

SYLLABUS
MUSI 3327/01 – Class Composition II
CRN 12473
School of Music, Kennesaw State University
Spring 2021

INSTRUCTOR & COURSE INFORMATION

Jen Mitchell
Office: Music Building 106i
Email: jmitch67@kennesaw.edu
Office Hours: by appointment only

CLASS MEETINGS

Monday, 1:25pm – 2:15pm in Wilson Building Room 108

First day of class will be held on Zoom online. You will receive an invite to attend the meeting.

In the event Covid-19 causes a change for the class to meet in person, it will move to synchronous teaching on Zoom until everyone is cleared to meet in person again. On occasion, we may have individual lessons between instructor and student in lieu of class meeting in person.

REQUIRED MATERIALS

1. Music Notation software. If you are a B.A. Major with concentration in Composition, you are required to own Finale (2016 or newer) or Avid Sibelius (2016 release or newer). **Neither MuseScore nor Noteflight are acceptable for this course.** Please note your instructor uses Finale, so if you choose to use Sibelius, your instructor will not be able to assist in any technical problems you may have.
2. ONE of the following orchestration texts:
 - RECOMMENDED: Adler, Samuel. *The Study of Orchestration*. 4th ed., New York: W.W. Norton & Company, 2016. ISBN-13: 978-0393920659.
 - Blatter, Alfred. *Instrumentation and Orchestration*. Independence: Cengage Learning, 1997. ISBN-13: 978-0534251871.
3. Heussenstamm, George. *The Norton Manual of Music Notation*. New York: W.W. Norton & Company, 1987. ISBN-13: 978-0393955262.
4. Paid subscription to Spotify (\$4.99 a month for student enrollment. Go [here](#) for details. You can cancel at any time).

IMPORTANT DATES

Drop/Add ends at 11:45pm on Friday, January 15.

Deadline to withdraw without academic penalty (W): 11:45pm on Monday, March 15.

Deadline to withdraw with Withdraw Fail (WF): 11:45pm on Monday, April 26.

MLK Jr. Day, no classes: Monday, January 18.

Spring Break, no classes: Monday, March 8, through Sunday, March 14.

Last day of class: Monday, May 3.

CATALOG COURSE DESCRIPTION

2 Class Hours 0 Laboratory Hours 2 Credit Hours

Prerequisite: A grade of "B" or higher in in MUSI 3326 or MUSI 3371.

Students develop further music composition skill by exploring techniques necessary for coherent creative expression. By writing original compositions for various instrumentations, students gain abilities in the artistic use of pitch, rhythm, melody, timbre, and harmony. 20th and 21st century styles and techniques are utilized. Students gain competency in the basics of music notation utilizing both calligraphy and composition software.

PURPOSE/RATIONALE

The purpose of studying composition is to enable you to more effectively engage in composing and/or arranging music. Composition is a combination of creativity and craftsmanship. The creative spirit will be nurtured by guidance, support, encouragement and example. Specific musical skills will be taught to create a professional attitude and approach to craftsmanship.

COURSE GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

The main goal of this course is to develop and refine compositional abilities. A primary component of a multi-faceted approach to achieving this goal will be the feedback given and the questions asked of you and your work during review of your compositions in progress. The instructor will present concepts, techniques, and/or material related to course topics and listening assignments. The class will also engage in score study and analysis, focused listening with scores, and on specific aspects of instrumentation and orchestration that relate to composition.

BASIC RULES

1. **Class Attendance:** Regular attendance is crucial to your success in this course, and is a measure of your commitment. **For each unapproved absence, 5 points will be deducted from your FINAL AVERAGE.** Automatically approved absences include illness (with doctor's note) or court notice (with documentation). In the event you need to miss class, notify your instructor as soon as possible through email, D2L, or text and your absence MAY be approved (this will be determined on a case-by-case basis). Online accommodations will be made for those affected by Covid-19 with proper documentation. Habitual tardiness will negatively affect your grade.
2. This will be primarily a paper-free class to help preserve the environment and minimize costs to KSU. If hard copies of handouts are needed, please view/print them online from D2L.
3. Official class business will be conducted on D2L, where materials and assignments will be posted.
4. Cell phones should be turned off or set to silent in the classroom. Laptops should be closed during student presentations. No person shall make public any electronically recorded class discussion without advanced written permission of the instructor.

EVALUATION PROCEDURE

Composition Projects	40%
Reading Assignments	20%
Online Concerts	20%
Notation Assignments	10%
Listening Journals	10%

Grading Scale:

A =90-100, B =80-89, C =70-79, D =60-69, F =0-59

Deadline to drop this course without Academic Penalty: Wednesday, February 26.

If necessary, it is your responsibility to drop this course in consultation with your advisor. Please note that if you are a B.A. Major with concentration in Composition, you are **required** to take this class as part of your concentration. The class will not be available again until Spring of next year. Lack of attendance does not constitute automatic withdrawal.

Course Requirements, Content, and Schedule

1. **ASSIGNMENTS:** For each class, assignments will be given in connection with topics covered in class. These weekly assignments include:
 - **Composition Projects:** Each student will work on chamber ensemble composition projects for the semester. Students will compose music for the projects to be shown for review during class.
 - **Reading Assignments:** Each student will be required to read chapters about the instrument families for which they will be composing. Upon completing the reading, students will answer the list of questions provided by the instructor. Each reading assignment will be submitted as a Word document or pdf in the correct assignment folder to receive credit. Late entries will not be accepted.
 - **Online Concerts:** Students are required to watch 3 concerts with music composed in the late 20th–21st centuries, with at least one performance having music by a living composer. Once you have watched the concerts, you will complete a list of questions and submit as a Word document or pdf in the designated folder on D2L. Late entries will not be accepted.
 - **Notation Text:** Read and complete the assigned calligraphy exercises. Complete the drills on staff paper using pencil. **Be sure to use a straight edge to complete the exercises.** Do NOT complete the exercises in the book; you must turn in physical copies of the exercises. This is not submitted online on D2L, it will be handed in to your instructor at the beginning of class.
 - **Listening Journals:** Listening Journal entries will be submitted each week in the designated D2L Assignment Submission folder over the course of the semester. Composers/pieces will be assigned each week on which the students will reflect. Discuss historical background of the composer and assigned piece, but focus mainly on concepts such as instrumentation, orchestration, form, timbre, etc. and how the composer uses these in the assigned works. If the piece is multi-movement, discuss **ALL** movements individually, however brief each movement discussion may be. Discuss what you like/ do not like about the assigned piece and how this music may or may not influence your compositional process. Each journal entry will be submitted as a pdf or Word document and should be minimum 850 words (not including cover page/header/footer/page numbers/works cited if you choose to use any of them), double-spaced. Late entries will not be accepted.

Late assignment submissions are typically not accepted (not even for partial credit) without prior approval from your instructor.

For students to achieve the weekly progress that is expected on compositions, plan to devote at least 1 hour per day, 5–6 days per week, to composing.

TENTATIVE SCHEDULE (schedule and assignments are subject to change). The following are tentative DUE DATES.

Week 1	1/11	Syllabus and Semester Schedule discussion.
	1/13	How to Get Your Music Performed lecture. Read the chapters on the Brass family in your orchestration book for next week.
Week 2	1/18	NO CLASS, MLK JR. DAY
	1/20	Listening Journal 1: John Williams – Music from the film “Memoirs of a Geisha” (2005 remaster) Homework 1: Brass Family Brass Quintet lecture.
Week 3	1/25	Listening Journal 2: Koji Kondo – Music from the game series “Legend of Zelda” (25 th Anniversary Orchestra on Youtube) https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4mKXJqWHy9o Discussion on Brass Quintet progress (3-minute minimum)
	1/27	Online Concert 1 due Continued discussion on Brass Quintet progress
Week 4	2/1	Listening Journal 3: Laura Karpman – Music from the film “Inventing Tomorrow” (2018) Project 1: Discussion on complete Brass Quintet (5-minute minimum)
	2/3	Continued discussion on complete Brass Quintet Discussion of Notation assignment Read the chapters on the Woodwind family in your orchestration book for next week.
Week 5	2/8	Listening Journal 4: Austin Wintory – Music from the game “Abzû” (2016) Edited Brass Quintets will be reviewed briefly.
	2/10	Homework 2: Woodwind Family Wind Quintet lecture. Notation 1: Read and complete exercises pp. 3 – 10
Week 6	2/15	Listening Journal 5: Ennio Morricone – Music from the film “The Mission” (1986) Discussion on Wind Quintet progress (3-minute minimum)
	2/17	Notation 2: Read and complete exercises pp. 11 - 25 Continued discussion on Wind Quintet progress
Week 7	2/22	Listening Journal 6: Lena Raine – Music from the game “Celeste” (2019) Project 2: Discussion on complete Wind Quintet (5-minute minimum)
	2/24	Notation 3: Read and complete exercises pp. 26 – 39. Continued discussion on complete Wind Quintet
Week 8	3/1	Listening Journal 7: Bear McCreary – Music from the film “The Forest” (2016) Watch Online Concert 2 in class
	3/3	Edited Wind Quintets will be discussed briefly. Online Concert 2 due Discussion on vocal music text.
(Week 9)	3/8	SPRING BREAK
Week 10	3/15	Listening Journal 8: Jason Hayes – Music from the game “World of Warcraft (Original)” (2004) Homework 3: The Voice Vocal Music lecture
	3/17	Discuss chosen texts for each student for Project 3: SATB Choir. Notation 4: Read and complete exercises pp. 40 – 60.
Week 11	3/22	Listening Journal 9: Miriam Cutler – Music from the film “‘Til Kingdom Come” (2020) Discussion on SATB Choir progress (3-minute minimum)
	3/24	Continued discussion on SATB Choir progress Notation 5: Read and complete exercises pp. 61 – 91.
Week 12	3/29	Listening Journal 10: Bruno Coulais – Music from the film “The Secret of the Kells” (2009) Project 3: Discussion on complete SATB Choir (5-minute minimum)

Week 12 (continued)	3/31	Continued discussion on complete SATB Choir Read the chapter on the Percussion family in your orchestration book for next week.
Week 13	4/5	Listening Journal 11: Khaled Mouzanar – Music from the film “Capernaum” (2018) Edited SATB Choir will be discussed briefly. Homework 4: Percussion Family Percussion lecture.
	4/7	Percussion lecture continued. Discussion of chosen percussion instruments for ensemble. Notation 6: Read and complete exercises pp. 92 – 128.
Week 14	4/12	Listening Journal 12: Nobuo Uematsu – Music from the game “Final Fantasy VII” (2020) Discussion on Percussion Ensemble progress (3-minute minimum)
	4/14	Continued discussion on Percussion Ensemble progress Notation 7: Read and complete exercises pp. 129 – 161.
Week 15	4/19	Listening Journal 13: Rachel Portman – Music from the film “A Dog’s Purpose” (2017) Watch Online Concert 3 in class.
	4/21	Online Concert 3 due Continued discussion on Percussion Ensemble progress
Week 16	4/26	Listening Journal 14: Jack Wall – Music from the game “Call of Duty: Black Ops 4” (2018) Project 4: Discussion on complete Percussion Ensemble (5-minute minimum)
	4/28	Continued discussion on completed Percussion Ensemble
Week 17	5/3	Listening Journal 15: Jonny Greenwood – Music from the film “There Will Be Blood” (2007) Edited Percussion Ensemble will be discussed.

COVID-19 STATEMENTS

FACE MASKS IN THE CLASSROOM

As mandated by the University System of Georgia, the university requires the use of face masks in the classroom and in KSU buildings to protect you, your classmates, and instructors. Per the University System of Georgia, anyone not using a face covering when required will be asked to wear one or must leave the area. Repeated refusal to comply with the requirement may result in discipline through the applicable conduct code.

Reasonable accommodations may be made for those who are unable to wear a face covering for documented health reasons. Please contact Student Disability Services at sds@kennesaw.edu for student accommodation requests.

SHIFTING MODALITIES

Please note that the university reserves the right to shift teaching modalities at any time during the semester, if health and safety guidelines require it to do so. Some teaching modalities that may be used are F2F, Hyflex, Hybrid, or online, both synchronous and asynchronous instruction.

STAYING HOME WHEN SICK

If you are ill, please stay home and contact your health professional. In that case, please email the instructor to say you are missing class due to illness. Signs of illness include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Cough
- Fever of 100.4 or higher
- Runny nose or new sinus congestion
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- Chills
- Sore Throat
- New loss of taste and/or smell

SEATING PLANS

Students will sit in the same seat for every F2F class so that the instructor can use a seating plan for contact tracing if a student contracts Covid-19.

WEB CAMERAS

Instructors may require web cameras in their respective courses.

BOARD OF REGENTS AND UNIVERSITY POLICY RESOURCES

- To learn about the Student Code of Conduct and Academic Integrity policies <https://scai.kennesaw.edu/codes.php>
- To learn about the Sexual Misconduct policy or to make a confidential report <https://equity.kennesaw.edu/index.php>
- To learn more about protecting students' privacy (FERPA) <https://ferpa.kennesaw.edu/ferpa-consent/student-form-information.php>
- To learn more about grade appeals and student complaints <http://www.kennesaw.edu/complaintsappeals.php>
- To learn more about Student Disability Services or to register for accommodations <https://sds.kennesaw.edu>

OTHER RESOURCES

- For more information or to contact University Information Technology Services (UITS), visit <https://uits.kennesaw.edu>
- For information about D2L, visit <https://d2lhelp.view.usg.edu>
- For Academic Tutoring Services, visit <https://advising.kennesaw.edu/tutoring.php>
- To contact the Writing Center, visit <https://writingcenter.kennesaw.edu>

The KSU Writing Center helps students in all majors improve their writing. Experienced, friendly writing assistants help with topic development, revision, research, documentation, grammar, and more.