UPPER DIVISIONAL EXAMINATION – COMPOSITION

This examination is required of all undergraduate students pursuing a B.M. in Composition or a Composition Emphasis. The examination will take place at the beginning of finals week of the spring semester of the B.M. student’s sophomore year, or following the second year as a Composition Emphasis student. (Exceptions may be made for students who enter the composition programs midyear if transferring or changing majors.) This may occur no later than the junior year for the Composition Emphasis student. The members of the Music Composition faculty will grade the upper divisional.

Academic Expectations
A. Bachelor of Music:
1. The student must have passed Theory 1-4 (MT 101, 102, 201, 202), Aural Skills 1-4 (MT 111, 112, 211, 212), and Keyboard Skills 3-4 (AM 023, 024, or AM 031 and 032 for piano majors) with a grade of “C” or higher by the end of the their fourth semester, the end of the sophomore year. (The student will most likely be enrolled in MT 202 and MT 212 at the time of the exam.)
2. The student must have passed Introduction to Composition (MT 119), and three semesters of applied composition (AM 280) with a grade of “C” or higher.

B. Composition Emphasis
1. The student must have passed Theory 1-4 (MT 101, 102, 201, 202), Aural Skills 1-4 (MT 111, 112, 211, 212), and Keyboard Skills III - IV (AM 023, 024, or AM 031 and 032 for piano majors) with a grade of “C” or higher by the end of the their fourth semester as a Composition Emphasis student, but no later than the end of the student’s sophomore year. This allows for students to add the Composition Emphasis after a year of theory.
2. The student must have passed Introduction to Composition (MT 119) and the single semester of applied composition (AM 280) with a grade of “C” or higher.

Compositional Expectations
1. Submit a portfolio of 5-7 original compositions in various genres, none of which were composed for Intro to Composition (MT 119). Your selections should have been composed during your time of study with the Butler composition faculty in AM 280 and reflect your very best work. Each piece should be professionally engraved and bound, correct in all of its notational details.
2. Submit copies of programs on which 2-5 of your compositions were played or sung in a public concert or recital.

Compositional Community Expectations
Submit copies of programs in which you participated with the Jordan College of Arts Composers Orchestra or performed one of your colleague’s compositions on their solo or chamber ensemble recitals.

Evaluation
Students taking the Upper Divisional Examination in Music Composition will receive one of the following recommendations:
1. Pass - continuation in the music composition program.
2. Conditional Pass - student may continue in the music composition program while making up deficiencies as specified by the music composition faculty. A specific time interval will be given to the student for addressing and completing these deficiencies, and he or she will not be allowed to continue in the program if these conditions are not met in the time allowed. If given a Conditional Pass, a B.M. Composition student may be asked to change to the B.A. or B.M.A. degree in music with a Composition Emphasis.
3. Fail - the student will not be allowed to continue as a B.M. Composition major, or to continue with the Composition Emphasis.