

MUS-1720: ARRANGING I

Cuyahoga Community College

Viewing: MUS-1720 : Arranging I

Board of Trustees:

March 2025

Academic Term:

Fall 2025

Subject Code

MUS - Music

Course Number:

1720

Title:

Arranging I

Catalog Description:

Writing and Arranging for the modern rhythm section including piano, guitar, bass, drums and auxiliary percussion: writing and arranging techniques address the rhythm section as a unit and as part of a small or large ensemble.

Credit Hour(s):

2

Lecture Hour(s):

2

Requisites

Prerequisite and Corequisite

MUS-1600 Traditional Theory I, or departmental approval.

Outcomes

Course Outcome(s):

Compose and arrange for rhythm section in multiple genres.

Essential Learning Outcome Mapping:

Critical/Creative Thinking: Analyze, evaluate, and synthesize information in order to consider problems/ideas and transform them in innovative or imaginative ways.

Objective(s):

1. Analyze song form in a variety of musical styles to understand the relationships of the introduction, verse, chorus, interludes, bridges, and endings.
 2. Manipulate melodic rhythm via anticipations and delayed attacks to create a new stylistic interpretation in the styles of swing, Latin, and funk.
 3. Apply appropriate rhythmic notation to demonstrate the imaginary bar lines by completing prepared workbook assignments.
 4. Create drum notation to express a variety of styles including swing, Latin, rock and funk in workbook assignments and independent projects.
 5. Create appropriate bass lines in a variety of styles including swing, Latin, funk, and rock in workbook assignments and independent projects.
 6. Create appropriate guitar notation to express a variety of styles including swing, Latin, rock and funk in workbook assignments and independent projects.
 7. Create appropriate piano/keyboard notation to express a variety of styles including swing, Latin, rock and funk in workbook assignments and independent projects.
 8. Create a concerted musical arrangement that notates and expresses accurately the role of piano, bass, guitar, and drums in a rhythm section.
-

Methods of Evaluation:

1. Assignments and projects
2. Tests and quizzes
3. In-class participation
4. Response to recorded examples

Course Content Outline:

1. Overview of the Arranging Process
2. The Rhythm Section
 - a. Drums
 - b. Bass
 - c. Guitar
 - d. Keyboards
3. Introduction to Styles
 - a. Drums
 - b. Bass
4. Form
 - a. Song Form
 - b. Blues
 - c. Binary (Simple vs. Complex)
5. Score Layout
 - a. Part I Open vs. Closed Score
 - b. Instrument Order
 - c. Rehearsal Letters and Numbers
6. Melody
 - a. Basic Structure and Adaptation of Melody to accommodate different styles
 - b. Anticipations and delays
7. Styles
 - a. Rock/Pop
 - b. Swing
 - c. Bossa Nova
 - d. Samba and Funk
8. Arranging Process and Considerations
9. Score Layout
 - a. Part II Common symbols
 - b. Terminology and notation
10. Chart Writing
11. Arranging Choices
 - a. Writing Drum
 - b. Bass
 - c. Guitar
 - d. Keyboard Parts
12. Development
 - a. Choosing melodic and accompaniment instruments
 - b. Melody (Range and rhythmic considerations) Guitar and Keyboard Voicings
 - c. Changes in Groove and Dynamic Variety

Resources

Doezema, Bob. *Arranging I Workbook*. Berklee College of Music, 1997.

Kennedy, Nolan, Gates, Kamp. *Arranging I Supplemental Material*. Berklee Press, 1999.

McGrain, M. *Music Notation: Theory and Technique for Music Notation*. Berklee Press, 1990.

Moretti, Stagnaro and Nicholl. *Essential grooves, Arranging I Set-Multi Media Version*.

Feist, J. *Berklee Contemporary Music Notation*. Berklee Press, 2017.

Guerra, S. *Intro to Jazz Arranging*. 2022. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PK0Nzdfif5U>

Neely, A. *7 Modern Arranging Techniques*. 2020. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ifHIQ3lsULY>

Krantzberg, E. *Arranging Rhythm Section Parts Explained*. 2024. <https://www.groove3.com/products/Arranging-Rhythm-Section-Parts-Explained>

Resources Other

1. Berg, Kris. *Bass Lines in Minutes*, 1984
2. Chapin, Jim. *Advance Techniques for the Modern Drummer*, 1972.
3. Coolman, Todd. *The Bottom Line*, 1986
4. DeGreg, Phil. *Jazz Keyboard Voicings and Harmony*, 1992
5. Friedland, Ed. *Building Walking Bass Lines*, 1992
6. Haerle, Dan. *Jazz Piano Voicing Skills*, 1985
7. Kirk, Willis F. *Brushfire*, 1994
8. McNeely, Jim. *The Art of Compin*, 1995
9. Mantooth, Frank. *Voicings for Jazz Piano*, 1987
10. Suisbruck, Birger. *Latin American Percussion*, 1996

Top of page

Key: 3154