

CALIFORNIA STATE POLYTECHNIC UNIVERSITY, POMONA

[CLASS ]

[MUSIC]

**Expanded Course Outline**

<b>Course Subject Area:</b>	<b>MU</b>
<b>Course Number:</b>	<b>3791</b>
<b>Course Title:</b>	<b>Studio Composition</b>
<b>Units:</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>C/S Classification #:</b>	<b>25</b>
<b>Component:</b>	<b>Supervisory</b>
<b>Grading Basis:</b> (graded only, CR/NC only, student's choice)	<b>Graded only</b>
<b>Repeat Basis:</b> (may be taken once, taken multiple times, taken multiple times only with different topics)	<b>May be repeated up to 4 times.</b>
<b>Cross Listed Course:</b> (if offered with another department)	
<b>Dual Listed Course:</b> (if offered as lower/upper division or undergraduate/graduate)	
<b>Major course/Service course/GE Course:</b> (pick all that apply)	<b>Major course</b>
<b>General Education Area/Subarea:</b> (as appropriate)	
<b>Date Prepared:</b>	<b>12/16/2014</b>
<b>Prepared by:</b>	<b>Nick Vasallo</b>

**I. Catalog Description**

The study of music composition in a course of individual weekly lessons requiring writing music for a variety of instruments, ensembles, and media. Jury examination required. Not available to non-majors. Co-enrollment in an ensemble.

**II. Required Coursework and Background**

Music majors only, MU 2251, and completion of lower-division studio requirements on instrument or voice. Permission to enroll by instructor only.

**III. Expected Outcomes**

1. Students will investigate and experiment with a wide range of compositional techniques.
2. Students will consolidate new compositional techniques in one's personal vocabulary.
3. Students will extend one's sense of structure and demonstrate this in one's work.
4. Students will develop computer aided music scoring and sequencing technique.
5. Students will define and set personal style.

6. Student composers enrolled in the ensemble will demonstrate artistic maturity in terms of their craft creativity, clarity of expression on the written page, and efficiency in writing for established deadlines.

The outcomes of this course relate to the following Music Department Student Learning Outcomes:

- #1: Perform a variety of music with expression and musical accuracy.
- #3: Demonstrate musicianship skills (including those involving technology) and conceptual understandings.
- #4: Demonstrate and articulate personal growth as a musician and student of music in the world.
- #6: Develop specialized knowledge appropriate to the option or emphasis area.

BM General:

1. **demonstrate** a high level of musicianship that facilitates independent preparation of music for performance.
4. **articulate** the distinguishing characteristics of multiple musical styles, traditions, and historical periods, **and apply** that knowledge to performance.
5. **perform** a wide variety of solo and ensemble repertoire for varied audiences.
6. **analyze, interpret, and defend** judgments of various musical works for audiences of scholars and amateurs.
7. **demonstrate** healthy body mechanics and technique.

BM Composition Option:

1. **apply** knowledge of compositional techniques and musical elements to write original works in new and established styles.
2. **oversee** fully realized public performances of their original compositions, with critical assessments.
3. **produce** a capstone project that presents an extended work or several shorter works, showing their 'voice' as a composer.

#### **IV. Instructional Materials**

No specific text required. Instructor may assign materials in the library or on the Internet for research.

#### **V. Minimum Student Material**

1. Manuscript paper, pencil, and eraser.
2. Computer with one of the following notation software: Sibelius or MuseScore.

#### **VI. Minimum College Facilities**

Faculty office room with computer, speakers, and notation software installed: Sibelius and MuseScore.

## **VII. Course Outline**

1. A progressive series of lessons which will culminate with a final student composition of at least 5 minutes.
2. Only works approved by and composed under supervision of the instructor count towards all objectives.

## **VIII. Instructional Methods**

Student will be assigned weekly tasks which will lead to the completion of a larger musical composition.

## **IX. Evaluation of Outcomes**

1. Each week verified as completed counts as 10 pts.
2. There are 150 possible points in a quarter (15 weeks).
  - a. Partial points are possible for only meeting the objective for the week partially. Bonus points (upwards of 2 extra) are possible for exceeding expectations for the week.
  - b. For each of the objectives in the Objectives section of this syllabus not met, the final course grade average will be docked by two grading steps (e.g. a B becomes a C+ for one objective not met, a B becomes a C- for both objectives not being met)