



MUS 205/405 Applied Composition Jacksonville University, Spring 2021

Instructor: Dr. Mark Snyder msnyder3@ju.edu **Office Hours:** MTR 2:00 – 4:00 PM
Phillips Fine Arts 118

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COVID-19 & SOCIAL DISTANCING PROCEDURES

- **Face coverings are required in all classroom buildings on campus at all times.**
- This class is delivered face to face in the classroom and virtually (synchronously) via Blackboard Collaborate.
- Depending on the number of students in the class and the size of the classroom, students may be assigned specific days to attend in class versus virtually (via Bb Collaborate). Classes that meet two days a week may choose to have 1/2 of the students attend the face-to-face class on one day and the other half on the second day. Classes that meet three times a week may choose to have 1/3 of the students attend the in-class session each day. Classes that meet one time each week may choose to alternate weeks and have half of the students attend each week. These restrictions (if imposed) are based on following social distancing guidelines and are determined based on class size and classroom size. **On days when students are assigned not to attend the face-to-face sessions, they should attend class virtually via Blackboard on the same days and time. Students may not independently choose to attend all class sessions virtually without the appropriate accommodation from the Disability Support Services office (see COVID-19 Accommodations below).**

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Welcome to MUS 205/405 Music Composition! This course is intended to give students an opportunity to develop skills in creative music composition and production under the individualized guidance of an experienced composer/producer. Student and teacher will meet weekly for an hour or half hour depending on the number of credits, to review progress on their work, to get feedback, and to get advice on how to continue with their composition/production. Whenever feasible, students will participate in reading sessions, organize performances and/or recordings of their work. A primary goal of this course of study is the development by the student of an individual style and compositional voice.

COURSE OBJECTIVES / LEARNING OUTCOMES

Students will:

- Achieve of the highest possible level of skill in the use of basic concepts, tools, techniques, and procedures to develop a composition/production from concept to finished product. This involves the competency to work with both electronic and acoustic media; work with a variety of forms, styles, and notations; and apply principles of scoring appropriate to particular compositions.
- Gain fluency in the use of tools needed by composers/producers. This includes keyboard skills, spoken and written language, conducting and rehearsal skills, analytical techniques, and applicable technologies.

- Apply fundamental knowledge of current technologies and technological principles widely applicable to music composition/production, including but not limited to those associated with recording, manipulating, and presenting music and sound, signal flow and processing, music communication protocols, synthesis and interface technologies, sound synthesis, and interactive and generative media.
- The ability to use industry standard technologies at a professional level to achieve goals and objectives associated with specific areas of music composition/production. These goals may be in terms such as mastery of production techniques, artistic expression, support for work in other fields, relationships with other technologies and media, and so forth.

Overall Goal:

- Both individualized levels of composition and production study share a common goal - to enable the student to use effectively and efficiently compose and produce in pursuit of an individual style and compositional voice.

FORMAT

- Lessons will be held virtually this semester due to Covid 19. If the student does not have an adequate and/or isolated space for the lesson time, student and teacher can be in my office, masked but since we must remain at least 6 feet apart, we will need to share screens with each other.
- Students will be expected to create their own specific subset of learning outcomes for what they will achieve during the course of the semester during the first two weeks in consultation with the instructor. This will act as a contract between professor and student and will be used to determine the success of the student’s progress.
- Writer’s block is very real but it is expected that progress be made every week. Your work will be due 24 hours before your lesson time in order for the instructor to review and collect supplemental materials to help improve and/or influence the direction of your work. It is expected that you make a zip file of your Logic Project and upload it to a server (We transfer and google drive are fine) so that I can see all aspects of your work. Please be mindful to bounce stems of instruments or effects that I may not own in your project.

GRADING:

COURSE GRADING SCALE (FOR 200 POINT COURSE)

Point Total	Letter Grade	% of Total Course Points
190-200	A	95-100%
180-189	A–	90-94%
174-179	B+	87-89%
166-173	B	83-86%
160-165	B–	80-82%
154-159	C+	77-79%
146-153	C	73-76%
140-145	C–	70-72%
134-139	D+	67-69%
126-133	D	63-66%
120-125	D–	60-62%
LESS THAN 120	F	LESS THAN 60%

POLICIES

- **Attendance:** Students are asked to sign an attendance sheet (We will do this virtually since this is a pandemic) at the beginning of each class, although no formal penalty will be assessed for poor attendance. Due to the uncertainty that COVID-19 presents, extended absences may be necessary due to either illness or quarantine. Please work with the Student Life office to report your individual situation.
- **Make-Up Exams/Work:** Each student is directly responsible for absences and for making up missed work. Arrangements for making up exams can be made because of illness, mandatory religious obligations, or other unavoidable circumstances or University activities. The excused absences will not be counted against the attendance/participation grade either.
- **Using Electronic Devices:** The use of laptop computers, tablets, cell phones, or any other electronic devices during class is encouraged but you must ask for permission to make audio or video recordings of lectures.
- **Late work:** All work must be turned in on time unless arrangements were made previous to when they were due.
- **Academic Honesty:** Any act of academic misconduct in this course will result in an F for the assignment involved. To see examples of what counts as academic misconduct, as well as the university-level consequences for academic misconduct, look to JU's policy at www.ju.edu/academicintegrity.

ACADEMIC HONESTY

“Members of the Jacksonville University community are expected to foster and uphold the highest standards of honesty and integrity, which are foundations for the intellectual endeavors we engage in.

To underscore the importance of truth, honesty, and accountability, students and instructors should adhere to the following standard:

“On my honor as a student of Jacksonville University, I promise to uphold the values of honesty, trust, fairness, respect, and responsibility in all my dealings with faculty, staff, and students.”

Academic misconduct occurs when a student engages in an action that is deceitful, fraudulent, or dishonest regarding any type of academic assignment that is intended to or results in an unfair academic advantage. In this context, the term “assignment” refers to any type of graded or ungraded work that is submitted for evaluation for any course. Academic misconduct includes but is not limited to cheating, collusion, falsification, misrepresentation, unauthorized collaboration on assignments, copying another student’s work, using or providing unauthorized notes or materials, turning in work not produced by the individual, and plagiarism. Furthermore, providing deceitful, fraudulent, or dishonest information during discussions of an academic manner with faculty are also examples of academic misconduct.” (Jacksonville University Academic Catalog)

Throughout this course we will be reading and reporting about the work of others. All information that is not original to the student must be appropriately attributed in both presentations and written work. All students are expected to do their own work and give appropriate credit for all sources used in the process of preparing papers, presentations, and homework assignments. Group assignments will be graded based on the product of the work, although some adjustment may be made for participation. [If you have a question about whether or not collaboration is allowed, or how to cite a reference, please ask. It is always better to check than to be accused of an unintended violation of the academic honesty policy.] Violations of the academic honesty policy

will be dealt with in accordance to university policies [Refer to current Academic Catalog “Academic Integrity and Misconduct”].

Course Level Penalties: A first offense may result in a failing grade for the assignment. Second offenses may result in failure in the course. Significantly egregious violations may result in expulsion from the university. When in doubt give credit for all information that did not come directly out of your head!

COVID-19 Accommodations

Students requesting accommodations due to COVID-19 must work with the Disability Support Services (DSS) office. This office is located on the third floor of the Davis Student Commons, room 336. The office can also be contacted through their website (<https://www.ju.edu/disabilityservices/index.php>). This includes any request to complete class remotely.

DISABILITY STATEMENT

Students with a documented disability requesting classroom accommodations or modifications, either permanent or temporary, resulting from the disability are encouraged to register with the Disability Support Services (DSS) office. This office will assist in recommending accommodations that eliminate barriers in academic coursework and/or guide you through the different supportive mechanisms that we have to offer. This office is located on the third floor of the Davis Student Commons, room 336. The office can also be contacted through their website (<https://www.ju.edu/disabilityservices/index.php>).

Note: Students are encouraged to register with the DSS office at the beginning of the term and/or prior (if/when possible), as accommodations are not provided retroactively.