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MUSI 440.01: Orchestration

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**School of Music
University of Montana**

**Music 440: Orchestration
2 Credits
Tuesday/Thursday 12:10-1:00
Room 204
Fall 2014**

Instructor: Dr. Christopher Kirkpatrick
E-mail: christopher1.kirkpatrick@umontana.edu
Office/phone: 012 Music Bldg./x6889
Office Hours: T/Th 11:00am

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)

Required Computer Software

To access course materials through Moodle and Spotify you will need the following software programs: Microsoft Word, Adobe Acrobat Reader, Windows Media and Power Point. Many of you will already have this software installed on your computer. If not, and you experience difficulties opening up files posted on Moodle, there are 'reader' versions of these programs available as free downloads online. See the following links:

Adobe Reader: <http://www.adobe.com/products/acrobat/readstep2.html>

MS Word, Power Point, and Windows Media: <http://www.microsoft.com/downloads>

Evaluation

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/vpsa/policies/student_conduct.php

Accessibility Statement

The University of Montana assures equal access to instruction through collaboration between students with disabilities, instructors, and Disability Services for Students. If you think you may have a disability adversely affecting your academic performance, and you have not already registered with Disability Services, please contact Disability

Services in Lommasson Center 154 or 406.243.2243. I will work with you and Disability Services to provide an appropriate modification.

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. 26	Introduction to course; Read Chapters 1 and 20
Thursday, Aug. 28	Chapters 1 and 20; Notation and Transposition
Tuesday, Sep. 2	Chapters 2-4: The Strings *Notation and Transposition Assignment Due
Thursday, Sep. 4	Strings continued
Tuesday, Sep. 9	Class in Keyboard Lab on Sibelius software at 2:10pm
Thursday, Sep. 11	Strings continued
Tuesday, Sep. 16	Chapters 5-6, and 18: The Woodwinds *Strings Scoring Assignment Due
Thursday, Sep. 18	Woodwinds continued
Tuesday, Sep. 23	Woodwinds continued; Chapter 7-9
Thursday, Sep. 25	The Brass *Woodwind Scoring Assignment Due
Tuesday, Sep. 30	Brass continued
Thursday, Oct. 2	Brass continued
Tuesday, Oct. 7	The Percussion; Chapters 13-14 *Brass Scoring Assignment Due
Thursday, Oct. 9	Percussion continued
Tuesday, Oct. 14	Percussion continued
Thursday, Oct. 16	No class (All-State)
Tuesday, Oct. 21	Chapter 11-Transcribing Piano Music; Review Percussion Scoring Assignment Due
Thursday, Oct. 23	Midterm Exam
Tuesday, Oct. 28	Chapters 10 and 12: Scoring Chords
Thursday, Oct. 30	Chapter 16: Scoring for Full Orchestra
Tuesday, Nov. 4	No class (Election Day)
Thursday, Nov. 6	Chapter 21: Non-Orchestral Groups
Tuesday, Nov. 11	No class (Veterans Day)
Thursday, Nov. 13	Chapter 19: Scoring for high school level players
Tuesday, Nov. 18	Score Study
Thursday, Nov. 20	Score Study
Tuesday, Nov. 25	Score Study
Thursday, Nov. 27	No class (Thanksgiving)
Tuesday, Dec. 2	Final Project Scores Due
Thursday, Dec. 4	Final Project Parts Due
Friday, Dec. 5 (special time)	Projects to be performed by UMSO during their 12:10 rehearsal (required attendance by all)