelius: www.sibelius.com (not recommended unless you have it already)

Music Editing

Garage Band: <http://www.apple.com/mac/garageband/>

Logic Pro X: <http://www.apple.com/logic-pro/>

Final Cut: www.apple.com/finalcutpro/ or iMovie or similar video program that provides control on the audio tracks.

Musical Scores

International Music Score Library Project: imslp.org