

Music 120, Winter, 2015

Composition

UC Santa Cruz

Composition

Instructor: Polansky

Tuesday, Thursday: 10:00 – 11:45

TA: Madison Heying

Office hours: Tuesday, 2 – 4

Office 292 (Music Building)

Class website: http://eamusic.dartmouth.edu/~larry/UCSC_CLASSES_2011_2012/Music_120/

Madison Heying office hours, Thursday, 2 – 4 (and email her for other times)

[Note: This syllabus subject to revision as the class proceeds.

[Current version: 1/23/15]

Notes on the assignments

All pieces should be made available to the class in physical score form to be looked at during the performance. Students should

- Make 5 copies in paper form and bring them to class when the piece is performed
- Send a PDF of the score to Madison (the TA) the day before, or at the very latest, the morning of, so that we can project it in class.

All pieces will be performed in class, by the members of the class and anybody you want to bring in to help (the only exceptions are with the five pieces assignments). No MIDI realizations (as performances) in the class (in fact, no laptops or cellphones in the class at all). Handwritten copies of scores are preferred. If computer notation (Finale, LilyPond, Sibelius, etc.) software is used, the notation will be judged (and critiqued) irrespective of idiosyncracies of the computer software (that is, the phrase “That’s how Finale does it” will not be recognized as a valid reason for anything).

Schedule (tentative)

Most of the classes will consist of performing our works, so, depending upon how long that takes, this schedule will shift around a bit. We will have several guest composers visit the class during the term. Attendance in class is mandatory; for the guests, more than mandatory.

Week 1: January 6, 8

Introduction to the class.

Assignment 1 given (five pieces). Due, Tuesday, Jan. 13. Assignment will be given in class, orally

LP talking thru some pieces

Week 2: January 13, 15

In-class performing/looking at five pieces
Assignment 2 given. Due, Jan. 27th

Week 3: January 20, 22

Tuesday: five pieces performances
More five pieces performances

Week 4: January 27, 29

In-class performances, Assignment 2
Assignment 3 given, due Feb. 17
Thursday: guest composer, Sarang Kim, graduate student in composition

Week 5: February 3, 5

More in-class performances, Assignment 2
Thursday: guest composer, Chris Peck

Week 6: February 10, 12

In class performances, Assignment 2

Week 7: February 17, 19

Assignment 4 given (final assignment)
In class assignments, Assignment 3

Week 8: February 24, 26

Thursday, guest composer Ma'ayan Tsadka, graduate student in composition
In class assignments, Assignment 3

Week 9: March 3, 5

Thursday, guest composer Brian Baumbusch, graduate student in composition
In class assignments, Assignment 3

Week 10: March 10, 12

In class assignments, Assignment 3
Talk about final concert

FINAL CONCERT: Tuesday, March 17, 4 – 7 p.m

Grading

Pieces 60%

Class participation (attendance, performing, helpfulness, participation): 40%