

APPLIED COMPOSITION

The following defines the minimum requirements that a student must meet to receive a passing grade in Applied Composition at SUNY Schenectady. The actual grade assigned will be based on the student's progress in lessons and the results of the annual Performance Examination.

The student will present two to three original compositions, completed during the course of lessons that year. (A complex arrangement, e.g. orchestration, of a preexisting work may be substituted for one of these compositions.) The total duration of the selections must be a minimum of approximately six minutes. Both audio and written score must be provided for each selection (MIDI renditions are acceptable).

Selected compositions must demonstrate the following:

Technique:

Organizational principles, including musical structure; practical playability (if written for live performers)

Notation:

Neatness and legibility of score; adherence to relevant notation conventions; interpretive directions (dynamics, articulations, tempo markings, expressive text, etc.)

Variety:

Contrast between or among selections along at least one of the following parameters:
form, style, instrumentation

Students should be prepared to discuss their compositions in terms of the above criteria.