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MUSI 440.01: Orchestration

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**The University of Montana
School of Music**

**Music 440: Orchestration
2 Credits
Tuesday/Thursday 12:10-1:00, Room
Fall 2013**

Instructor: Dr. Christopher Kirkpatrick

E-mail: christopher1.kirkpatrick@umontana.edu

Office/phone: 012 Music Bldg

Office Hours: By appt.

Required Materials

The Technique of Orchestration, 6th ed. by Kent Kennan
Score paper, small plastic ruler, pencils, etc.

The course

This course is intended as an introduction to the principles and technique of orchestration. Proceeding from presentations and lectures, the principal orchestral choirs will be studied first separately, later in their roles and function within the complete symphonic ensemble. Weekly assignments are particularly important and will reflect and represent each stage of study.

Objectives

By the end of the semester, the student should be able to:

- Write performance materials for instruments in the families of strings, woodwinds, brass and percussion using proper notation and transposition
- Write within the practical ranges of instrumentalists of various ages and abilities
- Write with an awareness of the unique tonal characteristics and limitations of each instrument and various instrument combinations
- Produce clear, accurate and readable scores and parts
- Orchestrate in different texture types
- Create a complete arrangement (for the UM Symphony Orchestra)

Grading

Weekly assignments (30%)

Midterm Exam (30%)

Final arranging project for full orchestra (40%)

-The arrangement will count as the final for the course and must be scored using Sibelius or Finale software. The arrangement may be either a transcription of a keyboard work, from a different medium, or an original arrangement of a folk song, etc. The piece chosen must be approved by the instructor.

-The piece will be read by the UM Symphony Orchestra during their final class period

Attendance Policy

Attendance required. Tardiness is disruptive and will be noted by the instructor.

Excessive tardiness will affect grading adversely. Two absences are allowed during the semester – ½ a letter grade will be deducted from the final grade for every absence thereafter.

Academic Misconduct and the Student Conduct Code

All students must practice academic honesty. Academic misconduct is subject to an academic penalty by the course instructor and/or disciplinary sanction by the University. All students need to be familiar with the Student Conduct Code. The Code is available for review online at www.umt.edu/SA/VPSA/Index.cfm/page/1321.

Disability Services for Students

The University of Montana assures equal access to instruction through collaboration between students with disabilities, instructors, and Disability Services for Students (DSS). If you think you may have a disability adversely affecting your academic performance, and you have not already registered with DSS, please contact DSS in Lommasson 154. I will work with you and DSS to provide an appropriate accommodation.

The following timetable is by necessity tentative. Topics are likely to be moved to accommodate the pace and needs of the class. Annotations may serve to give the student an orientation to specific textbook chapters.

Tuesday, Aug. 27	Introduction to course; Read Chapters 1 and 20
Thursday, Aug. 29	Chapters 1 and 20; Notation and Transposition
Tuesday, Sep. 3	Chapters 2-4: The Strings *Notation and Transposition Assignment Due
Thursday, Sep. 5	Strings continued
Tuesday, Sep. 10	Strings continued
Thursday, Sep. 12	Class in Keyboard Lab on Sibelius software
Tuesday, Sep. 17	Chapters 5-6, and 18: The Woodwinds *Strings Scoring Assignment Due
Thursday, Sep. 19	Woodwinds continued
Tuesday, Sep. 24	Woodwinds continued; Chapter 7-9
Thursday, Sep. 26	The Brass *Woodwind Scoring Assignment Due
Tuesday, Oct. 1	Brass continued
Thursday, Oct. 3	Brass continued
Tuesday, Oct. 8	The Percussion; Chapters 13-14 *Brass Scoring Assignment Due
Thursday, Oct. 10	Percussion continued
Tuesday, Oct. 15	Percussion continued;
Thursday, Oct. 17	No class (MMEA-Bozeman)
Tuesday, Oct. 22	Chapter 11-Transcribing Piano Music; Review Percussion Scoring Assignment Due
Thursday, Oct. 24	Midterm Exam
Tuesday, Oct. 29	Chapters 10 and 12: Scoring Chords
Thursday, Oct. 31	Chapter 16: Scoring for Full Orchestra
Tuesday, Nov. 5	No class (Orchestra Festival)
Thursday, Nov. 7	Chapter 21: Non-Orchestral Groups
Tuesday, Nov. 12	Chapter 19: Scoring for high school level players
Thursday, Nov. 14	Score Study
Tuesday, Nov. 19	Score Study
Thursday, Nov. 21	Score Study
Thursday, Nov. 28	No class (Thanksgiving)
Tuesday, Dec. 3	Final Project Scores Due
Thursday, Dec. 5	Final Project Parts Due

**Friday, Dec. 6
their 12:10
(special time)**

**Projects to be performed by UMSO during
rehearsal (required attendance by all)**