

APPLIED COMPOSITION LEVEL 1 SYLLABUS**Semester & Year:** Fall 2024**Course number – Section – Synonym:** MUAP 1219 – 001 – 95164**Meets (day, time, room):** Day/Time arranged, 1424.13**Course Credits & Contact Hours:** 2 credits and 1 contact hour per week**Instructor:****Phone:****Email:****Office:****Office hours:****Catalog Description & Prerequisites**

This weekly one-hour private lesson is designed to develop technique, knowledge and skills which will foster a practical understanding of music rudiments and harmony; increase your knowledge of repertoire, musical period and style; and develop your music reading and notation skills. Attendance at the monthly seminars and workshops are recommended.

Course Purposes & Instructional Methodology

The goals of applied composition lessons are to acquaint you with compositional methods, technique and style, and include the study of:

- Melody
- Form
- Harmony
- Orchestration
- Compositional repertoire and literature
- Transferring and portfolio preparation

Required Textbooks & Other Useful Materials

- An orchestration textbook to be discussed in your lesson
- Staff paper, pencil, eraser
- Music notation software (such as MuseScore et al.)

Learning Outcomes

At the conclusion of the first semester of applied composition, the student will have:

- Written a minimum of 3 minutes of music in a single movement.
- Worked with the ACC-provided ensemble during the composition of your work.
- Studied representative repertoire and notation examples.
- Produced a suitable score and parts for the performance of your composition.
- Had your composition premiered at the semester recital.
- Completed a composition jury with a panel of ACC Composition faculty.

Program Learning Outcomes

The Student Learning Outcomes are associated with the following Program Learning Outcomes:

- Develop a more thorough understanding of music notation.
- Develop an understanding of melody, form and harmony.
- Develop an awareness of a wide variety of compositional styles and repertoire.

- Develop an understanding of orchestration as it pertains to small ensembles.
- Have opportunities to work with and learn from professional musicians and composers.
- Start preparing your composition portfolio for transfer.

General Education Competencies

The General Education Competencies utilized in this course are as follows:

- *Communication Skills.* Students will develop, interpret, and express ideas through written, oral, visual, and sung communication that is adapted to purpose, structure, audience, and medium. They will do this through in-class exercises and performances, and reading and written assignments.
- *Critical Thinking.* Students will gather, analyze, synthesize, evaluate and apply information for the purposes of innovation, inquiry, and creative thinking and performance. They will do this through in-class exercises, performances, and reading and written assignments.
- *Personal Responsibility.* Students will identify and apply ethical principles and practices to decision-making by connecting choices, actions and consequences. They will do this through in-class exercises, performances, and reading and written assignments.
- *Teamwork.* Students will consider different points of view to work collaboratively and effectively in pursuit of a shared purpose or goal. They will do this through in-class exercises, performances, and reading and written assignments.

Grading. Grading is based on preparation, attendance and participation. Grade breakdown is as follows:

- 20% Weekly evaluation based on your compositional progress
- 20% Weekly evaluation based on completing assigned reading/listening
- 30% Your final composition project on the Student Composers' Recital, ***Saturday Nov 16***
- 30% Your participation in the end-of-semester jury ***Friday, Dec 6***

Letter Grade	Percentage
A	90-100%
B	80-89%
C	70-79%
D	60-69%
F	0-59%

Attendance. Attendance is mandatory. If you are unable to attend your lesson, please contact me in a timely fashion to receive an *excused absence*. I will do my best to arrange a makeup time for any excused absence. You are allowed *two* excused absences. Each absence after two and any unexcused absence will result in the drop of a letter grade and will not be made up.

Communication. Emails and texts are answered daily during working hours, meaning 9am-5pm. If your communication comes in after this time you will receive a response the next day. Students are expected to give their professor the same courtesy and respond to all communication.

Dropping/Withdrawing. It is the student's responsibility to initiate all withdrawals in this course. The instructor will not withdraw students. You may withdraw, or drop from a 16-week course with a grade of W any time on or before the end of the 12th week in the fall or spring 16-week session. Shorter semesters have prorated drop dates. If you drop a course before its

census date, or official reporting date, the course is deleted from your enrollment, does not earn any grade, and does not appear on your transcript. If you drop a course after the census date, a grade will be included on your transcript. Reporting dates vary, so you are strongly encouraged to consult your instructor, the course syllabus, or the Austin Community College website for the drop and withdrawal dates for your course. *If your first college enrollment occurred in the fall of 2001 or later, you may not drop more than 6 courses during your cumulative enrollment at any Texas public college or university.*

For more information on the withdrawal process you can check this page: <https://catalog.austincc.edu/support-services-and-student-progress/student-progress/dropping-withdrawing-from-courses/>

Missed Exams & Late Work. Deadlines in Applied Composition are firm. Your course calendar includes all deadlines for the course. Should a deadline change, I will inform you in writing and in person.

Incomplete Grade. If a student is unable to complete the course at the end of the semester due to an emergency or other unanticipated circumstance, an incomplete grade for the semester will be considered. A new completion date will be given to the student, but it may not be later than the final withdrawal date in the subsequent semester. When the student completes the required work by the deadline, I will submit a form to change the student's grade from an incomplete to the earned grade. If an incomplete is not resolved by the deadline, the grade will automatically convert to an F.

COURSE SCHEDULE

The following Seminars and Workshops will be offered from 10:30am-12:30pm in the Choir Room (1449):

Friday, September 6; Seminar on writing for the Tuba and Piano.

Friday, September 27; Workshop 1 with performers.

Friday, October 11; Visiting Composer Omar Thomas. *(Also, an open rehearsal of the ACC New Music Ensemble with Omar Thomas will occur from 1pm-3pm in the Band Hall-1445.)*

Friday, October 18; Workshop 2 with performers.

Friday, November 8; Workshop 3 with performers.

Saturday, November 9; Deadline to upload final versions of works for the Composers' Recital





Saturday, November 16; Recital Rehearsal 11:30am-1:30pm in the Choir Room.


Saturday, November 16; 2pm-3pm Composers' Recital in the Recital Hall.


Note: all work must be uploaded one week prior to any activity, no exceptions. A link will be emailed to you and your instructor in advance. If a composer's work has not been uploaded by the deadline, that composer's work will not appear in the following workshop or recital.

Friday, December 6; 1pm-4:30pm; Composition Juries, Choir Room (1449)

Note: Juries are mandatory. They are your final exam for this course and may not be rescheduled.

COURSE POLICIES IN-DEPTH	
	GRADING POLICY <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Grades will be discussed regularly with the student during the course of the semester. • The grade of “A” will not be considered for a lesson during which errors corrected the previous week are repeated. • Dismissal from a lesson due to lack of preparation will result in an “unexcused absence” earned for that particular lesson. • Please be aware that the grade of “A” is difficult to achieve and will reflect the grading standards of the college.
	REPERTOIRE REQUIREMENTS <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The first semester of study requires you to produce about 3 minutes of music, preferably in a single movement. • Options may be discussed with your instructor.
	TUESDAY STUDENT RECITAL, MASTER CLASS, & RECITAL ATTENDANCE <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tuesday Student Recitals are considered to be extensions of the lesson. • Tuesday Student Recitals will feature performances of your colleagues. • Tuesday Student Recital times will also include master classes, yoga, important performance discussions, and other topics deemed necessary and interesting. • You are expected to attend a minimum of 10 (ten) recitals or concerts that you are not participating in per semester, regardless of whether you attend Tuesday Student Recitals. • Attendance at presentations by visiting composers, master classes and recitals are considered a vital part of your education and should NOT be missed. Plan accordingly to be in attendance.
	JURIES <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The student’s score and recording from the Student Composers’ Recital will be used for the jury. • Juries will be held in person. Composition juries will be held on Friday, Dec 6, 2024 before the final week of school. • We schedule composition juries in the afternoon and cannot accommodate personal time requests. • A panel of Composition faculty will prepare questions for the student composer. Questions may be about notational or composition specifics of your work, broad questions about the composition process or your experience with the premiere of your new work etc. • The student must perform a composition jury at the conclusion of each semester of study. The jury must be completed before a grade

	<p>will be entered for the semester's work. The grade of "I" will appear on the transcript until the jury is completed by the first week of the next semester.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If you do not participate in a jury you will receive a failing grade in composition.
	<p>WEEKLY LESSON PROGRESS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • You will be graded on a weekly basis regarding your progress and completion of assignments, including assigned listening. • At the end of the semester, these weekly grades will be averaged together to give students their weekly lesson grades. • It should be noted that I put a heavy emphasis on weekly effort over that of one performance. Although I value both it is my belief that students that exhibit consistent progress and a healthy work ethic throughout the semester will be rewarded with both a solid composition and grade.

RECOMMENDED TEXTS	
I recommend you use one of these texts during the course. A used copy/ any edition is fine.	
Orchestration Texts	
	<p><i>The Study of Orchestration</i> by Samuel Adler; A separate set of CD's or digital access to recordings of the textbook examples are also available.</p>
	<p><i>The Technique of Orchestration</i> by Donald Grantham/Kent Kennan; A separate set of CD's or digital access to recordings of the textbook examples are also available.</p>
	<p><i>Instrumentation/Orchestration</i> by Alfred Blatter;</p>