

# Theory VI (Orchestration and Finale)

MUST 3218 (21756)

Syllabus

Instructor: Dr. Brian Jarvis (bejarvis@utep.edu)  
The University of Texas at El Paso – Spring 2016

## Course description

Theory VI is a course designed to develop the ability to work with Music Notation Software (*Finale*) to arrange and produce professional-looking music for various groups of instruments including strings, brass, woodwinds, percussion, and various groups of voices. Students will learn how to format scores and parts for various ensembles.

## Course Goal

To provide the student with the theoretical knowledge and skills needed for success in a career in music education, performance, or composition.

## Course Objectives

Upon successful completion of the course, the student will be able to:

- Use music notation for the creation and playback of arrangements of short compositions
- Produce professional-looking printed musical scores and parts suitable for publication
- Arrange short compositions for a variety of small ensembles, as well as for a large ensemble
- Arrange music for all orchestral instruments in a way that will maximize their potential while demonstrating an understanding of their limitations

## Useful information

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<b>Course website</b>	The course website (Blackboard) has course documents, homework, handouts, and skills quizzes.
<b>Office hours:</b>	Fox Fine Arts Center 431 11:30 – 12:30 PM on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday and by appointment.

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## Required textbooks and software

- Kent Kennan and Donald Grantham, *The Technique of Orchestration*, 6<sup>th</sup> edition (Required)
  - You must purchase the textbook.
  - Only the 6<sup>th</sup> edition will work for this course, previous editions will not work.
  - The workbook is not required
  - The recordings are optional
- *Finale* 2012 or 2014 is recommended but not required
  - The computers in the music library have *Finale* 2012 installed on them and are there for you to use.

## Required materials for every class

- Textbook

## Grading

- Your overall grade for the semester will be calculated as outlined below.
 

○ Assignments (8)	40%
○ Online Quizzes	10%
○ Exam 1	10%
○ Exam 2	10%
○ Exam 3	15%
○ Final project	15%
- Letter grades will be assigned as follows:

A	90-100	B	80-89	C	70-79	D	60-69	F	Below 60
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- Grade updates will be provided a few times throughout the semester. Please feel free to inquire about your current average at any time.

## Homework assignments

Notation assignments need to be submitted in two ways:

- (1) A copy of the *Finale* file (MUS or MUSX format) needs to be emailed to the instructor ([bejarvis@utep.edu](mailto:bejarvis@utep.edu)) or submitted via the Blackboard website if requested.
- (2) A printed version of the finale file needs to be handed in at the start of class.

## Proficiency Quizzes

Throughout the semester, there will be a few online quizzes on the course website (Blackboard) that will help you to gain proficiency with various concepts (e.g., instrument ranges, transpositions, ect.). These are a required part of the course.

## No late homework

Late homework is **NOT** accepted. Unless you have made prior arrangements with the instructor, any missed homework, quizzes, and exams will receive a grade of a zero. Exceptions can be made in the case of a genuine emergency or significant illness if written documentation (e.g., a note from a health care provider, an accident report, etc.) is shown to the instructor within one week of the due date. See the instructor if you are unsure about whether your absence will be counted as excused or unexcused.

## Attendance policy

- Plan to attend every class and to show up on time.
- Two unexcused absences are allowed.
  - Each subsequent unexcused absence will result in a **3% DEDUCTION FROM THE FINAL GRADE.**

Excused absences include documented illness, deaths in the family and other documented crises, call to active military duty or jury duty, religious holy days, and official University activities. These absences will be accommodated in a way that does not arbitrarily penalize students who have a valid excuse. Consideration will also be given to students whose dependent children experience serious illness. This does not mean that any note from a medical professional will excuse students from absences. Notes from medical providers should state that the student was unable, in their professional opinion, to be in class on the day or days in question. Voluntary appointments like teeth cleanings or physicals will not be excused. In accordance with the university policy the authority for deciding whether the student is excused for medical reasons rests with the instructor. Please feel free to check with the instructor if you are unsure whether or not an excuse counts as excused.

## Tardy policy

Arriving after the scheduled start of class is a tardy. The first three tardies do not affect your grade but starting with the fourth instances and all instances after that, **1% WILL BE DEDUCTED FROM THE STUDENT'S FINAL GRADE** for each instance.

If you are late (tardy or not tardy) tell the instructor **AFTER** class so that you can be counted as present. The instructor takes attendance at the very beginning of class and will not be updating attendance with late arrivals. This is done to ensure that class time is maximized for course content.

## Cell phones or other electronic devices

There is no need for students to use electronic devices during class. Audio recording, video recording, and photography are not allowed without prior authorization from the instructor. Before the scheduled start of class, students are expected to silence their electronic devices and put away all cell phones, laptops, tablets, or other electronic devices inside a closed bag or purse where they are

not audible or visible to you or anyone else. Smartwatches (e.g., Apple Watch) can be worn but not used other than to look at the time. Any student whose technology item is visible or used during class will be marked as unprepared for class. See the section on being prepared for class to learn how this impacts your grade.

**Exception:** Laptop's may be used during class for the purposes of working with or discussing *Finale* notations software only.

The instructor will not inform students if they violate the electronic device policy during class, and will instead discretely mark offending students as unprepared for class without disrupting class. This syllabus serves as the official warning for such violations. This is done to ensure that class time is maximized for course content.

### Exam and Final Project Dates

Exam 1	February 18 <sup>th</sup>
Exam 2	March 31 <sup>st</sup>
Exam 3	Thursday, May 5 <sup>th</sup> (in class)
Final Project	Due on my office door before the scheduled final exam time

Be sure to mark these dates on your calendar and let the instructor know about conflicts within the first week of class.

### Academic Integrity and Scholastic Dishonesty

Information about The University of Texas at El Paso's definitions and expectations regarding academic integrity and scholastic dishonesty can be found at <http://sa.utep.edu/osccr/academic-integrity/>. In this course, all homework, quizzes, exams, and projects are to be completed on your own. Actual or attempted cheating, plagiarism, and collusion will not be tolerated. Suspected violations will go directly to the Office of Student Conduct and Conflict Resolution for consideration.

### Accommodations and Support Services:

Students with disabilities needing academic accommodation should: (1) register with and provide documentation to the Center for Accommodations and Support Services and (2) bring a letter to the instructor indicating the need for accommodation and what type. This should be done during the first week of class. For more information about services available to UTEP students with disabilities, see the following website <http://sa.utep.edu/cass/studentsresources/>.

### Syllabus Change Policy

The information on this syllabus is subject to change. Any changes will be announced in class and/or via email.