

STRATEGIES FOR TEACHING MUSIC COMPOSITION

SYLLABUS

Dates of Course: TBD

Course Description

Participants will develop skill in using *Finale Notepad* music notation software and in creating objective criteria for evaluating students' compositions. Once these skills have been acquired, participants will design a composition project that is appropriate for their students. The project will consist of 1) a description of the musical elements embedded in the composition assignment, 2) instructions for students to follow as they compose, 3) a rubric to evaluate students' work and 4) a strategy for determining the impact of the assignment on student learning.

Graduates of this course will be able to:

- ♪ Compose simple melodies using basic features of *Finale Notepad* software
- ♪ Design objective criteria for evaluating students' compositions
- ♪ Extract essential musical elements from a score and incorporate them into a composition assignment
- ♪ Provide at least one exemplar for the composition assignment
- ♪ Evaluate and appropriately use feedback from the instructor and classmates to refine a composition project
- ♪ Articulate a strategy for evaluating the impact of the composition project on student learning

NYS Standards Addressed

- ♪ Standard 1 - Creating, Performing, and Participating in the Arts
- ♪ Standard 3 - Responding to and Analyzing Works of Art

Contact Information

- ♪ E-Mail Address: lutterd@bronxville.k12.ny.us

Prerequisite Skills/Requirements

- ♪ Equivalent of an introductory music theory course
- ♪ Ability to use *Microsoft Word* (Mac or Windows) to create, attach and download documents
- ♪ Ability to access the Internet and use e-mail

Required Software

- ♪ *Finale Notepad* (Available from CodaMusic.com for \$9.95)
- ♪ *Microsoft Word*

Recommendation for Inservice Credit

- ♪ Students must log into the course at least three days per week and participate in discussions.
- ♪ Assignments must meet the requirements outlined in the rubric associated with the assignment.
- ♪ Participants must post at least one comment that provides feedback to a classmate regarding a composition exercise and one comment that provides feedback to a classmate regarding the design and/or content of a composition project.
- ♪ Online responses and postings must be thoughtful and fully developed in order to qualify for credit.
- ♪ Students must abide by all course policies.

