

University of Arkansas – Fort Smith
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General Syllabus
MUTH 31002 Orchestration and Arranging

Credit Hours: 2

Lecture Hours: 2

Prerequisite: MUTH 28103 Music Theory IV or consent of instructor

Effective Catalog: 2019-2020

I. Course Information

A. Catalog Description

An introduction to musical scoring, including the study of vocal and instrumental performance techniques, registers, transpositions, stylistic capabilities, tonal characteristics, and the essentials of arranging for a variety of vocal and instrumental ensembles.

II. Student Learning Outcomes

A. Subject Matter

Upon successful completion of this course, the student will be able to:

1. Explain the differences between transcription, arranging, orchestration, and composition.
2. Master the following concepts:
 - a. Instrumental performance techniques
 - b. Instrument registers
 - c. Instrument transpositions
 - d. Vocal performance techniques
 - e. Vocal ranges
 - f. Chord spacing
 - g. Doubling
 - h. Voice leading
 - i. Stylistic capabilities
 - j. General tonal characteristics
3. Identify musical errors and suggest acceptable alternatives
4. Demonstrate mastery of a professional MIDI music notation program by completing all assignments on Finale software.
5. Produce complete, performable vocal and instrumental arrangements in professionally-acceptable notational form.

B. University Learning Outcomes

MUTH 31002 enhances student abilities in the following areas:

Analytical Skills

Critical Thinking

Students will draw conclusions and/or solve problems using proper musical terminology; personal expression within the context of musical performance.

Communication Skills (written and oral)

Students will communicate proficiently using proper musical terminology; personal expression within the context of a musical performance.

Ethical Decision Making

Students will model ethical decision-making processes whether in musical research, presentation, or performance.

Global and Cultural Perspectives

Students will appreciate and reflect upon cultural differences and their implications for interacting with people from cultures other than their own.

III. Major Course Topics

- A. Strings
- B. String Ensemble
- C. Woodwinds
- D. Woodwinds Section
- E. Horn
- F. Trumpet, Trombone, and Tuba
- G. Brass Section
- H. Voices
- I. Vocal Ensemble
- J. Scoring Chords for Each Section and for the Ensemble
- K. Problems in Transcribing Piano Music
- L. Percussion: Instruments of Definite Pitch