Instructor: Dr. Chris Reyman  
Office: FFA 133  
Contact: 747-7805, cereyman@utep.edu

Office Hours: Mondays and Wednesdays 10:30-11:30am, Thursdays and Thursdays 3:30-4:30pm

*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

**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.

Weeks 1-3: Diatonic Harmony and Diatonic Substitutions

Assignment #1 (Due September 5)
1. Transcribe and notate chords for 1 song (5pts)
   RUBRIC: chords, notation
2. Compose 5 harmonic progressions (10pts)
   • 8 measures each
   • using only diatonic chords
   • Turn in handwritten with lead sheet symbols
   RUBRIC: diatonic, notation, chords

Assignment #2 (Due September 12)
1. Notate lead sheet (melody and chords) for Happy Birthday in F major (10pts)
   RUBRIC: melody, chords, notation
2. Compose 5 melodies with chords (10 pts)
   • 8 measures each
   • using only diatonic chords and scales
   • turn in handwritten with lead sheet symbols
   RUBRIC: diatonic, notation, chords, scales
Weeks 4-5: Secondary Keys and Borrowed Chords

Assignment #3 (Due September 24)
1. Transcribe and notate lead sheet (chords and simple melody) for 1 song (10pts)
   RUBRIC: chords, melody, notation
2. Compose 5 melodies with chords (10pts) (8 measures each)
   • 8 measures each
   • using diatonic chords and scales with 1 borrowed chord (from a secondary key)
   • turn in handwritten with lead sheet symbols
   RUBRIC: diatonic, notation, chords, scales

Weeks 6-8: Arranging

Assignment #4 (Due October 8)
Reharmonize Amazing Grace - lead sheet with melody and chords (15pts):
1. 1 time through the melody with basic harmonies
2. 1 time through the melody with diatonic chord substitutions
3. 1 time through the melody using secondary dominants and borrowed harmonies
4. score in electronic notation software
   RUBRIC: melody, chords, diatonic, secondary chords

Weeks 9-11: Scoring for saxophone, trumpet and trombone

Assignment #5 (Due October 29) (25 pts)
3-horn arrangement of Summertime with rhythm section part (chord symbols only)
• introduction, melody 2 times, interlude, melody 1 time, ending
• 1 melody with 2 harmony
• 3-part harmony
• melody must be in different instrumentation throughout
• score and parts in electronic notation software
   RUBRIC: melody, chords, diatonic, secondary chords, notation/format of score and parts

Final Project

Transcribe Pop song and arrange for 3 horns and rhythm section
alto/tenor saxophone, trumpet, trombone, piano/guitar, bass, drums
score and parts in electronic notation software
melody with accompaniment
   melody in 3-part harmony
   melody with 2-part accompaniment (counter-line, back-up)
record in studio

RUBRIC: melody, chords, diatonic, secondary chords, notation
- select song Due October 31 (3pts)
- lead sheet of transcribed song Due November 7 (5pts)
- lead sheet of arrangement or handwritten rough draft Due November 19 (10pts)
- mid-project check-in/progress-report Monday, November 26 (3pts)
- Draft 1 Due December 3 (10pts)
- Final Draft Due December 7 (25pts)
- Recording sessions Monday, December 10, 6-10pm (bring printed parts)

Grade Breakdown

- 30%: Class participation/attendance
- 20%: Class assignments/projects
- 25%: Projects
- 25%: Final project

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.

**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:
- September 3: (Labor Day) NO CLASS
- November 12: Chris Reyman Faculty Recital