



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 Skills

Culture and Arts / Music

Unit Standard 261318 · NQF Level 4 · 10 Credits · 7 Days

COURSE OVERVIEW

This course equips learners with the skills to compose and arrange music for various contexts, including live performance and recorded media. Participants will develop creative and technical abilities to produce original musical works and adapt existing pieces for different ensembles or genres. The course emphasizes practical application and theoretical understanding to foster well-rounded musical proficiency.

Category	Culture and Arts
Subfield	Music
Unit Standard	261318
Accreditation	SAQA Accredited · NQF Level 4 · 10 Credits
Duration	7 days
Training Method	Online, On-Campus, In-House
Certificate	Issued via AATICD LMS – verifiable online

LEARNING OUTCOMES

- Apply principles of melody, harmony, and rhythm to compose original music.
- Arrange existing musical pieces for different instrumental or vocal combinations.
- Analyze musical structures and styles to inform compositional decisions.
- Evaluate the effectiveness of compositional techniques in achieving intended emotional or aesthetic effects.
- Design musical scores using appropriate notation software or manual methods.
- Demonstrate proficiency in using music theory concepts to solve compositional challenges.

WHO SHOULD ATTEND

- This course is ideal for aspiring composers, arrangers, songwriters, music educators, and performers seeking to enhance their creative and technical skills in music composition and arrangement.

COURSE OUTLINE

Day 1: Fundamentals of Music Theory

- Introduction to music notation
- Scales: major and natural minor
- Intervals: perfect, major, minor, augmented, diminished
- Rhythm: note values, rests, time signatures
- Dynamics and articulation markings

Day 2: Harmony and Chord Progressions

- Triads: major, minor, diminished, augmented
- Seventh chords: major, minor, dominant, half-diminished
- Diatonic chords in major and minor keys
- Chord functions: tonic, dominant, subdominant
- Voice leading rules and common progressions

Day 3: Melodic Development and Motif Manipulation

- Motif definition and development
- Sequence, inversion, retrograde, augmentation, diminution
- Phrasing: antecedent and consequent
- Melodic contour and shape
- Non-chord tones: passing, neighbour, appoggiatura

Day 4: Instrumentation and Orchestration Basics

- Instrument families: strings, woodwinds, brass, percussion, keyboards
- Instrument ranges and transposition
- Timbral blending and contrast
- Writing for string quartet and small ensemble
- Percussion notation and common instruments

Day 5: Arrangement Techniques for Ensembles

- Song structure and form
- Textural layers: melody, harmony, rhythm, bass
- Introduction to counterpoint: first species
- Voicing chords for multiple instruments
- Arranging for rhythm section (piano, guitar, bass, drums)

Day 6: Advanced Harmonic Concepts and Modulation

- Secondary dominants and leading-tone chords
- Borrowed chords from parallel minor/major
- Modulation: pivot chord, direct, chromatic
- Modal interchange: dorian, mixolydian, etc.
- Chromatic harmony: augmented sixth chords, Neapolitan

Day 7: Composition Project and Peer Review

- Project brief: compose a 2-3 minute piece for small ensemble
- Drafting and revising the score
- Peer review session: giving and receiving feedback
- Final presentation and discussion

- Career pathways in music composition and arrangement

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 **10 NQF credits** at **NQF Level 4**.

PRICING (PER DELEGATE, EX-VAT)

Delegates	Training Method	Price per Delegate	Total
1	Online	R 28,200.00	R 28,200.00
1	In-House	R 36,700.00	R 36,700.00
1	On-Campus (Pretoria)	R 42,300.00	R 42,300.00

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 261318) 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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