

**Course Syllabus**  
**MUS 362.01: Orchestration, Credit: 3 hrs.**  
**TTh 11 - 12:20 AM, Spring 2008**  
**Music Building, Room 217**

Instructor: Trent Hanna, DMA  
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Office hours: Tuesday 4-4:30pm, Wednesday 12-1pm and 4-4:30pm, *or by appointment.*

### **Required Texts and Materials**

- Samuel Adler, *The Study of Orchestration*, Third Edition.
- Samuel Adler, Workbook for *The Study of Orchestration*, Third Edition.
- Music staff paper; pencils (do not use ink for assignments-unless done with music software or exams!).  
NOTE: Bring these materials to every class.
- Highly recommended: Heussenstamm, *The Norton Manual of Music Notation*, First Edition.
- Also highly recommended: handy, dandy portable stapler for homework.

### **Course Description**

A study of the basic techniques of instrumentation, including ranges, transpositions, and characteristics of band and orchestral instruments. Practical application in the form of projects for various instrumental combinations. The final project will involve transcribing a short piano piece for orchestra or wind ensemble/band.

### **Course Objectives**

- To have a thorough understanding of the orchestra and its instruments.
- To gain the confidence and capability to transcribe and compose for orchestra and wind ensemble/band.

### **Attendance**

Regular and punctual attendance will be expected of you throughout the semester. University policy permits **two (excused or unexcused) absences** without penalty (except for announced tests). (That's a whole week of this class!) Reserve these for possible emergency or illness. For each additional unexcused absence, one-half of a letter grade will be deducted from your final grade. Valid excuses include official university functions, serious illness or family emergency with an acceptable explanation/note. **NO EXCEPTIONS!!!** If you anticipate a legitimate absence on a test date, contact me **well in advance** so that a make-up test can be scheduled. Once a test has been returned (usually the next class meeting), a make-up test will **not** be possible. You are responsible for all assignments and material covered on the days of your absence. If you miss a quiz, you will receive a 0 (zero) whether excused or not. I will drop your 2 lowest homework or quiz grades. Tardiness will be counted as one-third off your attendance for the day (in other words - 3 tardies equal an absence). **Attendance is likely the most significant factor affecting your success in this course.**

### Class Participation

When you come to class, be prepared to participate in discussions and other activities involving the assigned readings, exercises, and pieces. Bring your questions to class!

### Presentation

Each student will be required to give a short (10-20 minutes) presentation during the semester. Subject matter will be chosen by the instructor. This is worth 10%.

### Homework Policy

Homework assignments are due at the beginning of class and **will not be accepted late**. Exceptions will be made only in cases of serious illness or death in the family. Students who receive unsatisfactory marks (79 or below) will have the opportunity to resubmit an assignment to the instructor by the following class after the assignment is returned. You can receive up to half of the points missed and a grade no higher than an 80. Any homework that is two or more pages **MUST** be stapled or will not be accepted.

### Individual Tutorials

I am available to provide explanations or extra help during my office hours or by appointment. Please take advantage of this offer if you are having any problems.

### Grading (Subject to change)

Homework, Quizzes, and Pop Quizzes:	20%
Presentation:	10%
Four Small Projects (Strings, Woodwinds, Brass, and Percussion):	20%
Five Exams (Strings, WW, Brass, Percussion, and Comprehensive Final):	25%
Final Project:	25%

### Grading Scale

For the final grade, the following grading scale will be used:

90 - 100%	A
80 - 89%	B
70 - 79%	C
60 - 69%	D
00 - 59%	F

### Homework Copying/Collaboration Policy

Copying and/or collaboration (working together) on quizzes or homework assignments are considered cheating and will be dealt with severely (First offense: no credit for all papers involved; Second offense: referral for disciplinary action).

### Course Outline (Subject to Change)

Chs. 1 - 5	Strings	01/17 - <b>02/12</b>
Chs. 6 - 8	Woodwinds	02/14 - <b>02/28</b>
Chs. 9 - 11	Brass	03/04 - <b>03/20</b>
Ch. 12 - 14	Percussion	03/25 - <b>04/03</b>
Chs. 15 - 17	Orchestration	

**Unit exams are given on the final day of each Unit (dates in bold). Unit projects are due the following class (coinciding with the beginning of a new Unit).**

## **Final Project**

The final project will involve transcribing a short piano piece for standard orchestra or wind ensemble/band (details forthcoming). The piece you choose to orchestrate **MUST be approved by the instructor on or before Feb. 12**. You will be required to use Finale or Sibelius to supply legible parts, a double-sided, bound, legible score, and you must acquire a conductor, as the piece will be read by either the orchestra or wind ensemble. If you have taken Conducting I and II, you may choose to conduct the piece yourself. Otherwise, a list of prospective conductors will be handed out later in the semester. Please note this is worth 35% of your grade. I have high standards for this class, and expect this to be of the highest quality. (Helpful Hint: begin this project early in the semester. Don't wait until the last minute.)  
Due date for the final project TBA. Wind Ensemble Readings - April 30 and May 2, 12-2pm  
Orchestra Readings -

**Student Syllabus Guidelines:** You may find online a more detailed description of the following policies. These guidelines will also provide you with a link to the specific university policy or procedure:

<http://www.shsu.edu/syllabus/>

**Academic Dishonesty:** Students are expected to maintain honesty and integrity in the academic experiences both in and out of the classroom. See Student Syllabus Guidelines.

**Classroom Rules of Conduct:** Students are expected to assist in maintaining a classroom environment that is conducive to learning. Students are to treat faculty and students with respect. Students are to turn off all cell phones while in the classroom. Under no circumstances are cell phones or any electronic devices to be used or seen during times of examination. Students may tape record lectures provided they do not disturb other students in the process.

**Student Absences on Religious Holy Days:** Students are allowed to miss class and other required activities, including examinations, for the observance of a religious holy day, including travel for that purpose. Students remain responsible for all work. See Student Syllabus Guidelines.

**Students with Disabilities Policy:** It is the policy of Sam Houston State University that individuals otherwise qualified shall not be excluded, solely by reason of their disability, from participation in any academic program of the university. Further, they shall not be denied the benefits of these programs nor shall they be subjected to discrimination. Students with disabilities that might affect their academic performance should visit with the Office of Services for Students with Disabilities located in the Counseling Center. See Student Syllabus Guidelines.

**Visitors in the Classroom:** Only registered students may attend class. Exceptions can be made on a case-by-case basis by the professor. In all cases, visitors must not present a disruption to the class by their attendance. Students wishing to audit a class must apply to do so through the Registrar's Office.