Mission Statement

The Graduate Professional Diploma in Composition is designed to give a composer (either with bachelor’s degree in music or equivalent) training that will qualify him or her to enter the field with confidence and expertise. It is structured to give a composer the same level of professional and technical acumen as the MM in Composition degree, but without the requirement of academic courses outside the concentration (though these may be taken as electives). It accomplishes this through composition lessons, music technology courses, and the creation and performance of a portfolio. The program also serves as a means for talented students who may not achieved a level of technical polish or academic experience necessary for a MM, to build their skills to a point where they may transfer to that performance degree.

Student Learning Goals

1. Students will be able to compose works in a variety of media and genres, including a work of substantial scope.

2. Students will be able to use music technology for a variety of purposes, including the notation of scores, creation of original electronic and multi-media works, and pedagogy.

3. Students will be able to employ practical music skills to effect the successful performance of their compositions, through coaching, conducting, or performance.