

**University of Florida
School of Music**

**Composition Skills 4
(MUC 2102)
Spring 2024**

Instructor: Jane Kozhevnikova

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Class Meeting Times.

Tuesdays and Thursdays (10:40-11:30am)

MUB145

Course Description. This course will help students to develop skills, habits, and qualities that are needed for composers. Students will create and workshop three compositions. They will also complete assignments that will help their professional growth.

Course Requirements.

- Attendance is crucial to the success of the class as a whole (see “Grading” below).
- Professional behavior, proper attitude, and full participation are expected at all times.
- Students are expected to come to class prepared.
- Students should strive to speak with empathy and understanding.

Required Materials.

- There are no required textbooks, and all readings/assignments will be posted on the course’s Canvas page and/or distributed in class.
- Staff paper and pencil are encouraged.
- Notation software of your choice (Finale or Sibelius are recommended).

Grading.

The course will consist of three composition assignments, several smaller assignments, three listening logs, and a grant-writing project. There is no final exam for this course, but you will need to prepare for composition juries at the end of the semester (April 29, 2024; your time slot will be determined by the sign-up list).

Compositions 60%

Listening Journals 5%

Assignments 10%

Grant-writing Project 10%

Juries 10%

Preparation and Participation 5%

Attendance and Tardy Policy

Students are expected to attend all regularly scheduled classes. Each unexcused absence over three will result in a one-point deduction from your final grade. Any student with eight or more unexcused absences will fail the course. An excused absence is an approved UF event, a family emergency, or an illness. If three or more absences result from an extended illness, a doctor's note will need to be provided for those absences to be excused.

Students knowing in advance that they will miss a class must be in contact **beforehand via email**. Please do not schedule non-urgent doctor's appointments during class time. In the case of an absence (excused or unexcused), that student is responsible for determining what material was covered, and what assignments were given.

Attendance will be taken at the beginning of class. Students who are not present when attendance is taken will be marked as tardy. Three tardies will count as one unexcused absence. There are no excused tardies.

Assignment Submission

All projects are expected to be completed on time and submitted in a .zip folder on Canvas **prior to class on the day that they are due**. Files should use the naming convention "LastName_AssignmentName.zip" in order to make downloading and grading easier. Feedback will be given within 1 week of on-time assignment submission. Keep in mind that submissions may receive abbreviated (or no) feedback from the instructor if they are not submitted on time. Additionally, you will need to provide printed copies of your compositions (drafts and final version) for your classmates and performers.

Late Submission Policy

Late assignment submissions (not including late submissions due to excused absences) will be accepted with a grade deduction of 5% if submitted within 24 hours of the due date, and a 2.5% further reduction for each additional day the assignment is late. Grade deductions for late submission are capped at 50%.

To avoid grade deductions for late submission, students may request due-date extensions for assignments via email at least 24 hours in advance of the original due date. Extensions will be assessed on a case-by-case basis.

If you ever have any questions, comments, or feedback about anything in class, please do not hesitate to send me an email and/or approach me after class.

Academic Honor Policy. UF students are bound by The Honor Pledge which states, “We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honor and integrity by abiding by the Honor Code. On all work submitted for credit by students at the University of Florida, the following pledge is either required or implied: “On my honor, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid in doing this assignment.” The Honor Code (<http://www.dso.ufl.edu/sccr/process/student-conduct-honor-code/>) specifies a number of behaviors that are in violation of this code and the possible sanctions. Furthermore, you are obligated to report any condition that facilitates academic misconduct to appropriate personnel. If you have any questions or concerns, please consult with the instructor or TAs in this class.

Disability Accommodations. Students with disabilities requesting accommodations should first register with the Disability Resource Center (352-392-8565, www.dso.ufl.edu/drc/) by providing appropriate documentation. Once registered, students will receive an accommodation letter which must be presented to the instructor when requesting accommodation. Students with disabilities should follow this procedure as early as possible in the semester.

Course Evaluations. Students are expected to provide feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing online evaluations at <https://evaluations.ufl.edu>. Evaluations are typically open during the last two or three weeks of the semester, but students will be given specific times when they are open. Summary results of these assessments are available to students at <https://evaluations.ufl.edu/results/>.

Campus Resources:

Health and Wellness

U Matter, We Care:

If you or a friend is in distress, please contact umatter@ufl.edu or (352) 392-1575 so that a team member can reach out to the student.

Counseling and Wellness Center: <http://www.counseling.ufl.edu/cwc/Default.aspx>, 392-1575; and the University Police Department: 392-1111 or 9-1-1 for emergencies.

Sexual Assault Recovery Services (SARS)
Student Health Care Center, 392-1161.

University Police Department, 392-1111 (or 9-1-1 for emergencies).
<http://www.police.ufl.edu/>

Academic Resources

E-learning technical support, (352) 392-4357 (select option 2) or e-mail to Learning-support@ufl.edu. <https://lss.at.ufl.edu/help.shtml>.

Career Resource Center, Reitz Union, 392-1601. Career assistance and counseling.
<http://www.crc.ufl.edu/>

Library Support, <http://cms.uflib.ufl.edu/ask>. Various ways to receive assistance with respect to using the libraries or finding resources

Tentative Class Schedule (subject to change)

Week	Dates	Topic	Assignments
1	1/9, 1/11	Why compose? How to keep composing and avoid writer's block? What would you like to develop as a composer?	In-class survey, setting goals
2	1/16, 1/18	How to collaborate with living poets? How to work with texts?	Text selection is due 1/16; Collaboration/licensing agreement with a poet is due 1/18
3	1/23, 1/25	How to write for voice?	Listening journal 1 is due 1/23; Text grouping assignment is due 1/25
4	1/30, 2/1	Workshopping your compositions	Composition 1 draft is due 1/30
5	2/6, 2/8	Workshopping your compositions	Composition 1 is due 2/6
6	2/13, 2/15	How to write flex-band pieces?	Listening journal 2 is due 2/15;
7	2/20, 2/22	How to get funded? How to create opportunities?	Grant assignment is due 2/22
8	2/27, 2/29	Workshopping your compositions	Composition 2 (flex band) draft is due 2/27 before the class
9	3/5, 3/7	Workshopping your compositions	Composition 2 is due 3/5 before the class
10	no classes 3/12 and 3/14 – spring break		
11	3/19, 3/21	How to collaborate with performers? How to get performances/commissions?	Collaboration/commissioning agreement is due 3/21
12	3/26, 3/28	How to maintain your portfolio?	Artistic resume is due 3/26; portfolio is due 3/28
13	4/2, 4/4	How to get published? How to get royalties?	Listening journal 3 is due 4/2; List of publishers is due 4/4
14	4/9, 4/11	Workshopping your compositions	Composition 3 draft is due 4/9
15	4/16, 4/18	Workshopping/recording your compositions	Composition 3 is due 4/16
16	4/23 (no class 4/25 – reading day)	Workshopping/recording your compositions	
17	4/29	Juries	