

## **MC110 Intro to Comp.**

### **Assignment 9 – Composition as Discipline**

This is an unusual assignment. There is no lecture attached to it, which is why it is being offered to you during this time where our class takes a brief break from our normal structure.

Here is what I have to say before I give you the actual assignment:

There is something to be learned in the “doing” of composition. By this, I mean that the very act of writing can be useful as a learning tool. Many composers keep a practice of writing every day. In many ways it functions for a composer just like practicing scales does for an instrumentalist. It is a study that may not yield any results in that exact moment, but over time it tends to pay off. Think of it like you might any other discipline...yoga, meditation, working out, practicing, cooking, keeping a journal, etc.

Your assignment then, is to write for 10 minutes a day for a week straight. Don't worry about what you are writing, if it's any good, if you like it, etc. To quote Nike, “Just Do It.” This is about the experience of writing. Don't even bother to think about what you've written until after you've completed the week.

Evaluation for this assignment is going to more or less be on the honor system. All I want from you in terms of “what you should turn in” is for you to write me an email (after finishing your week) in which you briefly discuss how you felt about the experience. Did you learn anything? Did you hate it? Did it make you write music differently? Etc.