

# comp<sup>2000</sup> ~ Composition Workshop

## University of Oklahoma ~ spring<sup>2002</sup>

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**Class Time:** MWF 9:30 - 10:20 am in CMC 229

**Forum Time:** T 1:30 - 2:20 pm in CMC 109

**Instructor:** Jon Haek

**Office:** Holmberg 302

**Office Hours:** By Appointment

**E-mail:** jonhaek@ou.edu

**Textbooks:** Techniques of the Contemporary Composer by David Cope and The Norton Manual of Music Notation by George Heussenstamm

**Supplies:** Paper, Staff Paper, Pencil, Eraser, Instrument, Headphones, 3.5" Floppy Disk

### Objectives

- To experience the complete process of creating music beginning with imagination and ending up in live performance.
- To develop composition skills.
- To create new pieces of music.
- To model the creative process as a fundamental human activity and need. The ability to use one's imagination to create solutions to problems is ultimately the most important skill in any field of endeavor.

## **Composition Assignments**

These assignments are the most important activities of the class. They will be graded on:

Score Quality (Neatness/Accuracy)	40%
Performance Quality (Rehearsal)	20%
Assignment Constraints	40%

Even though some assignments may be performed by you or a friend, scores should be clear enough so that anyone who is interested could use your score and create a performance that credibly adheres to your wishes without you being present. Often very clear verbal instructions can make a score much easier to understand, even if it uses conventional notation. Remember also that your performance is just as important as the composition, since, in the world of the composer-performer, the two are inseparable.

## **Listening Assignments**

These assignments will occur weekly, and are to be handed in every Monday. Choose enough pieces from the "Mappings" Radio Show to equal 30 or more minutes of listening. Type a reaction to what you hear, not to exceed one page in standard format. Reactions written about more than 45 minutes of listening will be considered for extra credit.

## **Participation**

Attendance is extremely important because of the workshop atmosphere of the class and the amount of performance we will be doing in class. In such a small class, your classmates depend on you to be present. You are expected to attend all class periods and expected to participate actively in class activities, including discussions and performing other student's assignments. You will be allowed three absences with no effect on your grade. On your fourth absence your overall grade will be lowered one full letter grade. Subsequently on the seventh and tenth absences your grade will also be lowered. Missing class on a day when you are scheduled to perform will count as two absences! Also remember that attendance at the weekly composition forums on Tuesdays is also part of this grade.

## **Major Project and Concert**

The class is presenting a concert of its own, featuring performances your major projects on Tuesday, April 2, 8:00pm in Pitman Recital Hall. The class will be responsible for putting the recital together.

## **Portfolio**

You will hand in a copy of your portfolio at the end of the semester and it will serve as your final project/exam. It should be a presentable and, hopefully, beautiful collection of the compositions that you have composed and performed during the semester. It should be bound in some way. Three ring binders and plastic sleeves are very practical since items can be added or removed. I will give extra credit for unusual, interesting, or beautiful binding and you may enlist the aid of a friend in the design of this portfolio.

## **Grading**

Composition Assignments	25%
Listening Assignments	15%
Participation	10%
Major Project and Concert	20%
Portfolio	30%

## **Notes and Reminders**

- All compositions are to be rehearsed in time for the in-class performance on the due date. I will provide a class list with e-mail addresses and phone numbers so you may contact your classmates for rehearsal purposes.
- Any student in this course who has a disability that may prevent him or her from fully demonstrating his or her abilities should contact me personally as soon as possible so we can discuss accommodations necessary to ensure full participation and facilitate your educational opportunities.
- Important! This syllabus is subject to change throughout the semester. You are responsible for all the information in this syllabus and any other weekly schedule handouts or announcements made in class, even if you are absent.