

Note:

Course content may be changed, term to term, without notice. The information below is provided as a guide for course selection and is not binding in any form, and should not be used to purchase course materials.

COURSE SYLLABUS

WMUS 525

ADVANCED CONTEMPORARY ARRANGING TECHNIQUES

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course is designed to teach and develop advanced skills as an arranger of vocal and instrumental ensembles. Chord chart writing and arranging techniques relevant to the rhythm section (keyboards, bass, guitar, drums, and percussion) and contemporary rhythm idioms will be explained and studied. Students will be expected to demonstrate skill in scoring for praise bands, orchestras, singers, and choirs. A major worship arranging project is required.

RATIONALE

There is a growing need to worship leaders and pastors of worship to write and arrange songs strategically for the unique needs of their congregations. These worship arrangers need an understanding of the principles of arranging as well as significant “hands on” experience in contemporary worship music styles, including vocal, choral, and instrumental groups. These creative arrangers need to write for large and small ensemble groups.

I. PREREQUISITE

For information regarding prerequisites for this course, please refer to the [Academic Course Catalog](#).

II. REQUIRED RESOURCE PURCHASE

Click on the following link to view the required resource(s) for the term in which you are registered: <http://bookstore.mbsdirect.net/liberty.htm>

III. ADDITIONAL MATERIALS FOR LEARNING

- A. Computer with basic audio/video output equipment
- B. Internet access (broadband recommended)
- C. Blackboard [recommended browsers](#)
- D. Microsoft Office

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V. MEASURABLE LEARNING OUTCOMES

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

- A. Arrange a rhythm chart for a contemporary worship band.
- B. Compose a rhythm chart for a contemporary worship band.
- C. Write arrangements using rhythm, vocal, wind, brass, and stringed instruments.
- D. Write for the characteristics of individual instruments and sections of instruments.

VI. COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND ASSIGNMENTS

A. Lecture presentations

B. Course Requirements Checklist

After reading the Course Syllabus and [Student Expectations](#), the student will complete the related checklist found in Module/Week 1.

C. Discussion Board Forums (4)

Discussion boards are collaborative learning experiences. Therefore, the student is required to create a thread in response to the provided prompt for each forum.

Each thread must be at least 400 words and demonstrate course-related knowledge. In addition to the thread, the student is required to reply to 2 other classmates' threads. Each reply must be at least 250 words.

D. Assignments (10)

The student will create musical scores and arrangements. Each assignment must demonstrate a working knowledge of the course Reading & Study materials.

E. Final Project

The student will create a full-length arrangement of a worship song, hymn, or original song (with approval of the instructor), including appropriate vocal, rhythm, and orchestral parts. There will be a choice of style: worship (or original) 3-part vocals with sweetening orchestration, or hymn (or original) 4-part vocals with symphonic orchestration. The arrangement will be a minimum of 36 measures with orchestral accompaniment. Transposed individual parts with specifications are required.

VII. COURSE GRADING AND POLICIES**A. Points**

Course Requirements Checklist	10
Discussion Board Forums (4 at 50 pts ea)	200
Assignments (10 at 60 pts ea)	600
Final Project	200
Total	1010

B. Scale

A = 940–1010 A- = 920–939 B+ = 900–919 B = 860–899 B- = 840–859
 C+ = 820–839 C = 780–819 C- = 760–779 D+ = 740–759 D = 700–739
 D- = 680–699 F = 0–679

C. Disability Assistance

Students with a documented disability may contact Liberty University Online's Office of Disability Accommodation Support (ODAS) at LUOODAS@liberty.edu to make arrangements for academic accommodations. Further information can be found at www.liberty.edu/disabilitysupport.

If you have a complaint related to disability discrimination or an accommodation that was not provided, you may contact ODAS or the Office of Equity and Compliance by phone at (434) 592-4999 or by email at equityandcompliance@liberty.edu. Click to see a full copy of Liberty's [Discrimination, Harassment, and Sexual Misconduct Policy](#) or the [Student Disability Grievance Policy and Procedures](#).

COURSE SCHEDULE

WMUS 525

MODULE/ WEEK	READING & STUDY	ASSIGNMENTS	POINTS
1	6 presentations 6 videos	Course Requirements Checklist	10
		Class Introductions	0
		DB Forum 1	50
		Assignment 1 – How Great Thou Art, Contemporary	60
		Assignment 2 – Blessed Assurance, Contemporary	60
2	4 presentations	Assignment 3 – Amazing Grace	60
		Assignment 4 – Chord Analyzation	60
3	4 presentations	DB Forum 2	50
		Assignment 5 – A Cappella Arrangement	60
4	3 presentations 1 video	Assignment 6 – Rescore You Are Good	60
5	1 presentations 2 videos	DB Forum 3	50
		Assignment 7 – Rescore Blessed Assurance	60
6	3 presentations	Assignment 8 – Hallelujah Chorus	60
7	2 presentations 1 video	DB Forum 4	50
		Assignment 9 – Celtic Style Arrangement	60
		Assignment 10 – Halo Style Composition	60
8	3 presentations	Final Project	200
TOTAL			1010

DB = Discussion Board

NOTE: Each course module/week begins on Monday morning at 12:00 a.m. (ET) and ends on Sunday night at 11:59 p.m. (ET). The final module/week ends at 11:59 p.m. (ET) on **Friday**.