



UNIVERSITY OF CENTRAL FLORIDA

## Composition Audition Requirements

School of Performing Arts  
College of Arts and Humanities

### Audition Requirements for All Prospective Composition Students

The audition process for prospective composition students consists of three parts.

1. **Portfolio** (Due no later than **January 15** each year)
  - a. Three (3) completed compositions for different instrumentations or media, chosen to demonstrate the depth and breadth of their ability.
  - b. Audio recordings for the submitted works (live recordings are preferred, but electronic realizations are acceptable).

Composition portfolios are submitted using [AcceptD](#). All candidates (graduate and undergraduate) *must* complete their UCF applications *before* submitting their portfolios. Your PID# (assigned to you during the application process) is required to submit your portfolio.

Scores should be neatly and legibly notated or engraved, and clearly labeled with your name and the year of composition. If one or more of your portfolio compositions does not have a written score (for example, electronic compositions or improvisations), submit a one-page written document describing the piece in place of a score.

2. **Theory Exam** (Must be completed no later than **January 31** each year)

In late January, applicants will receive a link to an online theory exam. The exam is timed, and takes approximately 30 minutes to complete. The purpose of the exam is to assess applicants' existing theory knowledge. Doing poorly on the theory exam does not disqualify applicants from entering the composition studio - applicants' scores are used to determine the curriculum the applicant follows once admitted.

The theory exam addresses the following fundamental topics in music theory.

- Interval identification
- Scale identification (major, minor)
- Key signature identification (major, minor)
- Diatonic modes (ionian, dorian, phrygian, lydian, mixolydian, aeolian, locrian)
- Triad identification (major, minor, augmented, diminished)
- Basic rhythm and meter groupings
- Basic orchestration (instrumental ranges and capabilities)
- Tempo and technique indications

The theory exam can only be taken once. If you experience a problem while taking the exam, please email [alexander.burtzos@ucf.edu](mailto:alexander.burtzos@ucf.edu) with the subject line [YOUR LAST NAME]\_THEORY\_EXAM. Applicants will *not* see their score after completing the exam, but *will* receive confirmation that their results have been successfully recorded.

3. **Interview** (Takes place during **February** each year)

Some applicants will be contacted via email in late January or early February for an interview with UCF composition faculty. This interview may take place in person during one of UCF's February audition dates, or remotely via Skype or telephone. The interview is approximately 20 minutes in duration. Its primary purpose is to give the applicant an opportunity to talk more about their artistic and professional goals, and to ask questions of the faculty as needed. Scholarship decisions will also be based partially on the interview. Parents/guardians of undergraduate applicants may participate in the interview if they wish.

Admissions and scholarship decisions will be made no later than **March 15** of each year. Admitted students have until May 1 to enroll, after which studio spots may be offered to candidates on the wait list.