

# Music 288 Syllabus

Music 288, Composition 2 (2 credits)  
TTh 9:00-9:50 a.m.  
E-400, HFAC

Professor: Dr. Neil Thornock  
Office hours: knock or by appointment, E-570 HFAC  
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## Course Description and Objectives

We will learn the craft of composition primarily through practice, which means most of your time in this class will be spent composing. Specifically, you should learn how to 1) compose fluently (quickly), 2) get pieces done (to a final barline) in a brief amount of time, and 3) practice and accumulate technique. We will critically listen to and discuss each other's work during class. We will also discuss aesthetic and technique in the work of other composers.

## Prerequisites

You must have passed Music 287 to enroll for this course.

## Materials

Lots of staff paper – DO NOT buy the staff paper sold at the BYU Bookstore.  
Pencils and erasers

## Grading

Participation	15%
Compositions 1-6	80%
Final	5%

## Participation

You earn the participation grade in the following ways:

1. Attendance. Be on time. Stay for the whole class.
2. Contributing to a distraction-free environment:
  - Cell phones turned completely off for the entire class.
  - No food or drink.
  - Conversation kept on-topic.
3. Active participation in classroom work. Be engaged as we workshop each others' pieces.
4. Respect and kindness toward everyone.

At the end of the semester, you will assign yourself a 1-10 grade for participation with a brief (two- or three-sentence) explanation. The participation grade is due by email by the end of finals week. If I do not receive a participation grade from you, the highest grade you can receive is an 8.

## Compositions

You will receive a rubric for each composition detailing how it will be graded. Each piece must be turned in on time (before class begins the day it is due) to receive full credit. Late pieces (turned in after class begins the day it is due) will be docked a full letter grade. Assignments may not be turned in more than one day late.

## Final

The final will consist of composing a piece start-to-finish during the allotted final time.

### Course Schedule

Date	Content
Jan. 5	
7	
12	
14	
19	Composition 1 due
21	
26	
28	
Feb. 2	Composition 2 due
4	
9	
11	
18	Composition 3 due
23	
25	
Mar. 2	Composition 4 due
4	
9	
11	
16	
18	
23	Composition 5 due
25	
30	
Apr. 1	
6	
8	
13	Composition 6 due