CASPER COLLEGE COURSE SYLLABUS
MUSC 2465:01 Composition

Semester/Year: Spring 2016

Lecture Hours: Lab Hours: Credit Hours: 1.0
Class Time: TBD Days: TBD Room: MUS 210

Instructor’s Name: Nathan Baker

Office Phone: 268-2538 Email: nbaker@caspercollege.edu

Office Location/Hours: MUS 210; office hours posted on door (walk-ins are also welcome)

Course Description: Individual instruction in composition for music majors.

Statement of Prerequisites: MUSC 1030 and instructor’s permission.

Goal: To be able to analyze the use of compositional elements (melody, harmony, counterpoint, and form) in the literature of major composers and to develop the student’s own compositional voice.

Outcomes: Compose coherent works of music in an individual style using the standard compositional elements of melody, harmony, counterpoint, and form.

Methodology: Students will meet with the instructor once weekly for a half-hour lesson; in addition to the lesson, students are expected to spend at least half an hour every day practicing their compositional skills (for at least three hours per week outside of the lesson). Your feedback is valuable as I take course evaluations into account when determining course methodology.

Evaluation Criteria:
1. 40% of the final grade will be determined by attendance of lessons and consistency of progress.
2. 40% of the grade will be determined by weekly compositional exercise assignments.
3. 20% of the grade will be determined by a final composition project.

Required Text, Readings, and Materials: No single text will be used, but a variety of texts and musical scores as best suits the student will be employed. Analysis repertoire for this course will be taken from the classical literature. The use of notational software (Finale, Sibelius, MuseScore, etc.) is required for full compositions; compositional exercises may be done on the computer or on manuscript paper.

Class Policies: I run my classroom via two general rules:
1. Be Respectful: Treat your professor and colleagues with courtesy and respect, and don’t do anything that disrupts the learning environment.
2. Be Responsible: Attend class (after all, you’re still paying for me to teach you whether or not you show up), pay attention, ask questions and come to my office hours when you don’t quite understand something, and always do your very best work on your assignments. As new adults experiencing the “real world” for the first time, I recognize that you may encounter unexpected difficulties that interfere with the educational process; I will often be flexible in arranging appropriate accommodations with you (at my discretion), ONLY IF you are responsible enough to promptly e-mail me should something come up.
**Last Date to Change to Audit Status or to Withdraw with a W Grade:** April 14

**Student Rights and Responsibilities:** Please refer to the Casper College Student Conduct and Judicial Code for information concerning your rights and responsibilities as a Casper College Student.

**Chain of Command:** If you have any problems with this class, you should first contact the instructor to attempt to solve the problem. If you are not satisfied with the solution offered by the instructor, you should then take the matter through the appropriate chain of command starting with the Department Head/Program Director, the Dean, and lastly the Vice President for Academic Affairs.

**Academic Dishonesty:** (Cheating & Plagiarism) Casper College demands intellectual honesty. Proven plagiarism or any form of dishonesty associated with the academic process can result in the offender failing the course in which the offense was committed or expulsion from school. See the Casper College Student Code of Conduct for more information on this topic.

**Official Means of Communication:** Casper College faculty and staff will employ the student's assigned Casper College email account as a primary method of communication. Students are responsible to check their account regularly. This is also where you will find course evaluation links during course evaluation periods.

**ADA Accommodations Policy:** If you need academic accommodations because of a disability, please inform me as soon as possible. See me privately after class, or during my office hours. To request academic accommodations, students must first consult with the college’s Disability Services Counselor located in the Gateway Building, Room 344, (307) 268-2557, bheuer@caspercollege.edu. The Disability Services Counselor is responsible for reviewing documentation provided by students requesting accommodations, determining eligibility for accommodations, and helping students request and use appropriate accommodations.

**Calendar or schedule indicating course content:** To be determined by student progress and topics/composers of interest to the student and instructor.