

# **Arranging & Composition Syllabus**

**MUSP 1201**

**Applied Commercial Music: Arranging & Composition**

**Commercial Music Program**

**Creative Arts Department**

**Technical Education Division**

**Levelland Campus**

**South Plains College**

## SCANS COMPETENCIES

### RESOURCES - Identifies, organizes, plans and allocates resources.

- C-1 A TIME –Selects goal – relevant activity, ranks them allocates time, and prepares and follows schedules.
- C-2 MONEY - Uses or prepares budgets, makes forecasts, keeps records, and makes adjustments to meet objectives
- C-3 MATERIALS & FACILITIES - Acquires, stores, allocates, and uses materials or space efficiently.
- C-4 HUMAN RESOURCES – Assesses skills and distributes work accordingly, evaluates performances and provides feedback

### INFORMATION – Acquires and Uses Information

- C-5 Acquires and evaluates information.
- C-6 Organizes and maintains information
- C-7 Interprets and communicates information.
- C-8 Uses computers to Process information.

### INTERPERSONAL - Works with others

- C-9 Participates as members of a team and contributes to group effort.
- C-10 Teaches others new skills
- C-11 Serves clients/customers – works to satisfy customer’s expectations
- C-12 Exercises leadership – communicates ideas to justify position, persuades and convinces others, responsibly challenges existing procedures and policies
- C-13 Negotiates – Works toward agreements involving exchanges of resources resolves divergent interests
- C-14 Works with Diversity – Works well with men and women from diverse backgrounds

### SYSTEMS – Understands Complex Interrelationships

- C-15 Understands Systems – Knows how social, organizational, and technological systems work and operates effectively with them
- C-16 Monitors and Correct Performance – Distinguishes trends, predicts impacts on system operations, diagnoses systems performance and corrects malfunctions
- C-17 Improves or Designs Systems – Suggests modifications to existing systems and develops new or alternative systems to improve performance

### TECHNOLOGY – Works with a variety of technologies

- C-18 Selects Technology – Chooses procedures, tools, or equipment including computers and related technologies
- C-19 Applies Technology to Task-Understands overall intent and proper procedures for setup and operation of equipment
- C-20 Maintains and Troubleshoots Equipment – Prevents, identifies, or solves problems with equipment, including computers and other technologies.

## FOUNDATION SKILLS

### BASIC SKILLS – Reads, writes, performs arithmetic and mathematical operations, listens and speaks

- F-1 Reading – locates, understands, and interprets written information in prose and in documents such as manuals, graphs, and schedules
- F-2 Writing – Communicates thoughts, ideas, information and messages in writing, and creates documents such as letters, directions, manuals, reports, graphs, and flow charts
- F-3 Arithmetic – Performs basic computations, uses basic numerical concepts such as whole numbers, etc.
- F-4 Mathematics – Approaches practical problems by choosing appropriately from a variety of mathematical techniques
- F-5 Listening – Receives, attends to, interprets, and responds to verbal messages and other cues
- F-6 Speaking – Organizes ideas and communicates orally

### THINKING SKILLS – Thinks creatively, makes decisions, solves problems, visualizes, and knows how to learn and reason

- F-7 Creative Thinking – Generates new ideas
- F-8 Decision Making – Specifies goals and constraints, generates alternatives, considers risks, and evaluates and chooses best alternative
- F-9 Problem Solving – Recognizes problems and devises and implements plan of action
- F-10 Seeing Things in the Minds Eye – Organizes and processes symbols, pictures, graphs, objects and other information
- F-11 Knowing How to Learn – Uses efficient learning techniques to acquire and apply new knowledge and skills
- F-12 Reasoning – Discovers a rule or principle underlying the relationship between two or more objects and applies it when solving a problem

### PERSONAL QUALITIES – Displays responsibility, self-esteem, sociability, self-management, integrity and honesty

- F-13 Responsibility – Exerts a high level of effort and preservers towards goal attainment
- F-14 Self-Esteem - Believes in own self-worth and maintains a positive view of self
- F-15 Sociability – Demonstrates understanding, friendliness, adaptability, empathy, and politeness in group settings
- F-16 Self-Management – Assesses self accurately, sets personal goals, monitors progress, and exhibits self-control
- F-17 Integrity/Honesty – Chooses ethical courses of action.

# COURSE SYLLABUS

## Course Title: MUSP 1201– Applied Commercial Music: Arranging & Composition

### Private Music Lessons in the Commercial Music Department –

Private instruction in arranging and composition with goals related to commercial music. This course is open to all South Plains College students seeking the Associate of Applied Arts Degree with an emphasis on songwriting, or the Enhanced Skills Certificate in Commercial Music.

## MUSP 1201 –Applied Commercial Music: Arranging & Composition

### South Plains College Improves Each Student’s Life

#### I. General Course Information:

- A. Description: Private instruction in arranging & composition with goals related to commercial music.

Note: The student will have one hour of private instruction per week during which time the instructor will guide and monitor the student’s daily practice. The remaining 3.0 **lab** hours per week are guided study under the supervision of the instructor, and will be specific to arranging and composition.

- B. Course Learning Outcomes: Demonstrate proficiency in commercial music songwriting/composing; develop a professional, disciplined approach to performance skills; and present a juried portfolio for faculty. [Demonstrate proficiency in commercial music arranging and composition; develop a professional disciplined approach to arranging and composition; and prepare written projects for performance ensembles.]

The student will demonstrate proficiency in the *technique and theory* of creating musical arrangements and compositions; develop a disciplined professional approach to transcription and chart-making; and prepare written arrangements for performance ensembles.

- C. Course Competencies: Students should have earned an A.A.A. Degree in Commercial Music (or at least made significant progress toward that degree, and receive the approval of their advisor or instructor before enrolling).

- D. Academic Integrity: It is the aim of the faculty of South Plains College to foster a spirit of complete honesty and a high standard of integrity. The attempt of any student to present as his or her own work which he or she has not honestly performed is regarded by the faculty and administration as a most serious offense and renders the offender liable to serious consequences, possibly suspension. Students should refer to the SPC General Catalog, pg. 22-23; regarding consequences for cheating and plagiarism (see “Academic Integrity” as well as “Student Conduct” sections).

- E. SCANS COMPETENCIES: C – 1, 3, 5, 6, 7, 9, 15, 18, 19

FOUNDATION SKILLS: F – 1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16

- F. Verification of Workplace Competencies: Successful completion of this course will equip the student with many of the skills necessary to complete the Capstone Experience (presented at the end of the second semester of study for certificate candidates and at the end of the fourth semester of study for degree candidates).

**Capstone Experience**: Students seeking the A.A.A. Degree or Certificate in Commercial Music must satisfactorily complete all departmental requirements as a musical performer in a full-length televised public performance (music festival). These festivals occur twice a year (once at the completion of the fall and spring semesters).

**Barrier Exam I**: Students seeking the Certificate in Commercial Music must pass a test of minimum performance standards administered by a qualified panel of faculty members. This test is arranged by appointment with the department.

**Barrier Exam II**: Students seeking the A.A.A. Degree in Commercial Music must pass a test of minimum advanced performance standards administered by a qualified panel of faculty members. This test is arranged by appointment with the department.

Standards for the Barrier Exams shall be determined and published by the faculty. In all cases, the standards under which a student matriculates will remain in force, unless the student chooses to accept the current standard instead.

#### II. Specific Course/Instructor Requirements:

- A. The instructor will select specific transcription and notation projects based on the student’s area of specialization.
- B. Attendance Policy: After missing three unexcused lessons, the student’s grade will be lowered one letter grade for each subsequent absence. The instructor will determine the validity (with respect to this course) of each excuse.
- C. Lab hours may consist of rehearsals, concerts and workshops and other activities deemed appropriate by the instructor. Teachers may substitute “directed” study activities for these events for students who cannot attend on-campus events. Attendance forms and credit descriptions may be acquired from your instructor.

- D. **Assignment Policy:** Each lesson will begin with a review of the material assigned at the previous lesson. Each lesson will conclude with a brief summary of the new material and the assignment for the next lesson. A daily numerical grade will be assigned by the instructor based on his evaluation of the student's accomplishment of the assigned goals. Also, see [E.] below. Students enrolled in Commercial Music Ensembles are required to take private instrument/voice lessons (waiver subject to the discretion of the department head). This enables the student to gain advantage from the teacher's ensemble experience.
- E. **Grading Policy/Procedure:** The final grade will be constituted as follows:
- An average of daily grades.
  - An average of lab hour credits
  - A midterm exam
  - A final exam
- The weighting & evaluation of these tests lies at the discretion of the instructor(s).  
The instructor may excuse absences, but assignments will not be accepted late. Generally, letter grades are assigned as follows:  
A: 90-100, B: 80-89, C: 70-79, D: 60-69, F: Below 60.
- F. **Special Requirements:** Students should have earned the A.A.A. degree in Commercial music (or at least made significant progress toward that degree, and received the approval of their advisor or instructor).
- G. Cell phones are prohibited in the classroom. One class disruption will be allowed. After that, a student whose phone rings or who is caught texting will receive a 0 for the day and be asked to remove themselves from class.
- H. Should a epidemic arise, such as swine flu, any student feeling ill or running a fever of 99 or above is prohibited from attending class until 24 hours after the fever has been absent. The instructor will make every attempt to provide online work or extra bookwork to make up for the absence.

### III. Course Outline:

#### *Outline by Topic:*

The depth of exploration into each area will be determined by the instructor, based on the student's individual level of ability, the student's expressed musical goals.

**Technique:** Systematic study of best practices pertaining to composing music for a variety of musical genres.

**Theory:** Knowledge of theoretical concepts as they apply to the creation and arrangement of musical works.

**Notation/ Arranging:** Arranging original compositions using standard notation, Nashville numbering system and/or standard chord symbols.

**Ear Training:** Guidance in composing songs in various genres and styles as directed by the instructor.

**Composition:** Ability to create music in various forms to complete the requirements for Barrier 1 and 2 as guided by the instructor.

*Outline by Week:* A schedule of projects and deadlines shall be provided by the instructor.

### IV. Accommodations

South Plains College strives to accommodate the individual needs of all students in order to enhance their opportunities for success in the context of a comprehensive community college setting. It is the policy of South Plains College to offer all educational and employment opportunities without regard to race, color, national origin, religion, gender, disability or age (SPC Equal Opportunity Policy—General Catalog).

### V. Disabilities

A student who enrolls in this class that may need classroom accommodations is strongly encouraged to schedule an intake interview with the special services department before enrolling in this class or prior to the add/drop date for this semester.

#### **Levelland Campus**

Students with disabilities, including but not limited to physical, psychiatric, or learning disabilities, who wish to request accommodations in this class should notify the Disability Services Office early in the semester so that the appropriate arrangements may be made. In accordance with federal law, a student requesting accommodations must provide acceptable documentation of his/her disability. For more information, call or visit the Disability Services Office in the Student Health & Wellness Office, 806-716-2577.

#### **Reese Center and the Byron Martin Advanced Technology Center (ATC)**

Students with disabilities, including but not limited to physical, psychiatric, or learning disabilities, who wish to request accommodations in this class should notify the Disability Services Office early in the semester so that the appropriate arrangements may be made. In accordance with federal law, a student requesting accommodations must provide acceptable documentation of his/her disability. For more information, call or visit the Disability Services Office at, Reese Center Building 8, 806-716-4675.

### VI. Diversity

In this class, the teacher will establish and support an environment that values and nurtures individual and group differences and encourages engagement and interaction. Understanding and respecting multiple experiences and perspectives will serve to

challenge and stimulate all of us to learn about others, about the larger world and about ourselves. By promoting diversity and intellectual exchange, we will not only mirror society as it is, but also model society as it should and can be.

## **VII. Injury Or Illness Addendum**

In the event that you are injured or are ill, creating a situation where you cannot perform for an extended period, it is agreed that the student will drop this course if the instructor deems it appropriate.

## **Disabilities Statement**

Students with disabilities, including but not limited to physical, psychiatric, or learning disabilities, who wish to request accommodations in this class should notify the Disability Services Office early in the semester so that the appropriate arrangements may be made. In accordance with federal law, a student requesting accommodations must provide acceptable documentation of his/her disability to the Disability Services Office. For more information, call or visit the Disability Services Office at Levelland (Student Health & Wellness Office) 806-716-2577, Reese Center (Building 8) 806-716-4675, or Plainview Center (Main Office) 806-716-4302 or 806-296-9611.

**TexBook Program:** *This course is in the SPC TexBook program, so you do not need to purchase a textbook or access code for this course.*

- **What is TexBook?** The required textbook/digital content for this course is available to you in Blackboard from the first day of class. The fee for the textbook/digital content is the lowest price available from the publisher and bookstore and is included in your tuition/fee payment.
- **How do I access my TexBook?** Your course material is in your Blackboard course from the first day of class. Access to your course material is provided either by RedShelf or other links inside your Blackboard course. RedShelf (and many publisher's) ebook features include the ability to hear the text read aloud, highlight, take notes, create flash cards, see word definitions, build study guides, print select pages, and download up to 20% of the book for offline access.
- **Help with TexBook issues and support:** check with your professor and/or contact <https://solve.redshelf.com/hc/en-us/requests/new>
- **Opting out of TexBook:** Participating in TexBook is not mandatory, and you can choose to opt-out. However; by opting-out you will lose access to the course [textbook/digital content] and competitive pricing, and you will need to purchase the required course material on your own. If you drop the class or opt-out before the opt-out deadline, the TexBook charge will be automatically refunded to your SPC account. The opt-out deadline for Fall and Spring is the twelfth class day. The opt-out deadline for shorter terms varies between the second and third class day.

*\*Please consult with your professor before deciding to opt-out.*

If you still feel that you should purchase the course textbook/materials on your own, send an **opt-out email** to **tfewell4texasbookcompany@gmail.com**. Include your first name, last name, student ID number, and the course you are opting out of. Once you have been opted-out, you will receive a confirmation email. If you need assistance with the process, contact the SPC Bookstore:

**Email:** tfewell@texasbook.com / **Phone:** 806-716-2399

**Email:** agamble@texasbook.com / **Phone:** 806-716-4610



# STUDENT CONTRACT

## Creative Arts Department Commercial Music Private Instrument

As stated in the private lesson syllabi:

“...those seeking degrees under the Creative Arts Department may be subject to additional curricular Requirements, including completion of a Capstone Experience.”

[Sec. I, C.]

Course competencies:

**Departmental Competency Standards** have been developed as guidelines for those seeking the A.A.A. Degree or Certificate in commercial Music. However, these are a technical “base-line” only and may not constitute total compliance with class assignments.

**Juries** –A jury is a cumulative final exam over the course of study. The instructor shall determine the membership of the jury.

[Sec. I, F.]

**Verification of Workplace Competencies:** Successful completion of this course will equip the student with many of the skills necessary to complete the Capstone Experience (presented at the end of the second semester of study for certificate candidates and at the end of the fourth semester of study for degree candidates).

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**Barrier Exam I:** Students seeking the Certificate in Commercial Music or seeking to advance to Level II courses, must pass a test of minimum performance standards administered by a qualified panel of faculty members. This test is arranged by appointment with the department.

**Barrier Exam II:** Students seeking the A.A.A. Degree in commercial Music must pass a test of minimum advanced performance standards, administered by a qualified panel of faculty members. This test is arranged by appointment with the department.

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[Sec. I, A.]

**Lab Hours:** Remaining lab hours per syllabi are guided study hours per week, outside of actual private lesson times, during which time the instructor may require outside activities such as, but not limited to rehearsals, concerts, workshops and other activities deemed appropriate by the instructor. Teachers may substitute “directed” study activities for these events for students who cannot attend on-campus events. Attendance forms and credit descriptions may be acquired from your instructor.

In signing this document, I affirm that these policies affect my status as a student.

[Initial \_\_\_\_\_]

I understand that, in order for this course to count toward the completion of a Commercial Music Certificate or Degree Plan, I must satisfy other requirements **outside and beyond the scope of this course.**

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_

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In signing this document, I affirm that these policies affect my status as a student.

[Initial \_\_\_\_\_]

I understand that, in order for this course to count toward the completion of a Commercial Music Certificate or Degree Plan, I must satisfy other requirements **outside and beyond the scope of this course.**

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_

**Student Information Form**

**Full Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Preferred Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Student ID #:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Phone #:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Cell Phone #:** \_\_\_\_\_

**E-mail:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Major:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Primary Instrument:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Music Preference:** \_\_\_\_\_

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**Musical Experience and Former Training:** \_\_\_\_\_

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**Goals for this class:** \_\_\_\_\_

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**Class:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Level:** \_\_\_\_\_