

**Division of Humanities  
Tentative Course Syllabus**

**Course Code:** HUMA 2103  
**Course Title:** Introduction to Music Composition  
**Course Offered in:** Fall 2019  
**Course Instructor:** Dr. Ilari Kaila

**Course Description:** (1) Course Content: Through a progressive series of composition projects, students learn the organizational skill of musical composition and performances, focusing on the basics of unity and variety; promoting students' understanding of humanistic experiences, creativities and emotions. Weekly listening, reading, and composition assignments draw on a broad range of musical styles and intellectual traditions, from various cultures and historical periods. (2) Advice on the background of Students: Students are required to have the ability to sing or to play one or more musical instruments (e.g. Grade 3 in Royal Schools Music Exam or equivalent). The ability to read music and the knowledge to music notation are preferable, but not required.

**Course Intended Learning Outcomes (ILOs):**

	Course ILOs
1	Students will grasp the organizational skill of musical composition and performances
2	Gain in-depth focus on the basics of unity and variety of music

**Course Outline:**

	Briefly outline
1	Orientation, Basic notation & rhythm
2	Melody & Motivic development
3	Basic counterpoint
4	Selected contrapuntal writing devices
5	Discussion: Midterm Project
6	Discussion: Midterm Project
7	Performance & Discussion: Midterm Project

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<b>8</b>	<b>Three+part counterpoint &amp; Basic harmony</b>
<b>9</b>	<b>Timbre, Texture &amp; Time, etc.</b>
<b>10</b>	<b>Structure, Form &amp; Thematic Metamorphosis</b>
<b>11</b>	<b>Selected 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> century compositional devices</b>
<b>12</b>	<b>Discussion: Final Project</b>
<b>13</b>	<b>Discussion: Final Project</b>
<b>14</b>	<b>Performance &amp; Discussion: Final Project</b>

**Planned Assessment Tasks:**

Attendance and class participation: 25%

Assignments & Drafts of projects: 25%

New Music Concert report  
& Project Performance Reports: 10%

Midterm Project: 20%

Final Project: 20%

**Samples of readings:**

- Bartok: Concerto for Orchestra
- Bartok: Music for Strings, Percussion and Celesta
- Copland: Appalachian Spring