

SYLLABUS

MUCT6202 Composition

New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary

Fall 2018

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NOBTS Mission Statement

The mission of New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary is to equip leaders to fulfill the Great Commission and Great Commandments through the local church and its ministries.

Church Music Ministries Division Mission Statement

Developing excellence in Kingdom-minded music and worship leaders

Institutional Core Value Emphasis

2018-2019 Academic Year Emphasis: Doctrinal Integrity

Knowing that the Bible is the Word of God, we believe it, teach it, proclaim it, and submit to it.

Course Description

Music is both creative and re-creative. The student will draw upon prior experience with study, analysis and performance of period masterworks to create his or her own unique compositions.

Each student will write three original works in varying genres, e.g. choral, art song, instrumental solo, instrumental ensemble, piano with solo instrument and orchestral to name but a few of the possibilities. Each student, with the professor's guidance, will determine projects suitable with regard to interest and academic merit.

Methodology

Each student will examine other compositions the purpose of which is to synthesize a personal language from which the student will draw in the composition of original works. Then, projects will be guided in individual lessons to explore and challenge tonal, harmonic and structural boundaries. There is much subjective criteria in the analysis and criticism of an original musical work. Structure and tonal exploration will be deemed more important than generic re-creation of period works.

Course Materials

Course materials are provided by the professor for the individual student based on assessment of current projects. These include, but are not limited to, the professor's personal library and recommendation of works for study from Martin Music Library. Smaller exercises which distill elements of the compositional craft will be devised by the professor on an individual, as-needed basis.

Bibliography

- Apel, Willi, ed. *Harvard Dictionary of Music*. Harvard University Press.
- Bach, Johann Sebastian. *Well-Tempered Clavier, Volumes I & II*. Dover.
- Bernstein, Leonard. *Chichester Psalms*. G. Schirmer, Inc.
- Brahms, Johannes. *A German Requiem*. Dover.
- Hayes, Mark. *All Creatures of Our God and King*. Shawnee Press.
- Rachmaninoff, Sergei. *All Night Vigil, Opus 37*. Musica Russica.
- Rutter, John. *Gloria*. Oxford University Press.
- Rutter, John. *Requiem*. Oxford University Press.
- Slonimsky, Nicolas. *Baker's Biographical Dictionary of Music and Musicians*.
G. Schirmer, Inc.
- Vaughn-Williams, Ralph. *Hodie*. Oxford University Press.
- Walton, William. *Belshazaar's Feast*. Oxford University Press.
- Wilberg, Mack. *Christmas Carols*. Oxford University Press.

Grading

Each of the three projects constitutes one-third of the course grade. The average of three projects will constitute the final grade.

Performances of original works may be scheduled for Thursday Recital Lab.