**MUS 3201 Fugue and African Song Cycle Project**

*Description:*

The course offers students with advanced African and Western music composition skills in fugue and African song cycle writing. It examines the theoretical background of the development of fugues in the style of J S Bach. Besides offering skills in writing a fugue, its analysis is also part of the training. Students write and are supervised in writing at least two developments of a fugue (one in a major key and another in a minor key) in the style of J S Bach. In addition, the course examines the scoring music for both chamber and full orchestra. Students do exercises of scoring for both chamber and full orchestra; and have the exercises tried out by the orchestra for aural recognition and appreciation. Further, the course is directed to assisting students writing African song cycles according to the ideas, and themes developed by each student during the first semester.

*Objectives:*

1. To offer skills for writing a Development and conclusion of at least a three-voice fugue in both the major and minor modes, in the style of J S Bach.
2. To offer skills for writing for both chamber and full western orchestra
3. To offer skills for writing a song cycle using traditional African instruments as the accompaniment
4. To offer supervision for the fugue and song cycle composition project

*Course Outline*

Topic 1: Analysis of the Middle Section of a Fugue:

* Melodic Inversion
* Slight Changes of Melodic Intervals, Repetition, Sequence
* Canonic Imitation
* Stretto Imitation
* Double Counterpoint, Augmentation
* Diminution in Major Keys

Topic 2: Analysis and Writing of a Full Fugue: Climax and Ending

Topic 3: Scoring Chords for Chamber Orchestra

Topic 4: Scoring Polyphonic Music for a Chamber Orchestra

Topic 5: Scoring Polyphonic Music for a Full Orchestra

Topic 6: Presentation of at Least Two Original Fugues: In Major and Minor

African/Ethnic

Topic 7: Guidance in writing a full African Song Cycle

Topic 8: Presentation of an original African Song Cycle

*Learning Outcomes*

1. Ability to analyze and write a fugue of at least a 3-voice fugue in both major and minor keys in a style of J S Bach
2. Competence to orchestrate and write music for both chamber and full orchestras
3. Ability to write an original and original ethnic song cycle
4. Submission of a well-composed fugue and song cycle composition project

*Methods of Teaching/Delivery*

Lectures, tutorials, demonstrations, singing, group and individual assignments, Individual meetings with the course instructor

*Modes of Assessment*

Course Work:

* Attendance and Participation in class Discussions: 5%
* Weekly Assignments: 20%
* Mid-semester test: 15%

Final Examination

Fugue composition: 15%

Song cycle: 15%

Written: 30%

*Selected Readings*

Benjamin, Thomas. 1986. *Counterpoint in the Style of J.S. Bach*. New York: Schirmer Books.

# Dawes, Neville and Kwame Dawes. 2010. *Fugue and Other Writings.* New York: Peepal Tree Press.

# Groocock, Dorene. 2003. *Fugal Composition: A Guide to the Study of Bach's '48' (Contributions to the Study of Music and Dance)*. Westpost, CA: Greenwood Press.

# Kerman, Joseph. 2007. *The Art of Fugue: Bach Fugues for Keyboard, 1715-1750.* Berkley: California University Press.

# Ledbetter, David. 2002. *Bach's Well-Tempered Clavier: The 48 Preludes and Fugues.* New Haven and London: Yale University Press.