

# Music 290C Special Problems (Composition)

## Instructor

Dr. Christopher Hopkins hopkinsc@iastate.edu  
Office hours as posted to 235 Music Hall

## Prerequisites

Undergraduate music major or permission of instructor. Audition required through portfolio of compositions.

## Description

Completion of individual small to large-scale composition projects as appropriate to the level of the individual student. Supplementary score study and technical writing projects required as related to the composition projects. May be repeated for credit.

A two-credit option is reserved for undergraduate music majors preparing to enter the composition emphasis. The course is taught in classroom meetings or private tutorials at the discretion of the instructor.

## Learning Outcomes

Students will have gained experience developing musical themes through formal processes of variation, association, and contrast of melody, harmony, and rhythm. Over multiple semesters, students will have produced compositions of increasing textural complexity, from solo to small ensemble. Adjunctively, students will have a deeper understanding of musical creativity, having related their own process to those observable in score study.

## Evaluation and Grading

The course grade is determined according to the quality and degree of completion of assigned projects, as appropriate for undergraduate-level composition. Completion of projects may include a performance requirement beyond completion of a musical score.

## Uniform University Policies

### Academic Dishonesty

The class will follow Iowa State University's policy on academic dishonesty. Anyone suspected of academic dishonesty will be reported to the [Dean of Students Office](#).

### Accessibility Statement

Iowa State University is committed to assuring that all educational activities are free from discrimination and harassment based on disability status. Students requesting accommodations for a documented disability are required to meet with staff in Student Accessibility Services (SAS) to establish eligibility and learn about related processes. Eligible students will be provided with a Notification Letter for each course and reasonable accommodations will be arranged after timely delivery of the Notification Letter to the instructor. Students are encouraged to deliver Notification Letters as early in the semester as possible. SAS, a unit in the Dean of Students Office, is located in room 1076, Student Services Building or online at [www.sas.dso.iastate.edu](http://www.sas.dso.iastate.edu). Contact SAS by email at [accessibility@iastate.edu](mailto:accessibility@iastate.edu) or by phone at 515-294-7220 for additional information.

### Dead Week

This class follows the Iowa State University Dead Week policy as noted in section 10.6.4 of the [Faculty Handbook](#).

### Discrimination and Harassment

Iowa State University does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, age, ethnicity, religion, national origin, pregnancy, sexual orientation, gender identity, genetic information, sex, marital status, disability, or status as a

U.S. Veteran. Inquiries regarding non-discrimination policies may be directed to Office of Equal Opportunity, 3410 Beardshear Hall, 515 Morrill Road, Ames, Iowa 50011, Tel. 515-294-7612, Hotline 515-294-1222, email [eooffice@iastate.edu](mailto:eooffice@iastate.edu)

#### Religious Accommodation

Iowa State University strives to reasonably accommodate students who's sincerely held religious beliefs or creed conflict with academic requirements. Accommodation requests must be made proactively. The process for requesting an accommodation is interactive and the process must be initiated by the individual seeking the accommodation. For optimal consideration, students should inform instructors as soon as possible in the semester of a course conflict. It is recommended that the student and instructor discuss the request in person and then document the resolution in an email format. Assistance throughout the process for all parties involved is available through the [Office of Equal Opportunity](#) at 515-294-7612.

#### Contact Information

If you are experiencing, or have experienced, a problem with any of the above issues, email [academicissues@iastate.edu](mailto:academicissues@iastate.edu)