

Music 482 Syllabus

Music 482, Choral Arranging (2 credits)
W, 5 pm, E-400 HFAC

Professor: Dr. Neil Thornock
Office hours: knock or by appointment, E-570 HFAC
Contact: 422-1482; neilthornock@gmail.com

Course Description and Objectives

In this course, we will together explore the art and craft of writing effectively for choir. This will include arranging existing music to fit unusual ensembles, writing a new arrangement based on a tune, and original composition. We will explore a variety of textures, harmonic approaches, and structural issues.

Prerequisites

You must have passed Music 294, 296, and 298 with a C- or higher to enroll for this course.

Materials

Paper/pencils/etc.
ALWAYS have ample staff paper on hand!

Grading

Assignments: 55%
Participation: 25%
Final project: 20%

Assignments

You will have composition/arranging assignments due.

Participation

You earn the participation grade in the following ways:

1. Attendance. Be on time. Stay for the whole class.
2. Contributing to a distraction-free environment:
 - Cell phones turned completely off for the entire class.
 - No food or drink.
 - Conversation kept on-topic.
3. Active participation in classroom work. Learning is best accomplished as a community. I expect each person to contribute whatever you have to offer.
4. Respect and kindness toward everyone.

At the end of the semester, you will assign yourself a 1-10 grade for participation with a brief (two- or three-sentence) explanation. The participation grade is due by email by the end of finals week. If I do not receive a participation grade from you, the highest grade you can receive is an 8.

Exams

No exams. Sorry. Not even a final (we'll perform the projects instead).

Course Schedule

Date	Content	Due on this day
Jan 6	Basic considerations 2-part arranging	
13	2-part arranging continued	2-part Project 1: Homophony
20	3-part arranging	2-part Project 2: Polyphony
27	3-part arranging continued	3-part Project 1
Feb 3	4-part arranging	3-part Project 2
10	4-part arranging continued	4-part Project 1
17	Using the keyboard	4-part Project 2
24	Beginnings and endings	Keyboard Project
Mar 3	Approaches to texture	Beginning of an Arrangement
10	Approaches to harmony	Texture Project
17	Approaches to modulation	Harmony Project
24	Writing a climax	Start final projects
31	Projects	
Apr 7	Projects	

Final: Project Due – Tuesday April 20, 8-10 pm