

Semester and Assessment Jury Rubric: Composition

Standard	Excellent (5.0 - 4.5)	Good (4.0 - 3.5)	Fair (3.0 - 2.5)	Weak (2.0 - 1.5)	Insufficient (1.0 - 0.5)
Harmonic and Melodic Language	Always demonstrates advanced use of pitch language in melody and harmony with innovative or adventurous passages.	Generally demonstrates advanced use of pitch language in melody and harmony with some moments that are inconsistent, ineffectual or lack direction.	Demonstrates effective use of pitch language with some passages that are inconsistent, ineffectual or lack direction.	Demonstrates some passages that are effective in the use of pitch language while others seem inconsistent or lacking in coherence or direction.	Mostly still struggles with the use of pitch language in the creation of effective melodies and harmonies that are consistent and effective.
Rhythmic Interest	Always demonstrates advanced use of rhythmic language with innovative or adventurous passages.	Generally demonstrates advanced use of rhythmic language with some moments that are inconsistent, ineffectual or lack direction.	Demonstrates effective use of rhythmic language with some passages that are inconsistent, ineffectual or lack direction.	Demonstrates some passages that are effective in the use of rhythmic language while others seem inconsistent or lacking in coherence or direction.	Mostly still struggles with the use of rhythmic language in the creation of effective passages that are consistent and effective.
Developmental Technique	Always demonstrates advanced techniques of development and transformation with innovative or adventurous passages.	Generally demonstrates advanced techniques of development and transformation with some less effective passages.	Demonstrates effective techniques of development and transformation with some passages that are inconsistent, ineffectual or lack direction.	Demonstrates some passages that are effective in motivic development or transformation while others seem inconsistent or lacking in coherence or direction.	Mostly still struggles with the techniques of motivic development or transformation in the creation of effective passages that are consistent and effective.
Consistency of Style and Vision	Always maintains consistency of style and guiding vision.	Generally maintains consistency of style and guiding vision.	Maintains consistency of style and guiding vision some of the time.	Has some trouble maintaining a consistent style and unifying vision.	Struggles with maintaining a consistent style or unifying vision.
Engaging Form and Effective Flow	Always generates an engaging formal structure and effective musical flow.	Generally generates an engaging formal structure and effective musical flow.	Generates a reasonable formal structure and fairly effective musical flow.	Has some trouble with formal structures and musical flow.	Struggles with formal structures and musical flow.

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Effective and Idiomatic Orchestration acoustic or electronic	Always demonstrates advanced use of instruments and voices, consistently idiomatic, and both adventurous and effective.	Generally demonstrates effective use of instruments and voices, quite idiomatic, and mostly effective.	Demonstrates some effective use of instruments and voices, with some less effective or idiomatic passages.	Has some trouble with effective and idiomatic writing for instruments and voices and displays only limited originality.	Does not demonstrate basic command of instruments or voices with many awkward passages that limit the effectiveness of the passage or are very difficult to perform.
Clear and Effective Notation or Audio Production	Always demonstrates the advanced ability to create clearly <i>notated</i> performance materials, displaying thoughtful or creative use of markings OR a clear, and vibrant studio mix.	Generally demonstrates good ability to create clearly notated performance materials, displaying thoughtful use of markings OR a good solid studio mix.	Demonstrates basic ability to notate effectively with some passages that seem less successful OR a fairly effective studio mix with some issues.	Has some trouble with notation still OR with an effective studio mix.	Generally does not demonstrate the ability to create clearly and completely notated performance materials OR an effective studio mix.
Thoughtful Program Notes or Analyses	Always generates engaging and thoughtful program notes and/or effective presentation materials thus exhibiting deep understanding of the composition and the ability to discuss it.	Generates fairly thoughtful program notes and/or effective presentation materials and exhibits good understanding of the composition and the ability to discuss it.	Generates basic but acceptable program notes and/or presentation materials and exhibits a basic understanding of the composition though not articulate in discussing it.	Has trouble with the creation of program notes and/or presentation materials and seems somewhat unsure of the composition or how to discuss it.	Does not satisfactorily write program notes or presentation materials, seems unsure of the composition and is unable to discuss it articulately.
Overall Creativity and Originality	Clearly displays a unique creativity and vision and the beginning of a truly original musical voice.	Often displays a unique creativity and vision.	Often still copying models, though beginning to show signs of unique creativity and vision.	Rarely sounds very original or creative though effectively copies models.	Still copying models without much sign of unique creativity or voice.

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Assessment of progress (with input from studio teacher), including commitment, amount of work produced, likelihood of success completing degree or in future career.	Student is on track and excels in all areas.	Students is mostly on track with a few weaknesses that are easily addressed.	Student has areas of concern to address in order to proceed successfully.	Student has a significant number of weaknesses that make success difficult.	Student has prohibitive weaknesses and continuation in music study is not advised.