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MUSI 180.01: Composition I

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Course Information

Course Title and Number:	Composition I, MUSI 180 Spring
Meeting Times and Locations:	TR 1:10 - 2:00 PM
Professor:	Dr. Simon Hutchinson
eMail:	simon.hutchinson@umontana.edu
Office:	Room 203
Office Hours:	TBA

Prerequisites

- Fall semester of MUSI180
- Completion or concurrent enrollment in MUSI106

If you do not meet these prerequisites, please join us again when you do.

Objectives

- Improve your compositional craft by engaging with different ideas in multi-voice works
- Expand your portfolio with two new, multi-instrument pieces
- Gain experience thinking and writing critically about works of music and compositional techniques

Text

- Gardener Read, *Music Notation: A Manual for Modern Practice* (available at bookstore)
- I will post additional materials on Moodle: <http://umonline.umt.edu/>

Other Required Materials

- Manuscript paper
- You must keep up with correspondence to your University of Montana eMail account

Grading

Composition Project 1 : 16%
Composition Project 2 : 20%
Weekly Work-in-Progress Presentations (9): 18% (2% per week)
Listening Journals (13) : 26% (2% each)
Other Assignments (TBA) : 10%
Professionalism : 10%
Concert Attendance/Replacement Paper : **Required**

Composition Project 1

Your first composition project this semester will be a duet for two instruments available in our class. The pieces will be performed in class during our class sessions in Week 9.

Composition Project 2

Your second and final composition project for the semester will be a trio for three instruments chosen from the faculty woodwind quintet (flute, clarinet, sax, oboe, bassoon). These pieces will be performed during our final exam time on **Wednesday, May 14th from 1:10 to 3:10PM.**

Weekly Work-in-Progress Presentations

Starting Week 3, each week, you will present about your ongoing progress in your large compositions.

Listening Journals

Students submit listening in the form as postings on the online forum of Moodle. Each week, we will listen to a piece, and often begin a discussion of that piece in the class session. Following that session, students will continue that discussion online by writing one original topic about the piece and two replies to other students' topics. Listening journals are *due before class on the Tuesday after the week they are assigned.*

Other Assignments

I will give other assignments and exercises as I deem appropriate in fostering your growth as composers. The number of these assignments will be determined over the course of the semester, but their total weight will be 10% of your final grade.

Professionalism

Outside of this classroom, your level of professionalism will be one of the main factors contributing to your success as a composer and everything else you pursue. Within the classroom, examples of professionalism include: respect for your colleagues and their ideas, preparation and active participation in class, punctuality, and ethical academic behavior.

Attendance Policy

As classroom discussions and peer feedback are vital to your growth as a composer, **more than four absences will prevent you from passing this course.**

Concerts of Interest This Semester

Friday, April 11th, 7:30PM – **CMS Pacific Northwest Conference Concert**
Saturday, April 12th, 7:30PM – **CMS Pacific Northwest Conference Concert**
Monday, April 14th, 2:10PM – **Composers Showcase**
Monday, April 14th, 7:30PM – **Composers Showcase*****
Tuesday, April 15th, 2:10PM – **Composers Showcase**
Tuesday, April 15th, 7:30PM – **Composers Showcase*****
Monday, May 5th, 7:30PM – **Qi Shen's Masters Recital**
Thursday, May 8th, 7:30PM – **Tom Morrison's Senior Recital**

Concerts marked with asterisks (***) are required.

In lieu of attending these required concerts, you may write a ten-page scholarly essay on a topic of my choosing (with full bibliographic references) as a surrogate for the concert experience. These papers are due before the end of the day on Friday of Week 15.

Failure to attend a concert or submit the optional paper will prevent you from passing the class, no exceptions.

I present these requirements in the syllabus at the beginning of the term, so that, if the concert dates or the papers post and issue, you have the option to drop the class and register for a different course or register for MUSI180 in a different semester when you are able to fulfill the course requirements.

Laptop Policy

I do not permit the use of laptop computers (including iPads, Blackberries, Cellular Phones, etc.) during the lecture and discussion portions of the class. Our department is very interested in technology and its artistic and academic applications, but laptops are not appropriate for taking notes in this class, and we wish to avoid the potential for distraction to both laptop users and nearby students.

Cellphone Policy

Students may **not** use cellular phones in class. Cell phones ringing in class are inappropriate, discourteous and disruptive. All devices must be set to silent. If your cell phone rings in class, the appropriate response is for you to promptly turn it off, quietly gather up your belongings, and leave for the day. Additionally, students may not engage in text messaging during class sessions.

Academic Honesty

All work submitted in this course must be your own and produced exclusively for this course. The use of sources (ideas, quotations, paraphrases) must be properly acknowledged and documented. For the consequences of academic dishonesty, refer to the “Student Conduct Code” available here: http://life.umt.edu/vpsa/student_conduct.php.

We take violations very seriously and they will be noted on student disciplinary records. **We will not tolerate any dishonesty or plagiarism.** If you are in doubt regarding any aspect of these issues as they pertain to this course, please consult with me before you complete any relevant requirements of the course.

Disability Services

If you are a student with a disability who will require reasonable program modifications in this course, please meet with Disability Services for Students in Lommasson 154 for assistance in developing a plan to address program modifications. If you are already working with Disability Services arrange to meet with me during my office hours to discuss reasonable modifications that may be necessary. For more information, visit the Disability Services website at <http://www.umt.edu/disability>.