

Midterm Project: Short Composition

Draft Due Tues, Oct 6

Let's do a fun project for midterms. It will be a very short composition that you write down in notation and perform for the class.

It doesn't need to be some great masterpiece - my goal is for you to produce about 15 seconds of music. (That could be eight measures of 4/4 at medium tempo. Remember that good music often repeats itself, so you can get a lot of mileage out of that!) Max length is one page.

Key

Please use a key other than C major.

Instrumentation

It can be a single melodic line that you play on piano, or something more elaborate than that. (Piano two hands, a melody or riff for guitar, something to sing (maybe even with words) a duet with two parts, many things are possible. If you use guitar, though, please make it something with written out notes, not just chords.)

Presentation Days

Let's submit drafts on **Tuesday, Oct 6** and then we'll present our compositions over the next three classes, Oct 9-16. If you need help in performing it I will happily play a part. We'll need to make copies of your notation so your classmates can see it, too.

Grading

This is in the syllabus as 5% of your total grade. If your notation is correct and the performance matches what you wrote I will probably go with a 100, and if there are problems I will do less than that. I'm not really grading on the quality of the composition, but I tend to like everything you guys make and will say so in the feedback. :) Really the challenge here is in writing something you can play, and then playing it correctly! It's harder than you think.

Drafts

Of course I will be happy to look at rough drafts before the due date, or help you strategize to develop your ideas. Don't be afraid to ask.

