



Accredited Africa Training Institute for Capacity Development

Unit FO409, Hatfield Plaza · 1122 Burnett St, Hatfield 0028 · Pretoria, Gauteng · South Africa

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COURSE BROCHURE

Music Composition and Arrangement Certificate

Culture and Arts / Music

Unit Standard 261288 · NQF Level 5 · 13 Credits · 10 Days

COURSE OVERVIEW

This course equips learners with the skills to compose and arrange music for various contexts, including commercial, educational, and performance settings. It covers the creative and technical processes of generating original musical ideas and structuring them into cohesive arrangements. Learners will develop the ability to manipulate musical elements such as melody, harmony, rhythm, and texture to achieve expressive and stylistic goals.

Category	Culture and Arts
Subfield	Music
Unit Standard	261288
Accreditation	SAQA Accredited · NQF Level 5 · 13 Credits
Duration	10 days
Training Method	Online, On-Campus, In-House
Certificate	Issued via AATICD LMS – verifiable online

LEARNING OUTCOMES

- Apply fundamental principles of music theory, including harmony, melody, and rhythm, to compose original works.
- Analyze existing musical compositions to identify structural, stylistic, and expressive elements.
- Design arrangements that adapt musical material for different ensembles, genres, or performance contexts.
- Implement compositional techniques such as motif development, modulation, and orchestration.
- Evaluate own compositions and arrangements against criteria of coherence, originality, and suitability for purpose.
- Demonstrate the ability to notate music clearly using standard notation and/or digital tools.

WHO SHOULD ATTEND

- This course is ideal for aspiring composers, arrangers, music educators, and performers who wish to formalize their skills in music creation and arrangement.
- It is also suitable for individuals working in media, entertainment, or community arts who need to produce original music.

COURSE OUTLINE

Day 1: Introduction to Music Composition and Arrangement

- Overview of music composition and arrangement
- Elements of music: melody, harmony, rhythm, texture
- Musical genres and styles
- Introduction to digital audio workstations (DAWs)
- Basic DAW navigation and setup
- Project management for composers

Day 2: Melody Writing and Development

- Scales and modes for melody
- Interval relationships and contour
- Motif creation and development
- Phrasing and punctuation
- Rhythmic variation techniques
- Melody notation and transcription

Day 3: Harmony and Chord Progressions

- Chord construction: triads, sevenths, extensions
- Diatonic harmony and chord functions
- Common chord progressions (I-IV-V, ii-V-I, etc.)
- Harmonic rhythm and pacing
- Cadences: authentic, plagal, half, deceptive
- Modulation basics

Day 4: Rhythm and Meter

- Time signatures: simple, compound, irregular
- Note values and rests
- Rhythmic patterns and ostinatos
- Syncopation and off-beat accents
- Polyrhythms and cross-rhythms
- Rhythmic notation in DAWs

Day 5: Musical Form and Structure

- Binary, ternary, and rondo forms
- Sonata-allegro form
- Verse-chorus structure in popular music
- Through-composed and strophic forms
- Transitions and bridges
- Repetition and contrast techniques

Day 6: Instrumentation and Orchestration

- Instrument families: strings, woodwinds, brass, percussion
- Range and transposition
- Timbre and blend
- Orchestration techniques: doubling, divisi, etc.
- Writing for small ensembles (duo to chamber)

- Introduction to large ensemble writing

Day 7: Arrangement Techniques and Voice Leading

- Voice leading rules and best practices
- Part writing for SATB and other groups
- Countermelody and secondary lines
- Dynamic markings and articulation
- Texture: monophonic, homophonic, polyphonic
- Arranging for different instrument combinations

Day 8: Creative Composition Projects

- Composition project brief and planning
- DAW recording and MIDI editing
- Genre-specific composition techniques
- Self-assessment and revision strategies
- Peer feedback session
- Project completion and export

Day 9: Advanced Topics in Composition and Arrangement

- Extended instrumental techniques
- Electronic music and synthesis basics
- Sound design for composition
- Algorithmic composition and AI tools
- Film scoring and media composition
- Portfolio preparation

Day 10: Final Project and Course Review

- Final project presentation
- Peer and instructor feedback
- Revision and polishing
- Course review and Q&A;
- Career pathways in composition
- Resources for continued learning

ASSESSMENT & CERTIFICATION

Delegates are assessed through exercises and a final test. A mark of **50% or above** earns an **AATICD Certificate of Completion**, issued digitally with a unique verification code. This course carries **13 NQF credits** at **NQF Level 5**.

PRICING (PER DELEGATE, EX-VAT)

Delegates	Training Method	Price per Delegate	Total
1	Online	R 37,600.00	R 37,600.00
1	In-House	R 48,800.00	R 48,800.00
1	On-Campus (Pretoria)	R 56,400.00	R 56,400.00

UPCOMING SESSIONS

No sessions are currently scheduled. Please contact us to arrange a session at a time and location that suits your team.

HOW TO GET A QUOTE OR APPLY

1. **Get an instant quotation online:** visit www.aaticd.co.za, open the page for this course (Unit Standard 261288) and click **Get A Quote / Apply**. Select your training method and number of delegates – your quotation is generated immediately and emailed to you with the course brochure attached.
2. **Apply by email:** send the course title, your preferred training method (Online, In-House or On-Campus Pretoria), the number of delegates and your preferred dates to apply@aaticd.co.za – our team will reply with a formal quotation.
3. **Apply by phone or WhatsApp:** call **+27 12 004 8389** or WhatsApp **+27 65 077 6310** and we will prepare your quotation and reserve your seats.
4. **Confirm your booking:** accept the quotation and settle the invoice. As soon as payment is confirmed your delegates are enrolled and receive their AATICD LMS login details by email, along with joining instructions for their chosen training method.

Group discounts apply automatically – the more delegates you enrol, the lower the price per delegate. No payment is required to request a quotation.

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