



**CAMOSUN COLLEGE School  
of Arts & Science Department  
of Music**

**MUSC-216-DX01  
Contemporary Music Theory**

**2020F**

**COURSE OUTLINE**

The course description is online @ <http://camosun.ca/learn/calendar/current/web/musc.html>

*Ω Please note: This outline will not be kept indefinitely. It is recommended students keep this outline for their records, especially to assist in transfer credit to post-secondary institutions.*

**1. Instructor Information**

- (a) Instructor      Joey Smith
- (b) Office hours    \_\_\_\_\_
- (c) Location        \_\_\_\_\_
- (d) Phone            (250) 386-3294                      **Alternative:** \_\_\_\_\_
- (e) E-mail           [joeysmith@telus.net](mailto:joeysmith@telus.net)
- (f) Website         \_\_\_\_\_

**2. Intended Learning Outcomes**

Upon completion of this course the student will be able to:

1. Spontaneously compose music involving standard modes and progressions across the cycle of fifths, and complete a written score capturing these phrases in detail;
2. Spontaneously compose and re-harmonize using standard practice a short fragment of music using harmonies derived from major, melodic minor, diminished and whole-tone scales; and complete a written score capturing these phrases in detail;
3. Demonstrate ability to identify and employ traditional counterpoint and harmony in the composition and analysis of works from the contemporary repertoire including folk, pop, and jazz.
4. Spontaneously compose in variation form over Blues Changes, Rhythm Changes, Coltrane Changes, and within standard song forms, and complete a written score capturing these phrases in detail.
5. Analyze and extrapolate compositional methodologies from jazz, pop, and folk standards and reinterpretations thereof.

### 3. Required Materials

- (a) Texts: Jazz Composition-Theory And Practice (Ted Pease)  
available at the Camosun bookstore (Landsdown campus)
- (b) Sibelius music notation program (preferred) or MuseScore (free download)  
<https://musescore.org/en>
- (c) Other: Manuscript paper, pencils, eraser and a binder for handouts

### 4. Course Content and Schedule

Classroom, 3 hours per week with estimated 5 hours outside study

- 1. Learning techniques for creating contemporary melodies using melodic rhythm, motivic development and guide tones
- 2. Analysis of songs based on major, minor and modal harmony
- 3. Using reharmonization techniques on standard chord progressions
- 4. Composition of songs over various song forms including blues & AABA forms
- 5. Writing an arrangement with consideration of intros, interludes and endings
- 6. Introduction of writing for other instruments considering transposition and range

### 5. Basis of Student Assessment (Weighting)

#### (a) Assignments

- 1. Compose a 32 bar (AABA) song based on a standard set of chord changes using melodic rhythm and motivic techniques.
- 2. Write a modal based tune
- 3. Arrange an original or standard song for a small ensemble

#### (b) Quizzes

- 1. Identifying and using melodic rhythm, motifs and guide tones
- 2. Tonal, modal and reharmonization techniques
- 3. Basic arranging techniques for a small ensemble (transposition & range)

Each assignment and quiz is worth 12% of the grade (6 X 12% = 72%)

(c) Final Exam: 18%

(d) Attendance 10%

## 6. Grading System

Standard Grading System (GPA)

Competency Based Grading System

## 7. Recommended Materials to Assist Students to Succeed Throughout the Course

The Jazz Theory Book by Mark Levine

## 8. College Supports, Services and Policies



### Immediate, Urgent, or Emergency Support

If you or someone you know requires immediate, urgent, or emergency support (e.g. illness, injury, thoughts of suicide, sexual assault, etc.), **SEEK HELP**. Resource contacts @ <http://camosun.ca/about/mental-health/emergency.html> or <http://camosun.ca/services/sexual-violence/get-support.html#urgent>

### College Services

Camosun offers a variety of health and academic support services, including counselling, dental, disability resource centre, help centre, learning skills, sexual violence support & education, library, and writing centre. For more information on each of these services, visit the **STUDENT SERVICES** link on the College website at <http://camosun.ca/>

### College Policies

Camosun strives to provide clear, transparent, and easily accessible policies that exemplify the college's commitment to life-changing learning. It is the student's responsibility to become familiar with the content of College policies. Policies are available on the College website at <http://camosun.ca/about/policies/>. Education and academic policies include, but are not limited to, Academic Progress, Admission, Course Withdrawals, Standards for Awarding Credentials, Involuntary Health and Safety Leave of Absence, Prior Learning Assessment, Medical/Compassionate Withdrawal, Sexual Violence and Misconduct, Student Ancillary Fees, Student Appeals, Student Conduct, and Student Penalties and Fines.

## A. GRADING SYSTEMS <http://camosun.ca/about/policies/index.html>

The following two grading systems are used at Camosun College:

### 1. Standard Grading System (GPA)

Percentage	Grade	Description	Grade Point Equivalency
90-100	A+		9
85-89	A		8
80-84	A-		7
77-79	B+		6

73-76	B		5
70-72	B-		4
65-69	C+		3
60-64	C		2
50-59	D		1
0-49	F	Minimum level has not been achieved.	0

## 2. Competency Based Grading System (Non GPA)

This grading system is based on satisfactory acquisition of defined skills or successful completion of the course learning outcomes

Grade	Description
COM	The student has met the goals, criteria, or competencies established for this course, practicum or field placement.
DST	The student has met and exceeded, above and beyond expectation, the goals, criteria, or competencies established for this course, practicum or field placement.
NC	The student has not met the goals, criteria or competencies established for this course, practicum or field placement.

## B. Temporary Grades

Temporary grades are assigned for specific circumstances and will convert to a final grade according to the grading scheme being used in the course. See Grading Policy at <http://camosun.ca/about/policies/index.html> for information on conversion to final grades, and for additional information on student record and transcript notations.

Temporary Grade	Description
I	<i>Incomplete:</i> A temporary grade assigned when the requirements of a course have not yet been completed due to hardship or extenuating circumstances, such as illness or death in the family.
IP	<i>In progress:</i> A temporary grade assigned for courses that are designed to have an anticipated enrollment that extends beyond one term. No more than two IP grades will be assigned for the same course.
CW	<i>Compulsory Withdrawal:</i> A temporary grade assigned by a Dean when an instructor, after documenting the prescriptive strategies applied and consulting with peers, deems that a student is unsafe to self or others and must be removed from the lab, practicum, worksite, or field placement.

