



Board of Teacher Education
Music

Syllabus

Music Theory and Composition 2

Course Code:

MUGL50

Course Title:

Music Theory and Composition 2
Musikteori och komposition 2

Credits:

7.5

Degree Level:

Undergraduate level

Progressive

First cycle, has at least 60 credits in first-cycle

Specialisation:

course/s as entry requirements (G2F)

Major Field of Study:

Course Approval

The syllabus was approved by the Board of Teacher Education 2025-02-12, and is valid from the Autumn semester 2025 at Karlstad University.

Prerequisites

Music and Music Teaching 2, 15 ECTS credits, and Educational tools for teachers - Music teachers, 7.5 ECTS credits, plus registered for Music and Music Teaching 3, 15 ECTS credits, Teachers' pedagogical approach 1 - Music teachers, 7.5 ECTS credits, and Music Theory and Composition 1, 7.5 ECTS credits, or equivalent

Learning Outcomes

The aim of the course is for students to develop basic practical and artistic skills, knowledge, and educational perspectives on the teaching of music theory and composition.

Module 1: Instrument continuation, 1 ECTS cr.

Upon completion of this module, students should be able to:

1. accompany melodies by ear on the piano with at least 3 harmonic functions, and
2. practically apply all possible functions within a key, including alternative bass tones, on the piano.

Module 2: Music education, 1 ECTS cr.

Upon completion of this module, students should be able to:

1. give an account of basic methodological aspects of teaching music theory and composition at the upper secondary level, and
2. conduct and reflect from an educational perspective on their own teaching in music theory or composition through guided lessons or parts of lessons.

Module 3: Music knowledge, 5.5 ECTS cr.

Upon completion of this module, students should be able to:

1. notate and reproduce, with instrument and voice, tonal, modal, and free-tonal melodies, extended harmony, and advanced rhythms,
2. describe and recreate advanced harmonic functions in major and minor tonal music,
3. compose a modal piece of music,
4. write arrangements for different instruments and combinations of instruments,
5. give an account of key features of Western music history from the Middle Ages to the emergence of modernism,
6. write and analyse their own short compositions in a personal style, and
7. identify and describe various types of musical form

Content

The course comprises three modules.

Module

This module includes basic training in ear-based accompaniment and study of the colourings of harmonic functions.

Module 2

This module covers methodology for teaching music theory and composition at upper secondary school level and practice teaching.

Module 3

This module includes exercises in level-based groups focused on notating and reproducing rhythms, melodies, and chords, assignments in composing and arranging music under different conditions, composing pieces in a personal style, and studies in musical form. The module also covers music history viewed from multiple perspectives.

Reading List

See separate document.

Examination

Module 1

Learning outcomes 1-2 are assessed based on practical individual presentations.

Module 2

Learning outcomes 1-2 are assessed based on individual and group oral presentations and individual written hand-in assignments.

Learning outcome 2 is also assessed based on individual practical assignments and practice teaching.

Module 3

Learning outcome 1 is assessed based on individual oral and written presentations and playing an instrument.

Learning outcomes 2-7 are assessed based on individual written hand-in assignments.

Submissions for assessment must clearly indicate individual contributions. The number of assessment opportunities is limited to five.

If students have a decision from Karlstad University entitling them to Targeted Study Support due to a documented disability, the examiner has the right to give such students an adapted examination or to examine them in a different manner.

Grades

One of the grades Pass (G) or Fail (U) is awarded in the examination of the course (RB 129/22 Dnr C2022/895).

Quality Assurance

Follow-up relating to learning conditions and goal-fulfilment takes place both during and upon completion of the course in order to ensure continuous improvement. Course evaluation is partly based on student views and experiences obtained in accordance with current regulations and partly on other data and documentation. Students will be informed of the result of the evaluation and of any measures to be taken.

Course Certificate

A course certificate will be provided upon request.

Additional information

The local regulations for studies at the Bachelor and Master levels at Karlstad University stipulate the obligations and rights of students and staff.

Music Teacher Programme course