

MUSI 350-C – Methods of Music Composition, Fall 2021  
T/Th 1:20-2:20pm, Anderson 207

Dr. Andrew Pease  
Anderson 214  
[peasea@hartwick.edu](mailto:peasea@hartwick.edu) (best contact)  
201-960-2047 (cell)  
Office hours: M-F 9am-3pm or by appointment

Course Description

An introductory course to music composition. Prerequisite: MUSI 240 or instructor permission.

Purpose

Students will explore common compositional methods used in the Western art music canon and beyond. They will write compositions in a variety of these styles and analyze music in this and other traditions. They will perform and discuss each other's compositions on a regular basis.

Learning Outcomes

Students who successfully complete this course will be able to:

- Compose music using a variety of methods
- Develop a habit of listening voraciously and analytically to a variety of music
- Identify common compositional methods in existing music
- Identify their individual preferences in writing music

Materials and Resources

- Finale Music Notation Software
- Required textbook: Brindle "Musical Composition"
- Required textbook: King "On Writing"
- Your Instrument
- D2L
- Google Sheets Listening List:  
[https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1eMm9vvjxxbyZ1XISd26ByNJI0UqvJWP7Zeu07C9\\_EUI/edit?usp=sharing](https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1eMm9vvjxxbyZ1XISd26ByNJI0UqvJWP7Zeu07C9_EUI/edit?usp=sharing)

Attendance

As this is a small class that relies on everyone being present, attendance at all sessions is expected. Excused absences may be granted by contacting Dr. Pease **in advance**.

Grading

Discussion Contributions	100	10%
Listening "Rabbit Hole" Finds	10@20	20%
Weekly Compositions	8@50	40%

Composer Profile Presentation	60	6%
Your Profile	40	4%
Chamber Concert Composition	100	10%
Final Composition	100	10%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1000</b>	<b>100%</b>

Schedule

(Subject to change at any time)

Tues 8/31

Introduction

Syllabus

About the professor

Listening overview

Composition overview

Thurs 9/2 (King 141-162: PROCESS)

Tues 9/7 **Composition 1 DUE**

Thurs 9/9

SPECIAL GUEST: Dr. Ana Laura González

Tues 9/14 **Composition 2 DUE**

Thurs 9/16 (Brindle 1-34: MELODY)

Tues 9/21 **Composition 3 DUE – Brindle Melody Exercise**

Thurs 9/23 (King 208-227: AUDIENCE)

GUEST SPEAKERS Oliver Caplan and Anne Howarth

Commissioning from two perspectives

Tues 9/28 **Composition 4 DUE – As Requested**

Thurs 9/30 (King 253-270: STRUGGLE)

Tues 10/5 **Composition 5 DUE**

Thurs 10/7 (Brindle 35-49)

Tues 10/12 **Composition 6 DUE – Brindle Harmony**

Thurs 10/14

Discussion: takeaways and lessons so far.

Charting a course to the chamber concert

Tues 10/19 FALL BREAK

Thurs 10/21 (King 111-137: TOOLS)

Tues 10/26 **Composition 7 DUE**

Thurs 10/28 (Brindle 88-110: HARMONIC EXPANSIONS)

Tues 11/2 **Composition 8 DUE – Brindle Extensions Exercise**

Thurs 11/4

Review of all previous compositions – choose favorites for chamber concert

Tues 11/9 **Chamber Concert piece DUE**

Rehearse for chamber concert

Thurs 11/11

Rehearse for chamber concert

Tues 11/16

GUEST SPEAKER Armando Bayolo

Maybe play him our stuff

Thurs 11/18

Dress rehearsal for **CHAMBER CONCERT at 7:30pm**

Tues 11/23 **Composer Profile DUE – present in class**

Thurs 11/25 THANKSGIVING

Tues 11/30

Developing your profile

Thurs 12/2 **Final Compositions DUE**

Thurs 12/9 9-11am FINAL EXAM

**RECORDING of final compositions**

**Your profile DUE**

### **Flightpath**

The Hartwick Flightpath is a student-centered program that is flexible and adaptable to support your pathway to graduation and to prepare you for what lies ahead. By the time

you graduate from Hartwick, you will have a suite of skills and experiences that tie together the breadth of your Hartwick education and highlights your accomplishments. This course supports the development of student educational outcomes by providing authentic experiences in the field of composition.

### **College COVID Policy**

As the COVID-19 pandemic continues to evolve, circumstances may necessitate adjustments to instruction, such as shifts in mode of instruction (to remote or hybrid), classroom capacity limits, or indoor mask requirements. Updates will be provided on the College website (<https://www.hartwick.edu/about-us/covid-19-updates/>). Instructors will communicate with students about any specific adjustments that are being made to their courses, such as modality of instruction, expectations for participation, and any changes to assigned work; students should check their Hartwick email accounts frequently for information from their instructors.

### **Academic Adjustments and/or Modifications**

Hartwick College is committed to upholding and maintaining all aspects of the Federal Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA) and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973. If a student with a disability wishes to request academic adjustments, they should contact Lara Sanford, Director of AccessAbility Services, at [sanfordl@hartwick.edu](mailto:sanfordl@hartwick.edu) , or [AccessAbilityServices@hartwick.edu](mailto:AccessAbilityServices@hartwick.edu). AccessAbility Services is located on the 5<sup>th</sup> floor of Yager Library in the Center for Student Success. Any information regarding a student's disability will remain confidential. Requests for academic adjustments should be made as early as possible.

### **Academic Honesty**

All work you submit must be your own. See Hartwick's Academic Honesty policy at <https://www.hartwick.edu/academics/student-services/academic-affairs/academic-policies/>.

### **Title IX**

Hartwick College is committed to equal opportunity and providing a safe community free from all forms of sexual misconduct including sexual/gender-based harassment, discrimination, dating or domestic violence, stalking, sexual exploitation, and sexual assault. If you wish to make an official report to the College or have questions about the College's policy and procedures regarding sexual misconduct, please contact the Title IX Coordinator, Michael Arno, at [arnom@hartwick.edu](mailto:arnom@hartwick.edu) or (607) 431-4293. Online reporting and policy information is available at <https://www.hartwick.edu/about-us/employment/human-resources/title-ix/>.

If you wish to speak confidentially about an incident of sexual misconduct, please contact one of the following resources: Perrella Wellness Center, Health - (607) 431-4120, or Counseling – (607) 431-4120; or Opportunities for Otsego's Violence Intervention Program – (607) 432-4855.

All other employees, including faculty, are responsible employees at Hartwick College and are required to report any incident of sexual misconduct that is personally reported to them to the Title IX Coordinator so that support and resources can be provided for all parties.

### **Your Health and Safety**

Be sure to talk to your ensemble directors, private lesson professors, and others regarding any concerns you have about your vocal, hearing, or physical well-being. We strive to ensure that you have a safe and healthy environment in which to work, practice, and perform. For more information, see the following resources available from the National Association of Schools of Music:

*Protecting your Vocal Health: An NASM-PAMA Student Information Sheet  
& Protecting your Neuromusculoskeletal Health: An NASM-PAMA Student Information Sheet*

<http://nasm.arts-accredit.org/index.jsp?page=NASM-PAMA:%20Neuromusculoskeletal%20and%20Vocal%20Health>

*Protect Your Hearing Every Day: Information and Recommendations for Student Musicians (NASM-PAMA)*

[http://nasm.arts-accredit.org/index.jsp?page=NASM-PAMA\\_Hearing\\_Health](http://nasm.arts-accredit.org/index.jsp?page=NASM-PAMA_Hearing_Health)

### **Education Program Requirements**

Music Education majors who receive less than a C in this course (or any course for that matter) will have to retake the course. See the Education program web page for more information on certification requirements.

<http://www.hartwick.edu/academics/academic-departments/education-department/>

---

---