



# MUSI 10300 1 - Introduction to Music: Materials and Design - Instructor(s): Anh Vu

Project Title: **College Course Feedback - Winter 2024**

Number Enrolled: **19**

Number of Responses: **12**

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## Report Comments

Opinions expressed in these evaluations are those of students enrolled in the specific course and do not represent the University.

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Creation Date: **Thursday, March 28, 2024**

**What are the most important things that you learned in this course? Please reflect on the knowledge and skills you gained.**

Comments
Learned music theory, how to compose, different types of compositions.
Reading and writing music notation, major and minor scales, theory of tonality and cadence, different musical forms
basics about composition, how to write chords and identify keys
Music theory
Chord and use chord to accompany the main melody.
Basics of music theory and how to compose music.
Musical Harmony, Sound, Looking at music with an open mind
How music theory relates to composing music
Reading music, composing melodies and harmonies, different instrumentations
Learned a lot about the basics of music – rhythm, pitch and form – as well as more complex ideas and styles of music.
music theory, music theory, music theory

**Describe how aspects of this course (lectures, discussions, labs, assignments, etc.) contributed to your learning.**

Comments
Class was mainly lecture/discussion, surrounding recordings, sheet music, or general education on music theory. With some collaborative work/practice in class
My favorite part of the course were the composition assignments. They ended up being a lot of fun and reinforced what we discussed in lecture each week.
Professor's lecturing is very informing
They taught me the necessary theory
We were listening to all sorts of music, which makes me started to appreciate more types and listen to a broader genre of music.
Lectures were very helpful in learning the concepts for the course, and composition assignments really helped make sure we grasped the concepts learned that week.
The compositions were spaced comfortably enough to truly explore the process.
The music composition assignments and in class discussions were really important for learning the music theory necessary to compose music, and practicing applying it
In class lectures and discussions, weekly composition assignment, midterm and final project. Lectures were most helpful for learning material, office hours very helpful for composition feedback
I think all of the lectures were useful in helping to build and consolidate knowledge. Most of our assignments were composition assignments and I think these were really helpful to build on what we had learned but also allowed a lot of creative freedom. I also loved attending the concerts for this class – they introduced me to such new styles of music and they were a lot of fun!
While lectures covered the densest topics (the music theory sections of the course), they were the most critical aspect of the course. Later, the composition assignments were more useful in learning.

## Please respond to the following:

	Mean	Median	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree
This course challenged me intellectually.	4.33	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	8.33%	50.00%	41.67%
I understood the purpose of this course and what I was expected to gain from it.	4.67	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	33.33%	66.67%
I understood the standards for success on assignments.	4.58	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	41.67%	58.33%
Class time enhanced my ability to succeed in graded assignments.	4.50	4.50	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	50.00%	50.00%
I received feedback on my performance that helped me improve my subsequent work.	4.67	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	33.33%	66.67%
My work was evaluated fairly.	4.83	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	16.67%	83.33%
I felt respected in this class.	4.83	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	16.67%	83.33%
Overall, this was an excellent course.	4.75	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	25.00%	75.00%

## Additional comments about the course:

Comments
Pretty hard if you have no experience with music or reading sheet music
Fun course
Prof. Vu was wonderful! She really made sure to explain concepts as best as she could and was very kind if you didn't understand something.
This is probably my favorite non-major related class I've taken, definitely my favorite core requirement.
Prof Vu was very willing to help! Office hours was very useful
The course material that was by far the most useful and challenging – the music theory of the first 4–5 weeks – was also the material that seemed to be taught the fastest. It would have been much preferred if we had spent less time on the relatively much easier-to-grasp concepts of the latter half of the quarter (writing lyrics, programmatic vs. absolute music, electronic music/Reaper, etc.) and more time on the dense theory of the first half of the quarter.

## I would recommend this course to:

	No	Yes
Highly-motivated and well-prepared students	0.00%	100.00%
Anyone interested in the topic	0.00%	100.00%

## Thinking about your time in the class, what aspect of the instructor's teaching contributed most to your learning?

Comments
Her instruction, examples, and answering questions
Prof Vu is a working composer her critiques of our compositions were helpful and sophisticated. My favorite part of class time was listening to her critiques of my and my classmates compositions.
Professor Vu's lecturing is very helpful
The lessons
I like her use of examples. It is easier to understand when listen to the music/song examples.
Lectures were most helpful in understanding music theory concepts and Prof. Vu's dedication to answering questions was great!
Patience for the students and passion for the subject
Examples she showed in class and lecture–ttype content where she was writing on the white board.
Lectures and weekly composition
Professor Vu was very knowledgeable about so many aspects of music and was able to answer many questions asked at her. I found it really great to listen to examples throughout the classes to help us understand the different elements of music we were learning about in practice. It was great training for the ear. I also appreciated being told exactly what material would be covered in the quizzes in advance to help us prepare. Composition assignments were a great way to help us to apply the skills we were learning in both a fun and creative yet educational manner. She was extremely supportive and helpful outside of class as well!
Her well–made assignments and clear answers to questions were very helpful in learning the course's more challenging material.

## What could the instructor modify to help you learn more?

Comments
Maybe having more practice opportunities could be useful
I think it helped a lot when there were slides prepared for that lecture. The more listening in class, the better. Some of the theory could be pushed off to assigned YouTube videos and readings because we moved through them really quickly in class.
Maybe upload more paper material to help me understand more about how to write chords
Go a bit slower on some theory topics
N/A
Nothing
I think it would be really cool to see the professor write different types of music like pop, jazz, rock, and classical, and really walk through each type of composition step by step
Maybe just encourage more participation or active discussion – she often posed questions to the class but didn't really give us much time to reflect or share our thoughts, and they were interesting questions. Could be done through partner/small group discussions too.
See my feedback on the course itself – my biggest critique was on the time spent on different parts of the material.

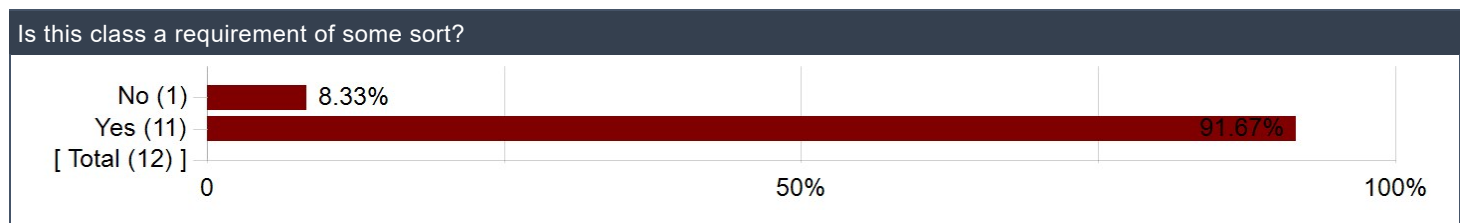
## The Instructor . . .

	Mean	Median	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree	N/A
Organized the course clearly.	4.58	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	41.67%	58.33%	0.00%
Presented lectures that enhanced your understanding.	4.58	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	41.67%	58.33%	0.00%
Facilitated discussions that were engaging and useful.	4.50	4.50	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	50.00%	50.00%	0.00%
Stimulated your interest in the core ideas of the course.	4.64	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	36.36%	63.64%	0.00%
Challenged you to learn.	4.67	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	33.33%	66.67%	0.00%
Helped you gain significant learning from the course content.	4.83	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	16.67%	83.33%	0.00%
Was available and helpful outside of class.	4.67	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	8.33%	16.67%	75.00%	0.00%
Motivated you to think independently.	4.67	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	33.33%	66.67%	0.00%
Worked to create an inclusive and welcoming learning environment.	4.83	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	16.67%	83.33%	0.00%
Overall, this instructor made a significant contribution to your learning.	4.67	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	33.33%	66.67%	0.00%

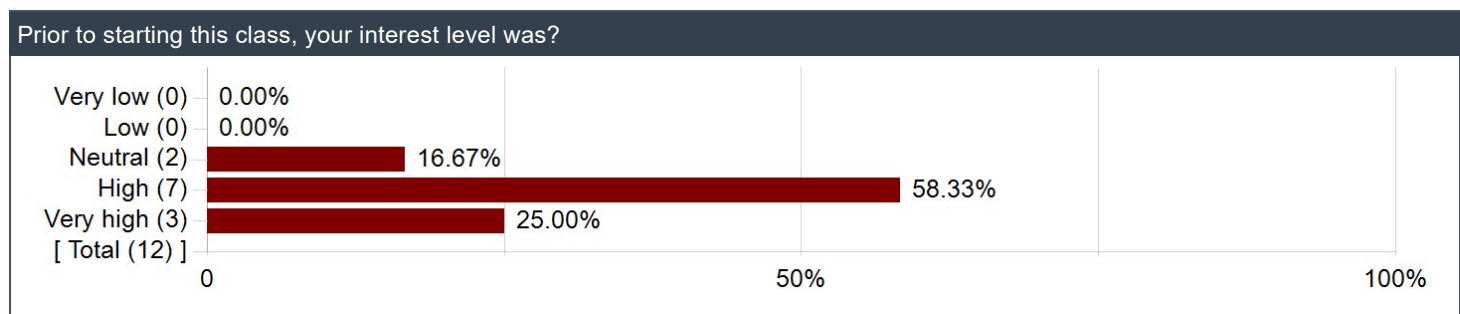
## How much did the following elements of the course contribute to your learning gains?

	Mean	Median	No Gain	A Little Gain	Moderate Gain	Good Gain	Great Gain	N/A
Laboratory Experience	NRP	NRP	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Field Trips	3.00	3.00	0.00%	0.00%	100.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
Library Sessions	NRP	NRP	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Review Sessions	NRP	NRP	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Writing Seminars	NRP	NRP	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

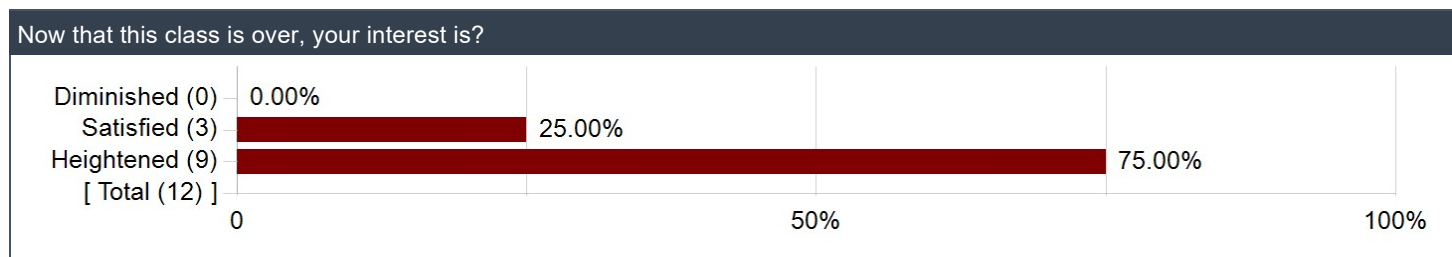
## Is this class a requirement of some sort?



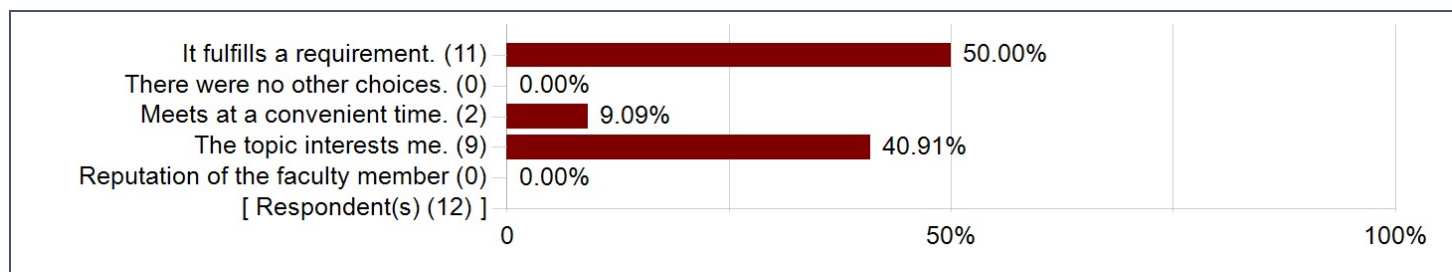
## Prior to starting this class, your interest level was?



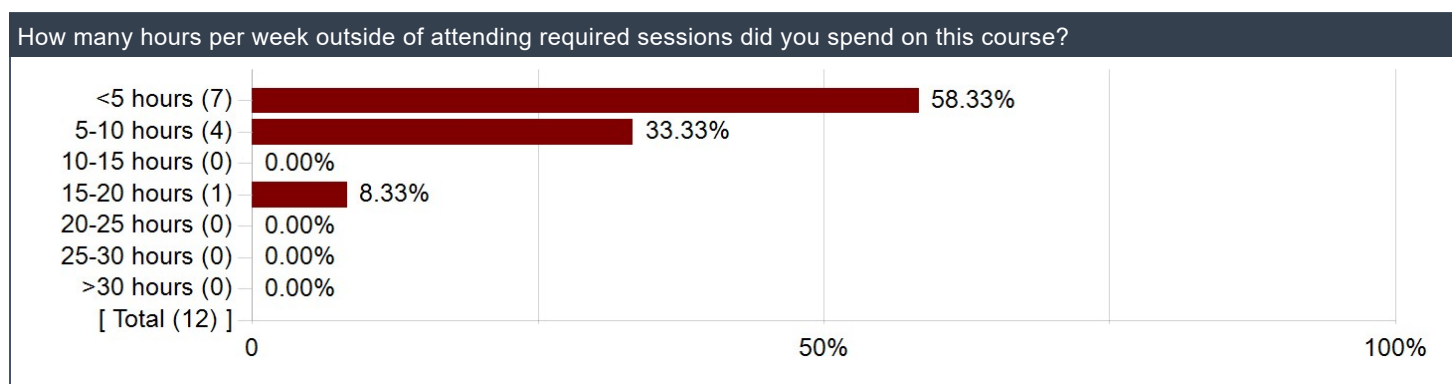
## Now that this class is over, your interest is?



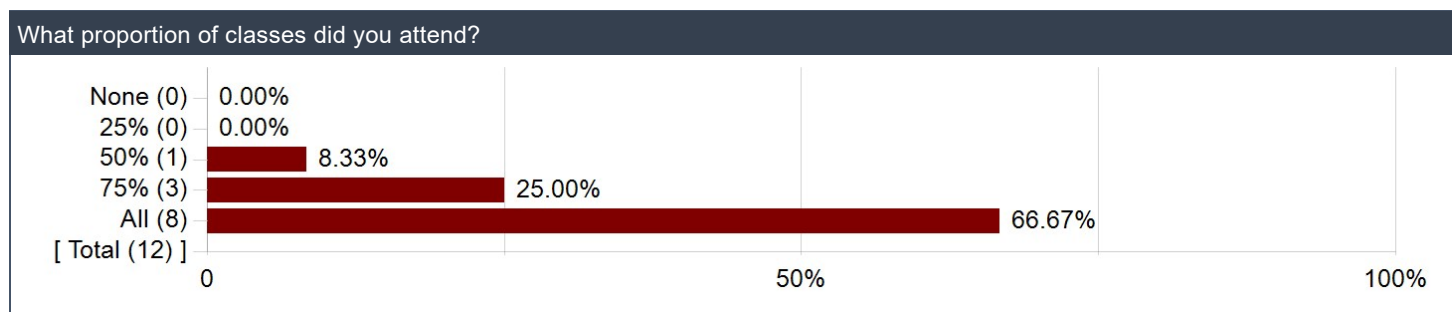
## Why did you choose to take this course? (Select all that apply)



## How many hours per week outside of attending required sessions did you spend on this course?



## What proportion of classes did you attend?



**Please comment on the level of difficulty of the course relative to your background and experience.**

Comments
Was alright since I play an instrument, but would be very difficult for someone with absolutely no experience reading music
It helped to play an instrument and have some experience working with a DAW but class would be fine even without that
A little bit difficult for one who has no previous experience with composition
Hard
You need to do the work, but those are creative work so it's quite fun to do them.
I have experience playing the violin and as part of an orchestra, but that was a long time ago, so I didn't really remember much before coming into this class. It was pretty easy to pick up most of it though.
Not difficult, but I was trained in high school
not too bad
I have experience in piano, and this class was not difficult
I think having some background in playing music was useful, (especially being able to read sheet music), but Professor Vu did explain everything very well for those who may not have any background.
As someone who has no experience with playing any instrument, and thus no experience reading/writing score notation or in any basic music theory, the first half of the class was substantial in difficulty. Spend adequate time doing memorization and study outside the (insufficient) time spent covering the theory in lecture, and you'll be okay.