

Las Positas College
Curriculum Committee Meeting
02/03/2025
6.0 Second Reading/Voting Packet

6.1 Course Requisites

- MUS 19 Music Composition



Course Modification: MUS 19 - Music Composition

Course Modification: MUS 19 - Music Composition (Launched - Implemented 11-11-2024)
 compared with
 MUS 19 - Studies in Music Composition (Active - Implemented 01-01-2019)

Cover

Course Title ~~Studies in~~ Music Composition

Effective Term ~~Spring~~ ~~Fall~~ ~~2019~~ 2025

Catalog Description

Students will compose individual pieces to be performed by professional or college-based music ensembles.

Presents a technical and historical analysis of works in ~~various~~ diverse ~~music~~ musical languages ~~Students will compose individual pieces to be performed by college-based music ensembles~~ .

Material fees apply to this course? No

This course is part of an existing program(s) ~~No~~ Yes

1. Program - Commercial Music: Scoring for Film and Multimedia - Certificate of Achievement (16 to fewer than 30 units) (Active) - Fall 2022

Units/Hours

CB22: Non Credit Course Category Y - Not Applicable, Credit course

Credit for Prior Learning

Credit for Prior Learning ~~No~~ Yes

Please select the method(s) of credit for prior learning that students can use to earn credit for this course at Las Positas College.

Credit-by-Portfolio ~~No~~ Yes

Please list the requirements/criteria/possible materials for a student to submit in their portfolio.

Student must present a portfolio of at least 3 original pieces that demonstrate satisfactory compositional techniques. Pieces should be written for a variety of instrumentations using standard western notation.

Course Objectives

Objectives

Upon completion of this course, the student should be able to:

1. **Group Title** Compose ~~analyze~~ and orchestrate pieces in various musical languages by demonstrating formal, harmonic, rhythmic, and textural techniques
2. **Objective Text** Analyze musical works by composers of diverse backgrounds.
3. **Group Title** Apply established compositional techniques to specific projects
4. **Group Title** Use engraving software such as Sibelius ~~and Finale~~ to correctly notate scores and parts for in-class performances as well as collaborations with professional or LPC ensembles

Course Content

Lecture Content

1. Analysis and short composition assignments using formal structures from traditional Western musical literature:

1. Theme and Variation
2. Rondo
3. Binary forms
4. Passacaglia

2. Analysis of existing examples utilizing the following compositional techniques:

1. Melodic direction awareness in tonal and non-tonal music.
2. Harmonic Progression and Chromaticism as applied in traditional and contemporary repertoire.
3. Exploration of extended techniques and 21st Century approaches
4. Harmonic and rhythmic languages from other styles such as jazz, rock, and non-western music.

3. Analysis and exploration of ~~Classical~~ electronic music from the early to mid-Twentieth century.

1. Music Concrete
2. Analog synthesized music
3. Computer based music

4. Non-traditional score notation

5. New works by composers from diverse backgrounds

4. Composition and orchestration by each individual student for a variety of ensembles.

1. Solo piano.

2. String Quartet

3. Symphony Orchestra

4. Jazz Ensemble

Methods of Instruction

Check all that apply:

- Classroom Activity

Comments

Listening and analysis of diverse music.

- Critique

Comments _

Works in progress will be presented by students for feedback by peers and faculty.

- Discussion

Comments

Discussion of diverse music will serve to inspire and direct original student works.

- Guest Lecturers

Comments

Professional composers and performers will demonstrate concepts and offer feedback to student composers.

- Individualized Instruction

Comments _

Faculty will offer short mini lessons to composers.

- Lab

Comments

Students will work on projects with faculty supervision and feedback.

- Lecture

Comments

- Faculty Observation

Comments will

present lectures about a variety of topics each class including compositional techniques and analysis of works by composers of diverse backgrounds.

- Projects

Comments

Students will work on short closed-parameter projects early on and a longer open-parameter piece as the semester progresses.

Equity Based Curriculum

- _ Methods of Instruction

Address _

Works by composers of diverse backgrounds will be studied.

- _ Typical Texts

Address _

Works by composers of diverse backgrounds will be studied.

- _ Other Materials Required of Students

Address _

Students are provided with the hardware and software needed to succeed in class regardless of socio-economic background.

Typical Assignments

Typical Assignments

1. Assignment Type Writing
Add Assignment

1. ~~Writing, Problem Solving, Performance:~~ -

1. Students will be required to analyze available scores and to provide written observation regarding aesthetic and technical issues involving the compositions in question. For example, students will study Beethoven string quartets and present a formal analysis to the class.

2. Assignment Type _ Other
Add Assignment _

1. Students will be required to structure their own works based on established musical structures, or to justify the use of unorthodox forms. For example, students will learn about rondo form, and compose a piece for piano in rondo form.

2. Students will receive demos from various instrumentalists and will learn how to rehearse effectively with an ensemble. For example, string players will demonstrate proper techniques, and students will compose short pieces using those techniques.

1. **Other:-**

1. Throughout the course, students will be producing a portfolio that should enable them to transfer to four-year institutions and/or to prepare them for professional music productions.

Student Learning Outcomes

Learning Outcomes

1. **Outcome Text**
~~Upon completion of MUS 19, the student will be able to analyze~~ **Analyze** and integrate knowledge of contemporary classical repertoire into original compositions.
2. **Outcome Text**
~~Upon completion of MUS 19, the student will be able to compose~~ **Compose** music for a variety of ensembles using standard practice techniques.
3. **Outcome Text**
~~Upon completion of MUS 19, the student will be able to create~~ **Create** professional scores and parts using standard music notation software.

Requisites/Requisite Validation

Requisites

1. **Min Grade** _
Group Title _
 1. **Requisite Type** **Recommended Prerequisite**
Subject _ MUS (Music)
Requisite Course _ MUS 6 - Basic Music Skills(Active)
Non Course Preparation Requirements _
Min Grade _ C
Comments _
Requisite Validation _ Content Review
Skills Analysis
Requisite Course Objective(s)
 - _ interpret notation of both pitch and rhythm;
Degree of Importance _ Required
 - _ identify and notate key signatures;

Degree of Importance _ Required

- _ identify and construct triads and seventh chords;

Degree of Importance _ Required

- _ identify and construct simple intervals;

Degree of Importance _ Required

- _ interpret expressive markings such as dynamic indications, accents, repeats;

Degree of Importance _ Recommended

- _ recognize and construct scales: major, minor (3 forms), chromatic, whole-tone;

Degree of Importance _ Recommended

- _ perform simple exercises in ear training and sight singing.

Degree of Importance _ Recommended

2. Requisite Type _ Prerequisite

Subject MUS (Music)

Requisite Course MUS 8A - Music Theory and Musicianship 1(~~Historical~~ Launched)

Non Course Requirements _

Min Grade C

Comments

Requisite Validation Content Review

Skills Analysis

Requisite Course Objective(s).

- _ Write and identify all major and minor scales and key signatures

Degree of Importance _ Recommended

- _ Transpose a given melody to any specified key

Degree of Importance _ Recommended

- _ Construct any interval up to an octave above and below a given note

Degree of Importance _ Recommended

- _ Write compositions in 4-part harmony using primary and secondary triads and 7th chords

Degree of Importance _ Recommended

- _ Identify cadence types, including perfect authentic, imperfect authentic, half plagal, and deceptive cadences

Degree of Importance _ Recommended

- _ Identify simple and compound meters

Degree of Importance _ Required

- _ Conduct harmonic analysis of diatonic chord progressions

Degree of Importance _ Recommended

- _ Visually identify all intervals up to an octave

Degree of Importance _ Recommended

- _ Write and identify any triad in root position and inversions

Degree of Importance _ Required

- _ Demonstrate the ability to hear music with understanding and recognize patterns and musical functions by taking dictation and other ear training exercises.

Degree of Importance _ Recommended

- _ Demonstrate the ability to "audiate" a musical score by performing rhythms with divided beats in a variety of meter signatures and tempos and sight singing melodies

featuring leaps within the primary triads.

Degree of Importance - Recommended

Catalog View **Recommended Course Preparation Prerequisite** : MUS 6 with a minimum grade of C, or MUS 8A with a minimum grade of C .

Methods of Evaluation

Methods

Typical classroom assessment techniques include the following. Please address frequency in the text areas once method is selected.

- Projects
Frequency
Monthly projects. One final project that is more extensive.
- Class Participation
Frequency -
Weekly
- Home Work
Frequency
Weekly Homework.
- Class Performance
Frequency
Class performances Performances of completed projects **3** once times at per the end of the semester by a guest ensemble or solo musician .
- Final Public Performance
Frequency
One final performance by professional or LPC -based ensembles ensemble .

Distance Education

Effective Term Fall 2025

I have reviewed the course objectives of this course and considered ways to ensure the objectives can be achieved using DE modalities.

Yes

I have consulted with other discipline faculty regarding the creation of a DE addendum for this course. Yes

I have consulted with my Dean regarding the creation of a DE addendum for this course. Yes

Emergency Delivery Methods

~~This section is for a course which would be taught in a DE format ONLY in the case of an emergency. Do NOT select this area if the course can be taught fully online in DE format under usual circumstances. Determine which method of DE instruction is best suited for the course in the case of an emergency.~~ The Curriculum Committee recommends selecting all possible methods to allow the most flexibility when offering courses using DE modalities. (This section is for courses which could be taught in DE format under usual circumstances. If a course has been taught in DE format in the past or is intended to be taught in DE format in the future please select all options below that apply.)

- **Fully Online with the Flexible In-Person Component (FO OFI):** *Instruction involving regular and effective online interaction that takes place synchronously or asynchronously and is supported by only online materials and activities delivered through the college's learning management system, and through the use of other required materials. All-approved Approved instructional contract contact hours are delivered through those online interaction supplemented by required in-person assessment or activities that are available at approved locations during a specific range of time.*
- **Partially Online:** *Also known as hybrid: Instruction involving regular and effective online interactions interaction for some portion of the approved contact hours that takes place synchronously or asynchronously and is supported by materials and activities delivered in person and online through the college's learning management system, and through the use of other required materials . Any synchronous portion requirements of are a listed class in that is delivered online follows a separate approval and meets the regular and effective contact regulation. The schedule of classes indicates dates, times and locations of in-person meetings .*

Emergency Delivery Methods

This section is for a course which would be taught in a DE format ONLY in the case of an emergency. Do NOT select this area if the course can be taught fully online in DE format under usual circumstances. Determine which method of DE instruction is best suited for the course in the case of an emergency.

- **Emergency Fully Online (EFO):** taught fully online only in case of an emergency.
- **Emergency Online with Flexible In-Person Component (EOFI):** taught online with flexible in-person component only in case of emergency.

Syllabus

Distance Education courses require the same syllabus topics as face-to-face courses, as well as topics specific to online learning. Federal regulators and accreditors review DE syllabi to ensure that instructor expectations surrounding interaction and participation are present. The choices here represent those expectations. It is recommended to choose all of them. The syllabus for this DE course will include information outlining expectations regarding: (select all that apply).

- Instructor response time.
- Grade turnaround time.
- Student participation.
- Instructor participation.
- Student rights and responsibilities.
- Student behavior in a DE course.
- Academic Integrity.

Textbooks/Materials

Other ~~No~~ Yes

Textbook

1. Author(s) Jorge Variego
Title Composing with Constraints: 100 Practical Exercises in Music Composition
Publisher Oxford University Press
Year 2021

- Or Equivalent _ Yes
2. Author(s) _ Aventuras De Viaje
Title _ The Fundamentals of Music Composition: Learn Music Composition Step by Step
Publisher _ SF Nonfiction Books
Year _ 2022
Or Equivalent _ Yes
3. Author(s) Edited by Friedemann Sallis, Valentina Bertolani, Jan Burle, Laura Zattra
Title Live Electronic Music Composition, Performance, Study
Publisher Routledge
Year 2018
Or Equivalent - No
4. Author(s) Zvonimir Nagy
Title Embodiment of Musical Creativity The Cognitive and Performative Causality of Musical Composition
Edition _ 1st
Publisher Routledge
Year 2017
Or Rationale Equivalent for textbook older than 5 years. (Most recent edition, considered classic, etc.)
No
5. Author(s) Jonathan E Peters
Title Music Composition 1: Learn how to compose well-written rhythms and melodies (Volume 1)
Edition _ 1st
Publisher CreateSpace Independent Publishing Platform
Year 2014
Rationale for textbook older than 5 years. (Most recent edition, considered classic, etc.) _
6. Author(s) Ron Gorow
Title Hearing and Writing Music: Professional Training for Today's Musician
Edition 2nd
Publisher September Publishing
ISBN-13 _
Year 2002
Rationale for textbook older than 5 years. (Most recent edition, considered classic, etc.)
Classic Text
Or Equivalent _ No
7. Author(s) Earl Henry, Jennifer Snodgrass, Susan Piagentini
Title Fundamentals of Music: Rudiments, Musicianship, and Composition
Edition 6th
Publisher Pearson
ISBN-13 _
Year 2012
Rationale for textbook older than 5 years. (Most recent edition, considered classic, etc.)
Great text
Or Equivalent _ No

Other Learning Materials

1. Other _
Various new original compositions by composers of diverse backgrounds will be studied and analyzed to be provided by the instructor free of cost.

Other Materials Required of Students

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1. Enter Required Material _
Students are provided with the hardware and software needed to succeed in class such as laptops and notation software such as Sibelius.

General Education/Transfer Request

- Transfers to CSU
New Request ~~Yes~~ No
Already Approved ~~No~~ Yes
- Transfers to UC
Already approved unsubstantial change Yes
- 3 - Arts and Humanities
Comments _
New Request _ No
Already approved substantial change _ No
Already approved unsubstantial change _ Yes

Codes and Dates

Course Codes

Origination Date

~~07 09 / 27 04 / 2021~~ 2024

Parent Course

MUS 19 - Studies in Music Composition

No Previous Course

Entry of Special Dates

- Board of Trustees
~~06/19/2018~~
- State Approval
~~06/19/2018~~

- CC Approval

~~04/02/2018~~

Instructional Services

Effective Term ~~Spring 2019~~ Fall 2025

Implementation Date

~~01/01/2019~~

11/11/2024

Course CB Codes

CB22: Non Credit Course Category

Y - Not Applicable, Credit course