

NorthWest Arkansas Community College
Division of Communication and Arts
Music Department

Course Number and Title

MUSI 1643, Music Composition

Catalog description

An introduction to the art of music composition. Class activities will involve listening to selected compositions from music literature, analyzing their structures, and studying the compositional processes used to create the music. Students will then write original compositions using the selected pieces as models. If possible, the student works will be performed in class by the class members.

Prerequisite

None

Credit/Contact/Load Hours

3 Credit/ 1 Contact / .5 Load per student

Target audience and transferability

Music Majors. Transfers to most universities as 3 hour course for music majors.

Learning Outcomes

Students completing this course will:

- analyze effectively several classical compositions
- recognize elements involved in creating music
- show competence in using those elements in writing three works

Topics

Musical elements, form analysis, compositional techniques. This course is taught as a private lesson, just as lessons are taught on piano or on other instruments. Specific assignments will depend on the entry level ability of each student. Typically, each student will complete the study of three models and the writing of three original pieces during a semester, with each project requiring approximately one-third of the term.

Forms of Assessment

Student work in the course will be assessed for adherence to models. Instructor will also evaluate individual compositions and the work process of the student.