

**University of North Alabama**  
**Department of Music & Theater**  
**COURSE SYLLABUS**

**COURSE TITLE:** MU 361 **Orchestration**

Contact/Credit hours: 2/1

**Meeting time:** T, Th 12:30-1:20p.m.

**Meeting Place:** Room 139

**INSTRUCTOR:** Mr. Viljar P. Weimann

**Office Number and hours:** hours are posted outside of his office, Rm.221

The professor is best reached by e-mail for questions or assistance: [vpweimann@una.edu](mailto:vpweimann@una.edu)

Telephone: 256-765-4708

**Course Description:**

The basic elements of scoring for orchestral instruments will be introduced in a systematic and logical manner. UNA students and faculty members will be asked to demonstrate the practical aspects of instruments.

**Course Text:**

*The Technique of Orchestration*, by Kent Kennon + Accompanying Workbook

**COURSE OBJECTIVES:**

Standard	Assessment
290-3-3-.32(2)(a)1.(i) Knowledge of compositional processes, aesthetic properties of style, and the ways these shape and are shaped by artistic and cultural forces.	Unit tests, projects, class assignments, final exam
290-3-3-.32(2)(a)1.(v) Knowledge of systems of composition and improvisation.	Unit tests, projects, class assignments, final exam
290-3-3-.32(2)(a)2.(i) Ability to hear, identify, and work conceptually with the elements of music such as rhythm, melody, harmony, structure, timbre, and texture.	Unit tests, projects, class assignments, final exam
290-3-3-.32(2)(a)2.(v) Ability to structure composition and improvisation opportunities (for example, the imitation of various musical styles, improvisation on pre-existing materials, the creation of original compositions, experimentation with various sound sources, and manipulation of the common musical elements in non-traditional ways.	Unit tests, projects, class assignments, final exam
290-3-3-.32(2)(b)2.(v) Ability to compose, arrange, or adapt music from a variety of sources.	Unit tests, projects, class assignments, final exam

## **COURSE CONTENT:**

The study of instruments and instrumentation, also the process of scoring for instruments is a necessary skill for teachers of instrumental and vocal/choral music. The students will learn, by the process of listening and writing practice, to assess the colors and ranges of orchestral instruments, and to write for them, using standard scoring methods. For implementing the compositional aspect of the course, they have to write a 16 measure original composition for string orchestra.

## **EVALUATION/GRADING:**

For course objective 3, four tests will be given during the semester and considered test grades. Also home assignments from the workbook will be given, each worth 1 point towards the final grade. The strings composition will be worth 3 points. The final project, in fulfillment of objectives 2 and 3, is a scoring assignment for a full symphony orchestra which has to be turned in on or before the last day of the class. That assignment will have to be done on Sibelius program.

Grades are given as follows:

- 90% A
- 80% B
- 70% C
- 60% D
- 59 and below F

## **ATTENDANCE:**

Students are expected to attend every class. After two unexcused absences, each additional unexcused absence will lower the final grade by ½ grade. Excused absences will be granted with a signed doctor's note or official UNA class excuse. Other emergencies family emergencies will be take to account.

## **Statement of Student with Learning Disabilities:**

**Students with Learning Disabilities should identify themselves to the instructor at the beginning of the semester so that any special considerations can be made to accommodate the students.**

## **Accommodation Statement**

In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the University offers reasonable accommodations to students with eligible documented learning, physical and/or psychological disabilities. Under Title

II of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1990, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, and the Americans with Disabilities Amendment Act of 2008, a disability is defined as a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or more major life activities as compared to an average person in the population. It is the responsibility of the student to contact Disability Support Services to initiate the process to develop an accommodation plan. This accommodation plan will not be applied retroactively. Appropriate, reasonable accommodations will be made to allow each student to meet course requirements, but no fundamental or substantial alteration of academic standards will be made. Students needing assistance should contact Disability Support Services (256-765-4214).

### **Syllabus Study Guide for ORCHESTRATION, MU 361**

**Time: T, Th 12:30-1:20p.m. Rm.139**

**Prf. Weimann**

**Tel.765-4708**

**e-mail: [vpweimann@una.edu](mailto:vpweimann@una.edu)**

**Office: Rm. 221B**

**Materials: The Technique of Orchestration by K. Kennan and D. Grantham  
Plus Workbook**

<b>Thursday, August 25</b>	<b>Introduction</b>	
<b>Tuesday, August 30</b>	<b>Chapter 2</b>	<b>Strings: violin</b>
<b>Thursday, Sept. 1</b>		<b>viola</b>
<b>Tuesday, Sept. 6</b>		<b>cello, bass</b>
<b>workbook pg.1</b>		<b>HOMEWORK:</b>
<b>Thursday, Sept. 8</b>	<b>Chapter 4</b>	<b>Bowings and Special Effects</b>
<b>Tuesday, Sept. 13</b>		<b>continue on bowings, HOMEWORK:</b>
<b>workbook pg.3,4</b>		
<b>Thursday, Sept. 15</b>	<b>Chapter 3</b>	<b>The String Orchestra HOMEWORK:</b>
<b>Compose 16msr. Original composition</b>		
<b>Tuesday, Sept. 20</b>	<b>Review</b>	
<b>Thursday, Sept. 22</b>	<i>Test 1 – strings</i>	
<b>Tuesday, Sept. 27</b>	<b>Chapter 5</b>	<b>The Woodwinds: Flute, Piccolo, alto flute</b>
<b>Thursday, Sept 29</b>		<b>Oboe, English Horn</b>
<b>Tuesday, Oct. 4</b>		<b>Clarinet, Bass Cl, Eb cl.</b>
<b>Homework: pg. 15,16</b>		
<b>Thursday, Oct. 6</b>		<b>Bassoon, Contrabassoon</b>
<b>FALL BREAK Oct.7-9</b>		
	<i>Strings composition DUE Oct.11</i>	
<b>Tuesday, Oct. 11</b>	<b>Chapter 6</b>	<b>The Woodwind Section HOMEWORK:</b>
<b>pg. 23</b>		
<b>Thursday, Oct. 13</b>	<b>REVIEW</b>	
<b>Tuesday, Oct. 18</b>	<i>Test 2 – woodwinds</i>	

Thursday, Oct. 20	Chapter 7	The Horn	
Tuesday, Oct. 25	Chapter 8	The Trumpet, Piccolo	
Thursday, Oct. 27		Trombone Tuba	
Tuesday, Nov. 1	Chapter 9	Brass Section	HOMEWORK:
pg. 28			
Thursday, Nov.3	REVIEW (+final project)		
Tuesday, Nov. 8	Test 3- Horn, Trumpets		
Thursday, Nov.10	Chapter 11 Problems in Transcribing Piano Music		
Tuesday, Nov. 15	Test 4 – Trombone, Tuba		
Thursday, Nov. 17	Chapter 13,14 The Percussion Instruments		
Tuesday, Nov. 22	Review of Final project draft		
THANKSGIVING, Nov. 23-27			
Tuesday, Nov. 29	Review of Final Project drafts		
Thursday, Dec. 1	-“-		
Tuesday, Dec. 6	Final Project due		