

179 COMPOSITION and 223 ADVANCED COMPOSITION

Lawrence Fritts

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Office hours: MTW, 1:30-3:30

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Goals: Students will hone their compositional craft and produce music that is interesting, challenging, professionally notated, and performable. They should try to compose for as many different types of instruments and voices used in concert music of the past 100 years. They should seek to become as historically aware of compositional styles, trends, genres, and techniques as possible.

Grading: Grades are based quality and quantity of work. 3-4 completed compositions per year is a good amount.

Concerts: Students should attend every Composers' Workshop, SCI, Center for New Music, and EMS concert during the year. This will help you learn the standards and expectations of composers, and issues of performance including tempo, playability, balance, and interaction of instruments.

Listening and Reading: Whenever I make a suggestion for listening and reading during a lesson, try to do this before the next lesson, and be prepared to talk about it.

Performances: Whenever possible, all compositions should be programmed on Composers' Workshop Concerts, as well as SCI if you are a member (this is highly encouraged).

Performers: When writing for instruments or voice, it can be very helpful and rewarding to write with specific performers in mind. This allows you to get feedback, as well as having someone who can be an advocate of the work.

Electronic Music Studios: Any Composition student is eligible to use the studios, whether or not they have taken 250 Composition: Electronic Media I or 251 Composition: Electronic Music II. The studios can be used for work sessions with performers, rehearsals, and recording. All Composition students may check out such equipment as microphones, headphones, portable recorders, and interfaces. Make arrangements for this with the EMS assistants.

Special Needs: I need to hear from anyone who has a disability, which may require some modification of seating, testing or other class requirements so that appropriate arrangements may be made. Please see me after class or during my office hours.