



MUS 416.02

ORCHESTRATION

COURSE SYLLABUS: FALL 2026
TUESDAY THURSDAY 9:30 – 10:20 AM

INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION

Instructor: Dr. Jon Cziner
Office Hours: please make an appointment via email
Office Phone: N/A
University Email Address: Jon.Cziner@etamu.edu
Preferred Form of Communication: **email, during business days and hours (9-5 PM / M-F)**
Communication Response Time: within 2 business days

COURSE INFORMATION

MATERIALS – TEXTBOOKS, READINGS, SUPPLEMENTARY READINGS

Textbook(s) Required:

Kennan, K. W., & Grantham, D. (1990). *The technique of orchestration* (7th ed.). Prentice Hall.

Order the eBook here: <https://www.routledge.com/The-Technique-of-Orchestration/Kennan-Grantham/p/book/9780367655594>

Software Required: Choose only one – links for download can be found in the D2L shell

Muse Score (free)

*Sibelius (for educators) \$100/year

Optional Software

Dorico (\$100/year)

Note Performer \$129 One-time cost (this sound library works with Sibelius and Dorico)

The syllabus/schedule are subject to change.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course introduces the principles and techniques of orchestration through the study of instrumental characteristics, scoring techniques, orchestral color, texture, balance, and score analysis. Students will develop practical orchestration skills through weekly writing assignments, listening analysis, and score study culminating in a complete orchestral arrangement.

All Theory and Ear Training Courses must be completed before enrolling in this course.

Undergraduate Student Learning Outcomes

- Identify the ranges, transpositions, and timbral characteristics of orchestral instruments.
- Write idiomatically for each orchestral family. [strings, winds, brass, percussion]
- Understand balance, blend, doubling, and orchestral color.
- Analyze orchestral scores
- Orchestrate piano music for chamber and full orchestra.
- Prepare basic professional orchestral scores and parts using notation software.
- Compose and arrange music

INSTRUCTIONAL METHODS

Audio Recordings

Composition & Arranging Projects

Exams

Lectures

Readings from the textbook (done individually)

Quizzes

Video Demonstrations

Course Requirements

Homework – *frequent* short assignments (digital or by hand) that reflect your understanding of lecture or reading material.

Homework done by hand or via software must meet the following requirements:

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- If completed by hand - use legible, readable, tidy handwriting
- If completed by software – be legible, readable and tidy.
- Be submitted as a PDF file (no JPEGs, PNG, etc.)
- One file
- **UPLOADED to D2L**
- **By the due date listed in D2L**

Homework not meeting the guidelines above will be graded as a zero.

Listening Quizzes – these quizzes will be over pieces that we discuss in class from the listening lists given to represent each family of instruments. The music can start at any area of the recording, but typically at a very recognizable / signature area. For the music you hear, you will be asked to identify – at minimum, the following:

1. Title of piece
2. Composer
3. Movement of piece (if applicable)

Orchestration Assignments – Composition and Arranging based work. **A chance to ‘showcase’ of your orchestration know - how.** Computer notation software is required for these. You may turn in a transposed score or a score in C; just be clear on the score. Do not save this work to the last minute; this work does take *time* to complete properly.

Composition and Arranging work will require that the student turn in two *different* file types into the D2L submission area:

- **PDF of the score – with correct engraving.**
- **An audio rendering of the score – mp3**

Exams – There will be at least three exams given throughout the semester. Content related to the exam will be announced to the student at least a week before the exam is administered. These exams test a wide knowledge base of instrumental content, similar but not limited to:

- Instrumental ranges and their unique timbral (and other) features,
- Correct score order and engraving practices
- Transpositions
- Common notation practices for different instrumental families
- Score error detection
- A variety of Doubling and Spacing methods

These exams may take the form of an orchestration arrangement, short question-and-answer format, multiple choice questions, listening identification, score analysis or combination.

General Information

To turn in work using D2L, go to Course Shell -> Activities tab -> Assignments -> Upload your file. (Make sure that work is uploaded in ONE PDF (or Mp3) legible copy and includes all pages/the entire assignment.)

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Cheating will result in failure of the course. Often it may be helpful for students to work on homework assignments with a partner, or in groups. When done correctly, this can serve as a proven method for success for students who may be struggling with a particular concept in class. *However, take care that the completed assignment reflects your own understanding of the material, and is not merely a copy of a classmate or colleague's work.* Doing so will help to ensure that your work efforts in the class are both fruitful (reflecting the very purpose of homework) and intellectually honest.

Attendance will take place at the beginning of each class meeting within the first 5 minutes of class through a QR code. If not present to scan the QR code, you will not get counted as present for the class period.

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.

Grading

Course Component	Grade %
Orchestration Assignments	30 %
Listening Quizzes	20 %
Homework	20 %
Exams	30 %
TOTAL	100%

Grading Scale

A = 90 to 100% / B = 80 to 89% / C = 70 to 79% / D = 60 to 69% / F = 59 and below

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Attendance Policy

Regular and prompt attendance and active engagement in the class is expected. The student's attendance grade is calculated by the number of times present divided by the total number of class meetings. Students who are present but do not engage in the discussion may not receive attendance at the discretion of the instructor.

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.

Excused absences, as defined by the Catalog, need to be prearranged with the instructor at least 24 hours in advance. I prefer advanced notification through emails.

Each student is allowed up to 3 unexcused absences over the course of the semester.

"No More Than 3": Students that have a total of 4 absences, whether excused or not, will either earn a failing grade or will be dropped from the course through means of an administrative drop at the discretion of the instructor due to excessive absences.

MUSIC ATTENDANCE STANDARDS

Regular attendance, punctuality, and active participation in all scheduled classes, rehearsals, lessons, and performances are essential to student success and are expected of all students in the School of Music. Absences may result in grade penalties, loss of participation or performance opportunities, dismissal from the course or ensemble, or failure of the course. By enrolling, students agree to uphold these standards of professional responsibility and engagement.

STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES OR TIPS FOR SUCCESS IN THE COURSE

- Due dates for EVERYTHING is SUNDAY evening – Remember that and Plan ahead if necessary.
- Stay up to date with reading the book chapters.
- Stay rhythmic with this work.
- Set aside more time than you think for orchestration assignment software work.

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WEEK	DATE	TOPIC	DUE SUNDAY
1	Th. Aug 20	Introduction to Course and Materials	☐ Get book from bookstore or online using the link above.
2	T. Aug 25	Reading the score, transposition Review	☐ Read Chapter 1 of Book
	Th Aug 27	Clefs, ranges and instrument families	Sunday – August 30 ☐ HMWK 1 – software Comparison Due ☐ Read Chapter 2, Strings
3	T Sept 1	Violin & viola: ranges, tone color by register, bowings, articulation. Ch. 2	☐ Listen to String Examples online, you will be tested on these
	Th Sept 3	Cello & double bass; string techniques (pizzicato, mute, harmonics, tremolo)	Sunday – September 6 ☐ Solo string melody exercise with idiomatic bowings Due
4	T Sept 8	String section balance, divisi, doubling within the section. Ch. 3	☐ Read Chapter 3
	Th Sept 10	In class Workshop: score a short piano piece for string orchestra, Wild Rose / Hymn / Other	Sunday – September 13 ☐ HMWK 2 – String notation
5	T Sept 15	Orch 2 assigned — string orchestra arrangement (16–24 measures)	
	Th Sept 17	Peer review of Orch 2 Midterm Orch assignment handed out - String Orch	Sunday – September 20

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			☐ Orch 2 – String Orch Arrangement (16-24 measures) Due (EXAM I GRADE)
6	T Sept 22	Wrap up strings	
	Th Sept 24	Flute & oboe: ranges, character, agility, doubling instruments (piccolo, English horn). Ch. 4	Sunday – September 27 ☐ Listening Quiz – Strings
7	T Sept 29	Clarinet & bassoon: registers (chalumeau/clarion), agility, doubling (bass clarinet, contrabassoon)	☐ Read Chapter 4
	Th Oct 1	Woodwind section combinations, blend, doubling across families. Ch. 5	Sunday – October 4 ☐ Woodwind solo/duet exercises due
8	T Oct 6	Workshop: score a chorale-style passage for woodwind quintet/section	☐ Read Chapter 5
	Th Oct 8	University Holiday – Fall Break	Sunday – October 11 ☐ Woodwind Choir Arrangement Due
9	T Oct 13	Combining strings and woodwinds; balance and doubling across families. Ch. 6	☐ Read Chapter 6
	Th Oct 15	Orch assignment 5 assigned — chamber orchestra passage (strings + woodwinds)	Sunday – October 18 ☐ Midterm exam (score identification, range/transposition, short analysis)
10	T Oct 20	Horn, trumpet: ranges, stopped/muted effects, character. Ch. 7	☐ Read Chapter 7
	Th Oct 22	Trombone & tuba; brass section balance, chorale voicing. Ch. 7 <i>cont'd</i>	Sunday – October 25 ☐ Orch Assignment 5 – Chamber orchestra due
11	T Oct 27	Full wind/brass tutti writing, balance principles, covering/doubling. Ch. 8	☐ Read Chapter 8

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	Th Oct 29	Workshop: score a tutti passage combining winds and brass	Sunday – November 1 ☐ Listening: Winds and Brass
12	T Nov 3	Pitched and unpitched percussion, notation conventions, idiomatic writing. <i>Ch. 9</i>	☐ Read Chapter 9
	Th Nov 5	Workshop: add percussion to an existing orchestral draft	Sunday – November 8 ☐ Catch up on Listening ☐ HMWK Percussion notation exercise
13	T Nov 10	Harp technique, pedaling, glissandi, idiomatic figuration. <i>Ch. 10</i>	☐ Read Chapter 10 ☐ Read Chapter 11
	Th Nov 12	Piano, celesta, organ in the orchestra; doubling and color use. <i>Ch. 11</i> <i>Assign Final Orch Exam</i> - Full orchestra excerpt (short — 16–20 measures)	Sunday – November 15 ☐ Orch 6 - Short harp or keyboard-colored passage Due
14	T Nov 17	Tutti scoring, full-score layout, balance across all choirs, climax planning. <i>Ch. 12</i>	☐ Read Chapter 12 ☐ Catch up on Listening
	Th Nov 19	Workshop: Project 3 drafts and peer feedback	Sunday – November 22 ☐ Drafts of Final Orchestration 7 due
15	T Nov 24	Peer review of orch 7 projects	
	Th Nov 26	University Holiday	Sunday – November 29 ☐ Final Orchestration Due ☐ Listening Quiz: Percussion and Harp
16	T Dec 1	Choral/solo voice with orchestra: balance, text clarity, doubling. <i>Ch. 13</i>	☐ Read Chapter 13 ☐ Read Chapter 14
	Th Dec 3	Contemporary orchestration techniques: extended techniques, mixed ensembles, minimalist/textural scoring. <i>Ch. 14</i>	Sunday – December 6
F I N A L E X A M – DECEMBER 10 AT 8:00 – 10:00 AM			

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TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS

LMS

All course sections offered by East Texas A&M University have a corresponding course shell in the myLeo Online Learning Management System (LMS). Below are technical requirements

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

ACCESS AND NAVIGATION

You will need your campus-wide ID (CWID) and password to log into the course. If you do not know your CWID or have forgotten your password, contact the Center for IT Excellence (CITE) at 903.468.6000 or helpdesk@etamu.edu.

Note: Personal computer and internet connection problems do not excuse the requirement to complete all course work in a timely and satisfactory manner. Each student needs to have a backup method to deal with these inevitable problems. These methods might include the availability of a backup PC at home or work, the temporary use of a computer at a friend's home, the local library, office service companies, Starbucks, a TAMUC campus open computer lab, etc.

COMMUNICATION AND SUPPORT

If you have any questions or are having difficulties with the course material, please contact your Instructor.

TECHNICAL SUPPORT

If you are having technical difficulty with any part of Brightspace, please contact Brightspace Technical Support at 1-877-325-7778. Other support options can be found here:

<https://community.brightspace.com/support/s/contactsupport>

STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES FOR COURSE

CWID AND PASSWORD

You will need your campus-wide ID (CWID) and password to log into the course. If you do not know your CWID or have forgotten your password, contact the Center for IT Excellence (CITE) at 903.468.6000 or helpdesk@etamu.edu.

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TECHNOLOGY-RELATED ISSUES

Personal computer and internet connection problems do not excuse the requirement to complete all course work in a timely and satisfactory manner. Each student needs to have a backup method to deal with these inevitable problems. These methods might include the availability of a backup PC at home or work, the temporary use of a computer at a friend's home, the local library, office service companies, Starbucks, a ETAMU campus open computer lab, etc.

TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS AND SUPPORT

MINIMAL TECHNICAL SKILLS NEEDED

Students will need reliable computer and internet access for this course. Students must be able to effectively use myLeo email, myLeo Online D2L, and Microsoft Office.

LEARNING MANAGEMENT SYSTEM (LMS) – D2L

All course sections offered by East Texas A&M University have a corresponding course shell in the myLeo Online Learning Management System (LMS). Below are the technical requirements:

- View the [Learning Management System Requirements Webpage](#).
- Learn more on the [LMS Browser Support Webpage](#).

TECHNICAL SUPPORT

If you are having technical difficulty with any part of Brightspace, please contact Brightspace Technical Support at 1-877-325-7778. Other support options can be found on the [Brightspace Support Webpage](#).

COMMUNICATION AND SUPPORT

INTERACTION WITH INSTRUCTOR STATEMENT

If you have any questions or are having difficulties with the course material, please contact your instructor. Correspondence will always be through university email (your “myLeo” mail) and announcements in myLeo online (D2L). You will not RECEIVE email through D2L, so be sure to check your ETAMU email for communication. Students are encouraged to check university email daily.

INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING IN EMAILS WITH INSTRUCTOR:

- Course name and subject in the subject line

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- Salutation (Good afternoon, Dr. Bozone)
 - Proper email etiquette (no “text” emails – use proper grammar and punctuation)
 - Student name and CWID after the body of the email (possibly add to student signature on email)
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COURSE AND UNIVERSITY PROCEDURES/POLICIES

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.

STUDENT CONDUCT

All students enrolled at the University shall follow the tenets of common decency and acceptable behavior conducive to a positive learning environment. The [Code of Student Conduct](#) is described in detail online in the [Student Guidebook](#).

Students should also consult the [Rules of Netiquette Webpage](#) for more information regarding how to interact with students in an online forum.

ETAMU ATTENDANCE

For more information about the attendance policy, please view the [Attendance Webpage](#) and the [Class Attendance Policy](#)

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

Students at East Texas A&M University are expected to maintain high standards of integrity and honesty in all their scholastic work. For more details and the definition of academic dishonesty see the following procedures:

[Undergraduate Academic Dishonesty University Procedure 13.99.99.R0.03](#)

[Undergraduate Student Academic Dishonesty Form](#)

[Graduate Student Academic Dishonesty University Procedure 13.99.99.R0.10](#)

[Graduate Student Academic Dishonesty Form](#)

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USE OF ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

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

STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES-- ADA 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

Velma K. Waters Library Rm 162

Phone (903) 886-5150 or (903) 886-5835

Fax (903) 468-8148

Email: studentdisabilityservices@etamu.edu

Website: [Office of Student Disability Services](#)

NONDISCRIMINATION NOTICE

East Texas A&M University 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.

CAMPUS CONCEALED CARRY STATEMENT

Texas Senate Bill - 11 (Government Code 411.2031, et al.) authorizes the carrying of a concealed handgun in East Texas A&M University 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

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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 the [Carrying Concealed Handguns On Campus](#) document and/or consult your event organizer.

Pursuant to PC 46.035, the open carrying of handguns is prohibited on all East Texas A&M University campuses. Report violations to the University Police Department at 903-886-5868 or 9-1-1.

EAST TEXAS A&M SUPPORTS STUDENTS' MENTAL HEALTH – COUNSELING SERVICES

The Counseling Center at East Texas A&M University, 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

MENTAL HEALTH AND WELL-BEING

The university aims to provide students with essential knowledge and tools to understand and support mental health. As part of our commitment to your well-being, we offer access to Telus Health, a service available 24/7/365 via chat, phone, or webinar. Scan the QR code or go to https://studentsupport.telushealth.com/us/about#download_app to download the app and explore the resources available to you for guidance and support whenever you need it.



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](#)

DEPARTMENT AND ACCREDITING AGENCY STATEMENT:

School of Music Mission Statement:

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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.

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