

Guidelines/Schedule for Musicology Concentration - Composition Option:

1. Students will write an original composition no shorter than 5 minutes in length.
2. The student must write for an ensemble of performers as a means of demonstrating mastery not just in composition, but in orchestration as well. Students in Electronic Music must incorporate an electronic component into their project, which may also include performers.
3. A paper of no fewer than 30 pages in length will accompany the composition as a means of documenting the creative process and research used for creating the composition. The paper will also address how the student would approach a similar project in the future.

Suggested Schedule:

1. Student and faculty member agree to proceed with a project during the penultimate semester; a faculty signature is required for the student to register.
2. During the penultimate semester, student and faculty supervisor meet to discuss project options. Student should be prepared to discuss/defend at least two different options. Outcome: Written contract clearly stating topic and anticipated calendar for checking progress
3. First draft of composition submitted to supervisor. This draft is to be returned to student for significant revisions, including major additions and deletions. Outcome:
 - Clear understanding of the structure of work in progress
 - Clear definition of the harmonic language
 - Clear understanding of the instrumental forces used
 - Clear understanding of notational practice
4. Second draft of composition submitted for supervisor's approval. This draft will be returned for what are anticipated as minor revisions and editing. An outline of the methodology used to create the composition will be submitted and returned for significant revisions.
5. Subsequent drafts will be submitted and revised until ready for faculty readers.
6. Final draft of composition and paper submitted to faculty readers for approval and commentary. Outcome: the composition and paper should be in a publishable form. This last version of the paper is to be shared among several faculty readers, chosen by the supervising faculty member; will be returned with comments.
7. At least ONE dress rehearsal prior to performance. Rehearsal will include an oral summation of project and performance of the composition.

8. The composition will be performed for the PA faculty, students, family, friends, etc. This presentation will take place during the final weeks of the semester at a time determined by Music Program faculty.
 - a. If forces are available, the performance will involve instrumentalists; otherwise, a MIDI version will suffice. If the work is scored for electronic media, then a presentation of the work will involve the computer 'performance'.
 - b. A concise summation of the project, including a clear explanation of the topic undertaken, and the researcher's conclusions (this is NOT simply a public reading of the paper).
 - c. Copies of the paper and composition are circulated among the PA faculty; at least one copy is placed on file in the PA office as a model of the process for future PA students.
 - d. Oral presentation will be filmed, with copies going to both the student and the PA department.