

MUS 490: Major Performance Area Instruction - Composition

Spring 2023 | Scheduled Individual Lesson and Composition Seminar (F 2:30-3:30pm)
Brenneman Music Hall 111 and 249

Instructor: Dr. Matthew Kennedy

Office Location: BMH 111

Office Hours: By appointment

Email: mkenned1@heidelberg.edu

Campus Phone: 419-448-2076

Catalog Course Description:

0 Credit Hours. Students in the Bachelor of Music program in Composition and Theory will submit a portfolio of their completed composition to their primary teacher for review and final approval. The portfolio will include compositions that are featured on the student's Junior and Senior recitals in addition to other selected works and assignments that student has completed during the program. Students will sign up for this course in the semester that they anticipate completing this course in the semester that they anticipate completing this degree requirement (Offered occasionally)

Require Texts and Instructional Materials:

No required texts

Course Outcomes:

Upon successful completion of this course, you should be able to:

1. Refine and continue to build a set of tools to critically consider their own and others' musical materials
2. Recognize and recall instrument ranges and idiomatic writing styles within a variety of contexts
3. Use technology as an aid for learning, creating, and presenting music.

Relation of MUS 490 to School of Music and Theatre Objectives:

Creativity: The ability to create music through composition, arranging or improvisation.

Technology: The ability to involve music technology in their work as performers, teachers and scholars.

Performance: The ability to perform in public, alone or with others, a varied repertoire of music.



Attendance Policy:

As an applied course, attendance of weekly lessons and composition seminar is required. Each absence results in a letter grade deduction from the final grade. See semester schedule at end of syllabus for required attendance dates in addition to seminar and lesson dates. Contact instructor ASAP if an absence occurs.

Your voice, your experience, and your viewpoint are valid and only serve to better our class discourse. Regular attendance at individual lessons and class sessions is expected of students. However, there are some circumstances that warrant special consideration to determine whether accommodation is possible. These cases are referred to as explained absences. The complete policy is located within the Student Handbook. The Explained Absence Policy is available here: <https://inside.heidelberg.edu/departments-offices/academic-affairs-office/academic-affairs-policies.>]

When possible, give advance notice of absences, in person or by phone or email. Medical and personal/family emergencies do arise at times; try to save your absences for real needs such as these. Best advice: contact ASAP.

Musician's Health and Safety:

The practice of music-making is an activity that must be done in a mindful and sustainable fashion. Heidelberg University and the School of Music and Theatre are engaged in training the complete musician emphasizing musicianship, repertoire, creativity along with overall health and wellness. The ability to efficiently perform with your chosen instrument, achieve a holistic balanced mindset, and safely collaborate with creative people on artistic projects are skills that must be mentored in the applied lesson, performing ensembles and classroom environments. Protecting our hearing, musculoskeletal, vocal, mental, and emotional health is crucial for lifelong music making. Heidelberg is dedicated to this pursuit with information on performance health available in the SMT Performance class seminars, the undergraduate student handbook, insideheidelberg.edu, and from faculty and staff. Please seek out a faculty member or the Director of the School of Music and Theatre if you have any concerns or questions.

Technology Requirements:

This course uses Canvas, Heidelberg University's learning management system. Course materials, including updates, assignments, and resources will be posted and submitted through Canvas. If you are unfamiliar with Canvas please consult the Canvas Student Guide, which is available in the Academic Support Canvas Course. You can also schedule a one-on-one consultation with an Academic Coach, who can teach you how to navigate Canvas.

Students who take this course remotely will need reliable access to high-speed internet, ready access to a computer/tablet/smartphone, and a working webcam and microphone.

COVID-19:

Throughout Heidelberg University's response to the SARS-CoV-2 (COVID-19) pandemic, all students are required to comply with institutional policies regarding masks/face coverings, social distancing, quarantining, and isolation. Please refer to the institution's current [COVID-19 protocols](#). Following institutional policies while in class is part of your responsibility to help keep your fellow classmates and community members safe and also signifies to your classmates that you respect their right to learn in a safe and healthy environment. Any student who refuses to follow institutional policies in class will be asked to leave. Any student who repeatedly refuses to follow institutional policies will be referred to Student Affairs for disciplinary action based on item Article III, Item B.13 of the Student Code of Conduct (and may be administratively withdrawn from this course). Any student who believes they are not able to wear a face covering due to a health condition or accessibility concern may request an exemption. Exemptions must be submitted to the



Coordinator of Student Accessibility Services. Students can contact the [Coordinator of Student Accessibility Services](#) to begin the interactive process to request an exemption. A request for an exemption is not a guarantee that an exemption will be granted.

Exceptions to this policy may be requested by:

1. The instructor, if face coverings will prohibit instruction and participation in face-to-face instruction; any exceptions requested by the instructor must be approved by the Provost and stated in the syllabus.
2. A student, if wearing a face covering is not possible due to a health condition or accessibility concern; exceptions requested by a student must be approved by the Director of the Health and Counseling Center or the Coordinator of Student Accessibility Services, in collaboration with the instructor, and documentation from a student's personal healthcare provider will be required. Exceptions may include attending class unmasked, participating in class via an alternate method, etc.

Academic Honesty Policy:

The University values honesty and integrity as fundamental to learning and personal success. All members of the University should respect the integrity of another's work and recognize the importance of acknowledging and safeguarding intellectual property. You can find the full policy in the Student Handbook on Inside (<https://inside.heidelberg.edu/>)

Submitting the work of another person or resource as your own, allowing another person to submit your work as his or her own, or assisting another person to do either are all behaviors considered violations of the Academic Honesty Policy. Further examples include:

1. Plagiarizing. Plagiarism is quoting from a source or using ideas paraphrased from a source without proper documentation according to the standard set by the instructor. The source material can be in oral, written, digital, or online format, including another student's work- for example a test, lab report, or paper. Duplicating your own work from a previous assignment or another course is also considered plagiarism.
2. Giving or receiving unauthorized assistance during homework, quizzes, tests, or examinations.
3. Using unauthorized materials, including personal technology, during any quizzes, tests, or examinations.
4. Acquiring copies of an exam dishonestly.
5. Using other dishonest methods to complete course work.

If you believe you have been inappropriately or incorrectly cited for Academic Dishonesty, you can appeal the Academic Honesty Violation by completing this secure webform: <https://secure.heidelberg.edu/node/31>

Disability and Accessibility Accommodations

Some students with disabilities and other accessibility needs may require modifications to a course to achieve equal access. Heidelberg University provides resources and support for such students through the Office of Student Accessibility Services. Students participate in an ongoing, interactive process to determine appropriate accommodations for each course. If you need accommodations, please contact the Office of Student Accessibility Services as soon as possible. Accommodations generally cannot be made retroactive, so it is important to get them in place early in the semester. Please note, it is your responsibility to initiate and follow through with this process, including all relevant forms and documentation. Email accessibilityservices@heidelberg.edu or call 419-448-2484 to make an appointment.



Academic Support

For all written and aural theory classes at Heidelberg University, music tutors will regularly meet to go over the week's topics and assignments. The names and contact information for these individuals will be provided via Canvas within the first two weeks of the start of the semester. Tutoring is strongly encouraged for any students struggling with course content and may be assigned as required at the discretion of the course instructors.

Grading Policies

Your final grade is based upon the following criteria:

Recital Program Notes	50%
Senior Recital Performance and Recording	25%
<u>Composition Portfolio Review</u>	<u>25%</u>
TOTAL	100%

Composition Portfolio: At the conclusion of the semester each private student will have a 10–15-minute portfolio review session in front of a panel of faculty members. Students will upload a portfolio of that semester's work (completed scores, parts, resumes/CV's, biography, website design, performance list, and/or other relevant professional information) prior to finals week. Students will then sign up for a time slot to discuss their work from that semester with faculty panel

In the event that you believe your final grade was unfairly or inappropriately assigned, you can initiate the formal Grade Appeal Process by completing the webform located here: <https://inside.heidelberg.edu/petition-grade-appeal>

The following grading scale will be used for this course:

100-93%	A	82-80%	B-
92-90%	A-	79-77%	C+
89-87%	B+	73-76%	C
86-83%	B	72-70%	C-
		< 70%	F

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Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Statement

Heidelberg University strives to be a welcoming, student-centered institution for everyone. In this class, my goal is to create an environment that is supportive of all students and respects all identities and diversity in all forms: age, gender and sexual identities, language, race, religion, ethnicity, ability status, nationality, and socioeconomic status. I expect all students in this class to treat one another with respect, and to demonstrate diligence in trying to understand one another's perspectives.



I welcome your feedback and suggestions for how I can create a more inclusive classroom community. To help accomplish this,

- If you have a name or pronouns that differ from those listed in OASIS, please let me know so I can address you correctly.
- I, like many others, am still learning about diverse experiences and perspectives. If anyone in class (including me!) says something that makes you uncomfortable, please come talk to me about it.
- If religious observance impedes your ability to participate fully in classroom activities, or a principal holiday from your religious tradition occurs during the semester and conflicts with class meetings or activities, please let me know so I can determine if a reasonable accommodation is possible.

Title IX

Heidelberg University does not discriminate or tolerate discrimination on the basis of sex, gender, transgender status, gender identity, or gender expression in its educational, extracurricular, or athletic programs, or in any admission or employment decisions. Heidelberg is committed to promptly and equitably responding to all reports of sexual discrimination with the goal of eliminating the misconduct and/or harassment, preventing its recurrence, and addressing its effects on any individual or the community.

To report sexual misconduct (violence) or sexual harassment, students may contact the Title IX Coordinator, Monica Verhoff, (419) 448-2452, TIX@heidelberg.edu

To confidentially discuss sexual misconduct (violence) or sexual harassment, students may contact University Confidential Resources: Health & Counseling Center, (419) 448-2041; or Chaplain, (419) 448-2066. For more information, the University's Sexual Discrimination Policy is available at <https://inside.heidelberg.edu/departments-offices/human-resources-office/title-ix>

Semester Composition Recital Dates

Sunday, February 26th

Sunday April 16th

Subject to Change Statement

Please note that topics, assignments, and due dates are subject to change. Any adjustments to this syllabus will be announced in class, via e-mail, or via Canvas. Please make it a daily habit to check your BergMail account and the course Canvas site for any updates.

