

Commercial Arranging, Analysis and Composition III MUST 3263

Instructor: Dr. Chris Reyman

Office: FFA 133

Contact: 747-7805, cereyman@utep.edu

Class Time: Tuesdays and Thursdays 8:00am-8:50am and remote

Location: Prospect Hall Room 308

***Due to COVID-19, this class will be delivered in a hybrid format, with options for meetings on campus during class time, synchronous classes remotely during class time, and asynchronous materials completed remotely. If classes are not already remote, the remainder of the semester after Thanksgiving break will be remote. I have designed the course to function fully online, if necessary.

Office Hours:

Due to social distancing regulations, all office hours will be held remotely via ZOOM conference calling app (available for free) on Tuesdays and Wednesdays 10:30-11:30AM. You can also email me to set up another time to talk via phone or video call.

Required Materials:

- staff paper
- ability to listen to music while at a piano/keyboard
- access to music notation software (free versions available)
- USB drive or external hard drive to back-up projects

Attendance Policy

Due to COVID-19, there will not be any grade given for attendance. I will work with each of you if you miss face-to-face classes due to illness. **DO NOT COME TO CLASS IF YOU ARE SICK.**

Course Description

The application of commercial theory, styles, notation, arranging and composition through listening, transcribing, analysis and arranging/composition projects.

Course Goals

- project-based learning
- Develop musical skills through listening, transcribing and analysis
- Develop an understanding of music theory and practice in an historical and cultural context
- Develop creative musical skills within a collaborative environment
- Apply practices of tonal harmony to commercial and jazz harmony, melody and form

- Develop arranging-composing-production skills (ranges, timbre, transpositions, clefs, conventions and peculiarities) of the following instruments: saxophone, trumpet, trombone, piano, guitar, bass and drums
- Gain familiarity with conventional notation methods: chord symbols, Nashville Numbers, manuscript, etc.
- Gain familiarity of notation software
- Gain familiarity of sequencing and composing music for media using DAW

Course Overview

- vertical sonorities and voice leading
- Notation software
- Mode mixture
- Sequencing software
- Composing music for media
- Individual composition/arranging assignments

PROJECTS

****All assignments will be due on Tuesdays, unless otherwise indicated. All these dates are in the syllabus, but are subject to change throughout the semester.**

All notation assignments, both handwritten and electronic notation, must be turned in as PDF files. A couple good free online music notation programs are *MuseScore* and *Noteflight*.

All audio files must be turned in as mp3 files. You can export audio from music notation software and/or a DAW (digital audio workstation).

Discussion Board:

Each comment is worth 1 point extra credit. You can post a comment or reply to my prompt or another classmate. We may end up with different threads for different topics, which can include things related to assignments and projects, other questions that I will ask or anything else that you would like to be able to discuss with each other and me throughout the semester.

Week 1

Create something new (10pts), **Due Aug. 31 (11:59PM)**

- 30 seconds (approximately) of music created on/for your instrument with you as primary performer
- Must be notated (chord sheet, lyrics, score), but may contain improvised elements
- Present as media project in some form (video to post online)

Week 2

Melody/harmony composition (10pts), **due Sept. 7 (11:59PM)**

Compose 5 16-measure melodies and chord symbols with a clear formal structure using a wide variety of harmonic content with a tonal center, though not simply diatonic. Notate in lead sheet format. Select your favorite melody and send only that melody to me to grade and share with the class.

Week 3-7: Project 1

Arrange a 1.5 minute piece for string quartet (2 violins, viola, cello) using the melody you composed last week.

- Compose more material for the melody you composed (repeat melody, but change the melody slightly, or reharmonize) and compose material for the introduction, interlude and ending.
- Sketch/draft of arrangement (5pts), **DUE Sept. 14 (11:59PM)**
- Draft of score in electronic notation program (5pts), **DUE Sept. 21 (11:59PM)**
- Final score, separated parts and audio file (15pts) **DUE Oct. 5 (11:59PM)**

Resources:

<https://wiki.youngcomposers.com/Orchestration: Introduction to Strings>

In particular note the TUNING and GENERAL RANGES of the *violin*, *viola* and *cello* (also called violoncello) and NOTATION OF THE STRING SECTION

<https://wiki.youngcomposers.com/Orchestration: Techniques of Strings - Part I>

In particular BOWING, PHRASE MARKINGS and ARTICULATIONS (legato, staccato, tremolo and pizzicato)

~We Are Water~ found sound composition project (15pts) **due Oct. 30 (11:59PM)**

Week 9-15 Final Projects (40pts), **DUE Dec. 10 (11:59PM)**

Compose Yourself: project featuring yourself (composition/arrangement)

Possible instrumentation:

vocal ensemble, choir
brass quintet
sax quintet
guitar ensemble
mixed ensemble, Commercial Music Ensemble
any ensemble you perform in

* HINT * use your instrument and what you're familiar with

- Concept, Due Oct. 26 (**11:59PM**)
- Sketch of preliminary ideas (any combination of written notation, video or audio), Due Nov. 9 (**11:59PM**)
- Draft of project Due Nov. 23 (**11:59PM**)
- Final project Due Dec. 11 (**11:59PM**)

Here is the rubric for each project:

NOTATION

rehearsal letters/double bars:

format:
neat/readable:

THEORETICAL KNOWLEDGE

harmony:
melody:
rhythm:

ORCHESTRATION

transposition:
ranges:
writing for each instrument:

AESTHETIC

interest:
quality:
musicality:

RECORDING

sound quality:
performance:
format:

Grade Breakdown

Semester Assignments and Projects	60%
Final Project Due Dec. 5	40%

Statement for Accommodations and Support

If you have a disability and need classroom accommodations, please contact *The Center for Accommodations and Support Services (CASS)* at 747-5148, or by email to cass@utep.edu, or visit their office located in UTEP Union East, Room 106. For additional information, please visit the CASS website at www.sa.utep.edu/CASS.

UTEP Policies regarding COVID-19

The UTEP [Temporary Health and Safety Policy](#) requires all faculty, staff, and students to follow these guidelines:

- **Stay at home** if you (1) have been diagnosed with COVID-19, (2) are experiencing COVID-19 symptoms, or (3) have had recent contact with a person who has received a positive coronavirus test.

- **Report** (screening.utep.edu) if you (1) have been diagnosed with COVID-19, (2) are experiencing COVID-19 symptoms, or (3) have had recent contact with a person who has received a positive coronavirus test.
- **Complete screening questions** (screening.utep.edu) every day before coming to campus and follow instructions provided.
- While on campus:
 - **wear face coverings** when in common areas or when others are present;
 - maintain a minimum **separation of six (6)** feet between yourself and others when possible, and arrange spaces to make this possible in almost all circumstances;
 - **adhere to room/space limitations** on number of occupants; and
 - **wash and/or sanitize hands** frequently.

Faculty Responsibilities (a select list for your information)

- Complete self-screening (screening.utep.edu) prior to every campus visit.
- Inform students that they are required to complete self-screening (screening.utep.edu) prior to every campus visit. You should provide this information even if your course is entirely online because students may come to campus for other reasons (e.g., library, computer or internet access).
- Have a backup plan for instruction in the event that you become ill or must self-isolate.
- Verify that you have the ability to provide accommodations to students who might miss class, assignments, or exams because of COVID-19. When possible, discuss accommodations in syllabi.
- Include a COVID-19 statement(s) for classroom/lab/studio preventive policies in the syllabus and/or other official course documents (see below).

Student responsibilities

- Complete self-screening (screening.utep.edu) prior to every campus visit.
- Complete COVID-19 student training at [this site](#).
- Contact instructor if temporary accommodations due to COVID-19 are needed (i.e., due to positive COVID-19 test, symptoms, or exposure).
- If unable to wear a face covering (e.g., medical reasons), the best course of action is to enroll in courses that are entirely online or to work with academic advisors, if necessary, to identify alternative courses. If this is not possible, request an accommodation from [Center for Accommodations and Support Services](#) (CASS) prior to coming to campus for in-person activities. Students who receive an accommodation to not wear a face covering must share this with the professor and work to minimize contact with others in the class.

Statement Regarding COVID-19 Precautions:

- You must STAY AT HOME and REPORT if you (1) have been diagnosed with COVID-19, (2) are experiencing COVID-19 symptoms, or (3) have had recent contact with a person

who has received a positive coronavirus test. Reports should be made at screening.utep.edu. If you know anyone who should report any of these three criteria, encourage them to report. If the individual cannot report, you can report on their behalf by sending an email to COVIDaction@utep.edu.

- For each day that you attend campus—for any reason—you must complete the questions on the UTEP screening website (screening.utep.edu) prior to arriving on campus. The website will verify if you are permitted to come to campus. Under no circumstances should anyone come to class when feeling ill or exhibiting any of the known COVID-19 symptoms. If you are feeling unwell, please let me know as soon as possible, and alternative instruction will be provided. Students are advised to minimize the number of encounters with others to avoid infection.
- Wear face coverings when in common areas of campus or when others are present. You must wear a face covering over your nose and mouth at all times in this class. If you choose not to wear a face covering, you may not enter the classroom. If you remove your face covering, you will be asked to put it on or leave the classroom. Students who refuse to wear a face covering and follow preventive COVID-19 guidelines will be dismissed from the class and will be subject to disciplinary action according to Section 1.2.3 *Health and Safety* and Section 1.2.2.5 *Disruptions* in the UTEP Handbook of Operating Procedures.
- Please note that if COVID-19 conditions deteriorate in the City of El Paso, all course and lab activities may be transitioned to remote delivery.
- Students are not permitted on campus when they have a positive COVID-19 test, exposure or symptoms. If you are not permitted on campus, you should contact me as soon as possible so we can arrange necessary and appropriate accommodations.
- Students who are considered high risk according to CDC guidelines and/or those who live with individuals who are considered high risk may contact [Center for Accommodations and Support Services](#) (CASS) to discuss temporary accommodations for on-campus courses and activities.

**I want this class to be beneficial to you personally. Please do not hesitate to contact me with any concerns you may have about a particular assignment, the class as a whole or anything else.

***The content of this course is subject to change at any time. I will be adjusting the course to fit the particular needs and interests of this group of students. If anything changes in how I will evaluate you, I will let you know as soon as I can.