

MORAVIAN COLLEGE
Department of Music

MUS 342.2 / **ORCHESTRATION**

Fall 2011

Mondays & Wednesdays 11:45 AM to 12:35 PM, Room 207, Hurd Music Center
Instructor: Mr. Steven Mathiesen, Room 111, Foy Hall, office hours by appointment
Office Phone: 610.861.1654 / Home Phone: 570.421.8675
e-mail: stevemathiesen@enter.net

Required Text

- Kennan & Grantham: *The Technique of Orchestration*, 6th edition, 2002

Competencies

- To learn the abilities of string, wind, percussion instruments and voices (if time permits).
- To learn basic orchestration techniques in various ensemble situations.
- To understand the terminology and transpositions found in orchestral scores.
- To learn the conventions of proper musical notation.
- To practice using computerized music writing programs.
- To understand the limitations imposed on musicians by copyright law.

Required Activities

- Participation in class lectures and discussion.
- Listening to aural assignments outside of class as assigned.
- Completing written orchestration assignments as assigned.
- Reading the material from the textbook and other sources as shown below. It is recommended that students read the material in advance of our discussion, then review the reading after the topic is concluded. This is the order in which topics will be discussed during the semester. The number of topics covered is dependent upon the progress of the class.
 - Notation - Kennan/Grantham (K/G) pages 33-35; Mathiesen: *Music Notation Basics*
 - String Instruments - K/G: Chapters 2, 3, 4
 - Problems in Transcribing Piano Music – K/G: Chapter 11
 - Woodwind Instruments - K/G: Chapters 5, 6
 - Saxophones - K/G: pages 340-341
 - The Horn - K/G: Chapter 7
 - Trumpet, Trombone, Tuba - K/G: Chapters 8, 9
 - Percussion Instruments - K/G: Chapters 13, 14
 - Copyright Law - www.copyright.gov
 - Voices - K/G: pages 394-395

Assignments & Assessment

- A number of short written orchestration assignments will be given as work to be done outside of class. The average grade of these assignments will be worth 40% of the course final grade.
- In addition, a written assignment for full orchestra will be given which will be worth 20% of the final grade. The specifications for this assignment will be announced in class.
- Students shall undertake their assignments as individuals, without undue influence from others. Students must make themselves aware of Moravian's *Academic Honesty Policy* in this regard. Submitted work that violates the policy will at minimum, receive no credit. There may be additional penalties imposed by the college.
- Students must adhere to the specifications given for assignments.
- When applicable, the use of computerized music writing programs will be required.

(continued on next page)

- The due date for assignments is generally the day of the next class after the assignment is given. *Absence does not excuse a student from the submission of assignments.* For full credit, assignments must be submitted on the day on which they are due (before midnight of that day). The grades of assignments submitted during the next day will be reduced by one fraction of a grade (A- to B+). Assignments submitted between two and seven days will be reduced by one full grade (A to B). After this, papers will receive an automatic failing grade.
- If a student is absent, there are several options available for submission, depending on the nature of the assignment. Again, assignments must be received on the date on which they are due.
 - Assignments in digital format may be e-mailed to the instructor at stevemathiesen@enter.net.
 - Hand-written assignments may be scanned and sent as e-mail. Students who are ill should enlist a trustworthy individual to do this for them should they not have access to computer equipment in their home.
 - Assignments may be mailed to the instructor at this address: *Steven Mathiesen, 491 Youngwood Drive, East Stroudsburg, Pa. 18301.* The postmark will be proof that the assignment was submitted on time. Students bear the risk of lost postal material.
 - Assignments may be sealed in an envelope and given to a trustworthy individual to be delivered personally to the instructor in class. Students bear the responsibility of material that is not delivered.
 - **Do not** place the assignment on the instructor's office door, in the music office mailboxes, or attempt to slide it under the instructor's office door.
- There will be two written examinations, each worth 20% of the course final grade. Exams will be cumulative in nature. Material will be derived from class lecture and discussion, reading assignments, and scoring assignments. Exams may contain multiple choice, short answer, essay questions, and written projects.
 - First Exam – **Wednesday, October 5, 2011**
 - Second Exam – **Wednesday, December 14 at 1:30 PM**

Attendance & other course policies

- Punctual attendance is expected at all class sessions. Attendance is taken at the beginning of class. Students who are not present at that time will be marked as being absent. Students who arrive late are responsible for seeing the instructor after class to make sure that they are included in the roll. If there is a legitimate reason for the lateness, you must speak to the instructor immediately after that class session.
- Students are permitted one unexcused absence without penalty. Beyond that, the final semester grade will be reduced by one fraction of a grade (A- to B+) beginning with the second unexcused absence or accumulated lateness. Students are responsible for providing documentation from the health center or other health professional if there is a valid reason for an absence.
- Attendance at examinations is mandatory.
- An atmosphere conducive to learning must prevail. Smoking, eating, drinking, cellular phones, pagers and other electronic devices are prohibited. Recording of lectures is not permitted without permission.
- This syllabus is subject to change should conditions warrant.
- It is within the instructor's purview to apply qualitative judgment in determining grades for an assignment or for a course.

Statement on Students with Disabilities

- Students who wish to request accommodations in this class for a disability should contact Mr. Joe Kempfer, Assistant Director of Learning Services for Disability Support, 1307 Main Street (extension 1510). Accommodations cannot be provided until authorization is received from the Office of Learning Services.