BAIN MUSC 216
Music Theory IV

Composition Project

Due Date: Fri., April 28, 11:59 pm

Project Description, Length, and Options
Using MuseScore,[1] or another music notation program that can produce a pdf score,[2] compose a brief original post-tonal composition. The composition could be for your primary instrument, a friend in the class, an ensemble you play in, etc. The minimum length of the project, and three possible project options, are described below. If you don't have access to music notation program, you may use traditional manuscript paper and photo/scan your score.[3]

Minimum length:
2-4 phrases, about 12-24 measures

Option 1:
Compose a melody, a melody with accompaniment, or a more complex texture that is based on one or more of the following materials and/or techniques:

a.	DIA collection	g.	Planing (Parallel harmony)
b.	PENT collection	h.	Triads with added tones
c.	OCT collection	i.	Recomposition
d.	HEX collection	i.	Polytonality
e.	WT collection	j.	Pitch-class sets
f.	Triadic transformations	k.	Twelve-tone series

Option 2:
Create an original composition (transcription, or arrangement) of any kind.
Instructor permission is required for this option.[4]

If you need help getting started, or require help along the way, I am here to help you.

Performance:
Submit a mp3 file that contains an electronic realization of your MuseScore file (File > Export > MP3 Audio).
Alternatively, you may submit a mp3 recording of you, and/or someone else, performing your composition.

Deliverables	Checklist
1. *PDF score* with required **title**, **instrumentation**, **composer name**, **tempo**, **time signature**, and (at least) a starting **dynamic** on it. Articulations and phrasing, as appropriate for the instrument(s) you have chosen, are highly encouraged. If you have chosen to notate your music by hand, please use your best musical calligraphy. 2. *PDF reflection paper* (typed, double-spaced, 1-2 pages) explaining what you have created and how you created it. Be sure to discuss your *compositional process*. Personal reflection (e.g., What did you learn along the way?) and *analysis* (e.g., application of what you have learned in MUSC 216) are highly encouraged.	☐ – Score ☐ – Title ☐ – Instr. ☐ – Composer ☐ – Tempo ☐ – Paper

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[1] MuseScore is a free music notation program for Mac OS, Windows, and Linux that is available for download at:
https://musescore.com
[2] For example, Dorico, Finale, Sibelius, etc.
[3] Free manuscript paper is available via the course website (see *Course Materials > Music Notation*).
[4] To propose an Option 2 project, stop by after class to chat, or send me an e-mail describing what you'd like to create.
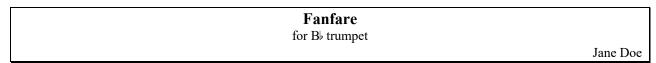
Elements of Notation

- A **tempo marking** and **starting dynamic** must appear at the beginning of the score.

- As applicable to your composition, be sure to use an appropriate key signature(s), time signature(s), instrumental ranges, etc.

*Again, if you have any questions about these guidelines,
or need assistance with the project, I am happy to help you.*

The score you turn in should meet the following requirements:

- Your music notation should be legibly written using a music notation program, or legibly written on manuscript paper (using a dark pencil). It should also be legibly laid out on the page.

- Your composition *must* have a title. As shown below, the title, instrumentation and composer's name should appear at the top of the first page:

Fanfare
for B♭ trumpet

Jane Doe

If you are using traditional manuscript paper:

- Take great care in your *music calligraphy*. Be sure to correctly notate the clefs, key signature(s), time signature(s), noteheads, stems, beams, ledger lines, and so forth, as appropriate.[5]

- The notes should be well-spaced within the bar so that the music is easy for the performer to sight read.

- If there are multiple parts in your score, they *must* be vertically aligned so that the beats line up correctly.

- If you can't figure out how to notate something, consult a music notation reference source,[6] check out a score from the Music Library that has a similar instrumentation, or ask me for help.

Grading

- This project is worth 5% of your MUSC 216 grade.

- Your grade will primarily be based on how well you followed the instructions above.

- Creativity, hard work, depth of ideas, length of paper, and passion for the project will also be factored in.

Reference

Gould, Elaine. 2011. *Behind Bars: The Definitive Guide to Music Notation*. London: Faber Music Ltd.

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[5] For basic notational issues, see LearnMusicTheory.net, *Summary of Notation Guidelines*. Available online at: <http://learnmusictheory.net/PDFs/pdffiles/01-01-10-SummaryofNotation.pdf>.
[6] For advanced notational issues, see Gould 2011 or Indiana University's *Music Notation Style Guide*. The latter is available online at: <https://music.indiana.edu/departments/academic/composition/style-guide/index.shtml>.