

# Syllabus, MuCT 216: Composition (2 CH) - Spring Semester 2006

College of Musical Arts, Bowling Green State University

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**Course meeting time:** Tuesday and Thursday 9:30-10:20 a.m.   **Instructor:** Dr. Andrea L. Reinkemeyer  
**Location:** Moore Musical Arts Center, Room 2004   **Office:** MMAC 2013   **Phone:** (419) 372-2866  
**Final:** Friday, May 5 - 8:30-10:30 a.m.   **Email:** randrea@bgsu.edu  
**Office Hour:** By appointment

**DESCRIPTION:** Students enrolled in composition will work to develop their “Composer’s toolbox” through the exploration and manipulation of the many components that make up music by focusing on specific projects. Most of the projects will culminate in a performance. While composing music is the main component of this class, listening and analysis are also essential parts of your development as a composer.

## OBJECTIVES:

**Development of ideas:** Incorporate new ideas into your compositional process by synthesizing them into an original musical statement. Clearly articulate your ideas in the written score to performers and the audience. Develop your musical vocabulary by speaking critically of a piece of (contemporary) music with your colleagues

**Strengths and weaknesses:** Throughout the semester we will discuss areas in need of improvement and how to capitalize on your musical strengths.

**Historical perspective:** We will study several pieces as a group in this class; please write a literature review for each. The purpose of these exercises is to examine how this piece fits within a larger historical, formal, stylistic, cultural, and/or aesthetic context. Download the PDF of the literature review from the Blackboard space for this class.

## GRADING:

Your grade will be determined as follows:

- 1) Completion of composition projects (3 or 4)
- 2) Completion of daily assignments: listening, analysis, technical exercises
- 3) Composition notebook
- 4) Attendance
- 5) Presentation

BGSU Grading Policy - [http://www.bgsu.edu/catalog/Acad\\_policies/Acad\\_policies15.html](http://www.bgsu.edu/catalog/Acad_policies/Acad_policies15.html)

## REQUIRED MATERIALS:

**Texts:** The composition department will announce the common readings that will be discussed in the composition seminar (you are required to attend and participate).

**Other:**

3-ring notebook with dividers, pencils, eraser, manuscript paper (8.5”x11”-10 staves), copy card, straight edge, colored pencils, storage media to save computer-generated scores and parts, and any other necessary materials to prepare scores by hand and on the computer.

## PROJECTS:

- 1) a piece for piano solo that is made up of 3-4 short movements
- 2) brass fanfare
- 3) multiple percussion piece (solo or duo)
- 4) short song cycle\*
- 5) composer profile presentation

\* Begin looking for texts now that you might be interested in setting; if the text is not in public domain you should write to the copyright holder soon to get permission before setting any text. Begin talking with and listening to singers to figure out who you would like to have perform this work. This piece should be written for a specific singer.

**CONCERT ATTENDANCE:** You are required to attend all BGSU concerts that are related to contemporary composition during the spring semester (the official list will be distributed by the composition department and also posted on the Blackboard site for this class). Please plan ahead and make any necessary arrangements. Note: Work commitments ***do not*** constitute an excused absence for these concerts! The date you received this syllabus (Tuesday, December 10) provides you with plenty of time to make necessary arrangements in your work schedule. The only excused absence for these concerts is a class conflict. (If you miss a concert, you will have to write a report on another concert).

**CONCERT DATES:** All concerts are at 8 p.m. and in Bryan Recital Hall unless otherwise noted

- 2/1 Faculty Composers' Forum.
- 2/9 Student Composers' Forum.
- 2/27 **Music at the Forefront:** duo runedako featuring Daniel Koppelman and Ruth Neville, piano.
- 3/22 Faculty Scholar Lecture Series.
- 3/24 Senior Composition Recital - Aaron Zimmerman (Rm 2102)
- 4/10 **Music at the Forefront:** John Cheek, piano.
- 4/11 **New Music Ensemble.** Kobacker Hall.
- 4/13 Student Composers' Forum.
- 4/17 DACs: Mark Applebaum, electroacoustic music.

The Calendar of Events for The College of Musical Arts may be found here:  
<http://www.bgsu.edu/colleges/music/events/calendar.html>

**ATTENDANCE POLICY:**

Class attendance and participation is mandatory; this includes your participation in the composition seminar (every other Friday). Students who must miss a class for any reason should contact the instructor at least 24 hours prior to class when possible, leaving a message at (419) 372-2866 and emailing [randrea@bgsu.edu](mailto:randrea@bgsu.edu). In the case of serious illness, course assignments and reading may be made up without penalty. **\*Students who have more than two (2) absences will be docked 2 points per class.** Excessive tardiness may also be counted as an absence at the discretion of the professor. Students with perfect attendance will have 2 extra points applied toward their final grade.

BGSU attendance policy - <http://www.bgsu.edu/offices/sa/judicial/policies.html#ClassAttendance>

**CHEATING:**

Cheating of any kind will not be tolerated in this course. This includes collaboration on any outside assignments that might be graded on an individual basis (homework assignments and the preparation of class materials for submission). It also includes **plagiarism**, including the appropriation of compositions, sounds, or portions of pieces belonging to other composers.

**AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT:**

The College of Musical Arts complies with the Americans with Disabilities Act in making reasonable accommodation for qualified students with disabilities. If you have an established disability as defined in the Americans with Disabilities Act, I am more than willing to work with and accommodate you.

**Please note: this syllabus is subject to change. Any changes will be announced in class.**