

# Music Composition and Production 11/12

## Course Syllabus

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### **Course overview**

This course is an introduction to the skills and knowledge needed to compose and produce music. It is a technology based creative arts course, where you will learn how to use modern production software (Ableton Live) and hardware to develop and realize your creative vision.

While prior musical experience isn't required, it is certainly an asset. Music technology can make getting the ideas out of your head and into sound much easier, but it still requires you to be proficient in the language of music in order to get it to do what you want it to do. Parts of this course will be dedicated to developing our understanding of the language of music and music theory.

This course is designed to take advantage of the "power of the cohort". The small group of you in this class will be asked to work together and support each other as you grow and learn. Music works best as a social activity, and it is expected that you will help each other out and teach each other as we progress through the course.

Almost everything you need to know about music production is available to you online through YouTube and various other music blogs and websites. You will learn to use the internet as a tool to help you solve problems and seek answers to questions that come up as you work.

Sharing the music you create is also an important part of this course. Throughout the semester you will be sharing your music with your peers, the guitar class that runs concurrently with the music comp cohort, and the school at large. If you choose, you can also create an online profile on the platform of your choice and share your music with the world.

## Assessment

<b>Projects and assignments 50%</b>
The criteria for our projects will be co-constructed, meaning we will take time as a cohort to decide what success will look like and what standards you will hold yourselves to. Being able to set your own criteria for success is a very important skill for being a musician!

<b>Class work 20%</b>
This represents how well you are working each day. Are you supporting your cohort? Are you solving problems on your own? Are you sharing your work with others? Are you engaged and working hard for the whole 80 mins of each period?

<b>Final project 30%</b>
You will be designing your final project yourself. Don't worry about this for now!

## Course expectations

Students are expected to...

- ...attend class both physically *and* mentally each day, on time, and be ready to try their best at everything we do.
- ...show respect for what we do, each other, the equipment and materials we use, the space and land we occupy, and the teacher – whether it is Mr. Sykes, a student teacher, a substitute, or a guest.
- ...participate in all activities.
- ...check our MS Team regularly, keep track of class assignments, and submit work on time. I do not chase students down to submit work. You have all chosen to be here.