

# Commercial Arranging, Analysis and Composition I

## 12950 - MUST 3261 - 001

**Instructor:** Dr. Chris Reyman

**Office:** FFA 133

**Contact:** 747-7805, [creyman@utep.edu](mailto:creyman@utep.edu)

**Office Hours:** Mondays and Wednesdays 10:30-11:30am, 1:30-2:30pm  
Tuesdays and Thursdays 9-10:30am, 2-4 pm

\*Please let me know if you'd like to meet with me, even if it is during my scheduled office hours. I will do my best to make myself available at times other than these listed - just ask!

**Class Time:** Mondays and Wednesdays 9:30am-10:20am

**Location:** Prospect Hall Room 308

**Required Materials:**

- 1) folder/binder for class materials
- 2) staff paper
- 3) ability to listen to music while at a piano/keyboard (mp3 player)
- 4) access to software to complete assignments
- 5) USB drive or external hard drive to back-up projects

### Attendance Policy

Students will be given daily grades for participation in class. If a student is not in class (including excessive tardiness), they will not receive a grade for that class period. Students with three or more unexcused absences will not receive a grade higher than a B. Of course, you will be excused for university-related events as long as they are approved by me at least two weeks in advance via email correspondence.

### Course Description

An introduction to commercial theory, styles, notation, arranging and composition through listening, transcribing, analysis and arranging/composition projects.

## **Course Goals**

- 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.

## **Course Overview**

- Style analysis of commercial and jazz styles and form
- Diatonic chord progressions and substitutions
- Secondary dominants and substitutions
- Pentatonic scales
- Chord symbol notation: jazz notation and Nashville Numbers
- Lead sheet (head chart) notation
- ii- V I and ii- V tonicization
- Major scale modes
- tritone substitution
- nonfunctional chords

## **Assignments**

- Harmonizations of simple melodies
- Transcriptions of commercial/popular songs
- Arrangements for small group: saxophone, trumpet, trombone, piano, guitar, bass and drums
- Composition projects

\*\*All assignments are due at the beginning of class on the date they are due. Late work will be accepted for partial credit up to a week after the due date. It is in your interest to keep all of your class materials, including completed/graded assignments, in a binder or folder. You may need to refer to things later in the semester.

## **Grade Breakdown**

Class participation/attendance: 30%

Class assignments/projects: 20%

Unit 1 Exam: 6%

Unit 2 Exam: 7%

Unit 3 Exam: 7%

Unit 4 Project: 10%

Final project: 20%

## **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](mailto: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](http://www.sa.utep.edu/CASS).

\*\*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.

### **IMPORTANT DATES:**

Sept. 7 (Labor Day) NO CLASS

Sept. 14th Chris Reyman Faculty Recital, 7:30 pm (attendance required)