



ORCHESTRATION

MUS 416.02
FALL 2025
T/Th
9:30 – 10:20 AM
Room ART 209

Dr. Jonathan Cziner, Adjunct Professor

Email: jon.cziner@etamu.edu
Office Hours; By Appointment

Concurrent Enrollment: All Theory and Ear Training Courses are complete before enrolling in this course.

Materials we will learn from and with: (Readings from Archer EBOOK \$80)

1. Archer, Kimberly. *Orchestration for Wind Ensemble*. Murphy Music Press. 2023.
\$80 EBOOK PURCHASE LINK <https://murphymusicpress.com/products/t-205>
2. Adler, Samuel. 2016. *The Study of Orchestration*. Fourth Edition. New York, NY: W.W. Norton & Company, Inc.
3. Gould, Elaine. *Behind Bars: The Definitive Guide to Music Notation*. London: Faber Music Ltd., 2011.
4. Boosey and Hawkes online score library (create a free account) <https://www.boosey.com/cr/perusals/score?id=1321>
5. Items for note taking—paper, pencil

Course Description:

Orchestration is an upper – level undergraduate course that is a comprehensive study of standard Western instruments and common practices in scoring and arranging for them. The course will begin with an examination of specific instrument ranges, transpositions, acoustic properties, timbral qualities and characteristics when combined with other instruments. Exposure to wind, orchestra and chamber music will be a central component of this course.

Student Learning Outcomes:

Upon successful completion of this course, students should be able to:

- Understand how to effectively write and arrange for various instruments.

- Demonstrate familiarity with the sound and register characteristics of standard instruments.
- Identify significant orchestration approaches and techniques through score study.
- Introduction to symphonic and wind ensemble repertoire through a vast network of musical scores.
- Write thoughtful observations about score and orchestration patterns and anomalies found through score study.
- Successfully transcribe music from one instrument(s) to another.
- Comparative critical analysis of music repertoire across cultural and stylistic boundaries.
- Identify music and composer from one hearing.

Course Requirements:

Any work that is a musical score needs to be:

- **Use Computer Software to notate score(s) CORRECTLY**
- **BOTH PDF and mp3 of your scores for any score making assignment. UPLOADED to D2L**
- **Uploaded by the due date and time listed online in D2L.**

Homework is to be turned in during class on the day on which it is due.

Late assignments will not be accepted for credit unless a previous arrangement (more than 24 hours) has been made with the instructor. **Homework not meeting the guidelines above will be graded as a zero.**

There will be several musical **Arrangements/ Composition Homeworks** for this course scored for different families and / or groups of instruments. Additional information regarding length and specific content will be provided during the semester.

Several **Listening Exams** will be given during the semester. Specific information as to exam content will be provided **at least a week before** the exam is administered.

Listening exams will be administered periodically throughout the semester. Each listening quiz will focus on music and composers showcasing a specific family of instruments. There will be 3 – 6 of these listening exams.

The playlists for the listening exams is available in D2L and in this syllabus and should be studied, at length.

To correctly answer and receive credit for the questions on the exams, the following details should be present in the answer. **Any missing information (from the example**

listed below) will result in the question being marked incorrect. Note that a word bank **will not be** provided – a requirement that mirrors professional expectations.

1. Name of the composer
2. Title of the piece
3. Movement of piece (if necessary)

Example of a correct answer: Stravinsky, Octet for Winds – III. Finale

Listening lists for each exam will be posted on D2L **at least** two weeks before the exam. I strongly recommend downloading, saving and bookmarking to increase your exposure to the music as you learn. The list provided online is for ease of the student and it is strongly recommended that you fully and thoughtfully utilize that consideration as you prepare.

The **Three Composition Projects** for this course will consist of a short, original composition(s) for different ensembles. Additional information regarding length and specific content will be provided during the semester.

You might be asked to create a **Presentation** using PowerPoint / Adobe / Keynote of a piece of music of your choice OR your own arrangement. You should choose a piece that you genuinely want to learn more about. It can be scored for any instrumentation. Your presentation should 1. Quickly contextualize the pieces background 2. Map out the orchestration 3. Discuss in detail any unique features. Use the Boosey and Hawkes online score library if needed <https://www.boosey.com/cr/perusals/score?id=1321>

As a student, you are fully responsible for knowing and finding the content of every class that has been delivered in a lecture by an instructor, no matter what.

Evaluation and Grading:

Course Component	Grade %
Quizzes over Readings	35%
Listening Exams	35%
Composition Projects / Arrangements	30%
TOTAL	100%

A = 90 – 100

C = 70 – 79

F = 0 – 59

B = 80 – 89

D = 60 – 69

(NOTE: If you are a music major and earn a course grade of D or lower, the course will need to be taken again. Theory III is a 3-credit hour course.)

TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS

LMS

All course sections offered by Texas A&M University-Commerce have a corresponding course shell in the myLeo Online Learning Management System (LMS). Below are technical requirements. **Note that technology will be utilized outside of class time.**

LMS Requirements:

<https://community.brightspace.com/s/article/Brightspace-Platform-Requirements>

LMS Browser Support:

https://documentation.brightspace.com/EN/brightspace/requirements/all/browser_support.htm

Zoom Video Conferencing Tool

https://inside.tamuc.edu/campuslife/CampusServices/CITESupportCenter/Zoom_Account.aspx?source=universalmenu

Attendance Policy: The University Catalog states, “Students are expected to be present for all class meetings of any course for which they are enrolled.” Sporadic attendance is a waste of your intellectual and financial resources.

Unless they are the result of a medical or family emergency, excused absences (as defined by the Catalog) need to be arranged beforehand with the instructor.

Each student is allowed up to three unexcused absences over the course of the semester.

Beyond 3 unexcused absences result in the LOWERING OF THE FINAL LETTER GRADE until being dropped from the course due to absences. (6 TOTAL ABSENCES ALLOWED, excused and/or unexcused)

Cell Phone/Laptop Policy:

No cell phones in class
Cell phones in your bag, on silent.
No computers in class

Why? Academic Research continues to show that, despite the myriad of

benefits that technology offers, using your hands to take notes is the best way to facilitate memory, attention, and learning. We will follow this research in the classroom.

The following statements are required by either University policy, state, or federal law:

University Mission Statement:

East Texas A&M University nurtures and educates for success through access to academic research, and service programs of high quality.

School of Music Mission Statement:

The School of Music at East Texas A&M University promotes excellence in music through the rigorous study of music history, literature, theory, composition, pedagogy, and the preparation of music performance in applied study and ensembles to meet the highest standards of aesthetic expression.

Disability Resources Statement:

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact:

Office of Student Disability Resources and Services
East Texas A&M University
Waters Library, Room 132
908.886.5150, or 903.886.5835, phone
903.468.8148, fax
StudentDisabilityServices@tamuc.edu

Non-Discrimination Statement:

East Texas A&M will comply in the classroom, and in online courses, with all federal and state laws prohibiting discrimination and related retaliation on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, disability, age, genetic information or veteran status. Further, an environment free from discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression will be maintained.

Behavioral Statement:

All students enrolled at the University shall follow the tenets of common decency and acceptable behavior conducive to a positive learning environment.

Required Statement:

As an Institutional Member of the National Association of Schools of Music, East Texas State A&M University supports the Association's commitment to student health and wellness. The following web address provides links to information for resources related to physical and mental well-being, as well as assists in offering preventative measures that students can take to avoid serious and/or chronic conditions:

[Musician Health and Safety - East Texas A&M University](#)

Concealed Carry Statement:

Texas Senate Bill - 11 (Government Code 411.2031, et al.) authorizes the carrying of a concealed handgun in Texas A&M University-Commerce buildings only by persons who have been issued and are in possession of a Texas License to Carry a Handgun. Qualified law enforcement officers or those who are otherwise authorized to carry a concealed handgun in the State of Texas are also permitted to do so. Pursuant to Penal Code (PC) 46.035 and ETAMU Rule 34.06.02.R1, license holders may not carry a concealed handgun in restricted locations. For a list of locations, please refer to <http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures34SafetyOfEmployeesAndStudents/34.06.02.R1.pdf> and/or consult your event organizer). Pursuant to PC 46.035, the open carrying of handguns is prohibited on all ETAMU campuses. Report violations to the University Police Department at 903-886-5868 or 9-1-1.

A&M-Commerce Supports Students' Mental Health

The Counseling Center at ET A&M, located in the Halladay Building, Room 203, offers counseling services, educational programming, and connection to community resources for students. Students have 24/7 access to the Counseling Center's crisis assessment services by calling 903-886-5145. For more information regarding Counseling Center events and confidential services, please visit www.tamuc.edu/counsel

AI use policy [Draft 2, May 25, 2023]

East Texas A&M University acknowledges that there are legitimate uses of Artificial Intelligence, ChatBots, or other software that has the capacity to generate text, or suggest replacements for text beyond individual words, as determined by the instructor of the course. Any use of such software must be documented. Any undocumented use of such software constitutes an instance of academic dishonesty (plagiarism).

Individual instructors may disallow entirely the use of such software for individual assignments or for the entire course. Students should be aware of such requirements and follow their instructors' guidelines. If no instructions are provided the student should assume that the use of such software is disallowed. In any case, students are fully responsible for the content of any assignment they submit, regardless of whether they used an AI, in any way. This specifically includes cases in which the AI plagiarized another text or misrepresented sources.

13.99.99.R0.03 Undergraduate Academic Dishonesty

13.99.99.R0.10 Graduate Student Academic Dishonesty

Syllabus Change Policy

The syllabus is a guide. Circumstances and events, such as student progress, may make it necessary for the instructor to modify the syllabus during the semester. Any changes made to the syllabus will be announced in advance.

Full final exam schedule here:

<https://inside.tamuc.edu/admissions/registrar/documents/2025%20Fall%20Final%20Exam%20Schedule%20Fall%2020202580.pdf>

FRIDAY DECEMBER 12TH FROM 8:00 – 10:00

TENTATIVE COURSE SCHEDULE

1. Week 1 AUG 26 / 28	Introduction to class HMWK – GET THE ARCHER BOOK!	Score and Part Layouts 101 / MOLA Guidelines
2. Week 2 SEPT 2 / 4	Individual Wind Instruments	Scoring for Wind Instruments & Instrumental Doublings
3. Week 3 SEPT 9 / 11	Wind Arrangements Assignments Due	Listening Exam Winds
4. Week 4 SEPT 16 / 18	Individual Brass Instruments Scoring Harmony for Brass Instruments	Brass/Woodwind Demo
5. Week 5 SEPT 23 / 25	NO IN-PERSON CLASS Watch Taped Lecture on scoring combinations for Winds and Brass	NO IN-PERSON CLASS Reading
6. Week 6 SEPT 30 / OCT 2	Brass Arrangements Assignments Due Listening Exam Brass	Individual String Instruments
7. Week 7 OCT 7 / 9	Scoring Harmony for Strings	String Harmonics & Extended Techniques

8. Week 8 OCT 14 / 16	String Arrangements Assignments Due	Listening Exam Strings
9. Week 9 OCT 21 / 23	Harp	Pitched Percussion
10. Week 10 OCT 28 / 30	Non-Pitched Perc.	Listening Exam Percussion / Harp
11. Week 11 NOV 4 / 6	Miscellaneous Orchestration Techniques (Substitutions & Doublings)	Miscellaneous Orchestration Techniques (Gestures vs Melody & Accompaniment)
12. Week 12 NOV 11 / 13	NO IN-PERSON CLASS Watch Taped Lecture	NO IN-PERSON CLASS
13. Week 13 NOV 18 / 20	Final Arrangements Assignments Due	NO IN-PERSON CLASS
14. Week 14 NOV 25 / 27	Review Quiz	Thanksgiving break – NO CLASS
15. Week 15 DEC 2 / 4	Review	Review
Finals week DEC 8 – 11	FINAL ON FRIDAY DEC 12 AT 8 AM	

Syllabus is subject to change at the discretion of the instructor