



Course Description

MUC1201 | Composition 1 | 2.00 credits

A two-semester sequential course introducing the basic elements and construction blocks of a musical composition and analysis. In addition, students will be expected to compose original short pieces as well as have them performed in a composition recital at the end of the semester.

Course Competencies

Competency 1: The student will develop basic skills of composition by:

1. Learning the importance of pre-compositional planning
2. Creating a pre-compositional plan
3. Completing weekly compositional exercises

Competency 2: The student will develop basic skills of compositional balance by:

1. Using symmetry or asymmetry to balance phrasing and other formal sections of a work
2. Using unity and contrast within a work, through rhythmic motives, dynamics, and articulation to create contrasting structural areas
3. Orchestrating for chosen instrumentation -- solo or small chamber works and learn to range, register, transposition, and sounds of each register, special techniques and possibilities within each instrument used in the work

Competency 3: The student will develop melodic ideas culminating in a climax at the beginning, middle or end of a work by:

1. Use appropriate musical notation in the work.
2. Economize motivic and thematic ideas within a work.
3. Create various types of melodic contour within a work

Learning Outcomes

- Demonstrate an appreciation for aesthetics and creative activities