

**Central Washington University**  
**Department of Music**

MUS 422A  
Winter 2009

# Orchestration

## SYLLABUS

*Instructor:* Dr. Elaine M. Ross

*Office:* 218 – Music Building

*Office Phone:* 963-1420

*Office Hours:* T & Th 9:00 – 10:00 a.m. and M, T, W, Th. 1:00 – 2:00 p.m.

*e-mail:* [rosse@cwu.edu](mailto:rosse@cwu.edu)

**Prerequisites:** MUS 246 or Permission of Instructor

**Required Materials:**

- The Study of Orchestration, Third Edition by Samuel Adler, W.W. Norton, 2002.
- Workbook for The Study of Orchestration, Third Edition by Samuel Adler, W.W. Norton, 2002.
- Manuscript Paper
- Notebook
- Pencil
- Other Handouts and Worksheets (students are responsible for downloading and printing):  
Posted on Blackboard: <http://courses.cwu.edu/>
- Music Notation Software (Recommended for Projects)

**Course Description/Content:** Orchestration is an introduction to the various modern instruments and their usage including the study of Baroque through 20<sup>th</sup> century techniques. Emphasis will be placed on characteristics of the score; general and specific characteristics of each instrument; special devices and effects of each instrument; and general guidelines of orchestration for various ensembles. Students will also be asked to identify instruments and techniques aurally.

**Expected Learning Outcomes:** Upon completion of MUS 422 students will be able to:

- Identify specific characteristics of each instrument
- Understand principles of scoring for each instrument category
- Transcribe/arrange short excerpts for a given instrumentation
- Understand and incorporate special devices and special effects
- Identify instruments, special effects and devices, and scoring techniques aurally
- Understand terminology, transpositions, scoring techniques, and notation pertaining to individual instruments, instrument categories, and larger ensembles.

**Assessment of Learning Outcomes:** The following methods will be used to assess your progress towards the learning outcomes given above:

- Written worksheets
- Listening Assignments
- Small Scoring Assignments
- Scoring Projects for Instrument Categories
- A variety of in-class activities
- Final Exam
- Final Scoring Project of a chamber or larger ensemble

**Criteria for Grading:** Your final grade will be determined as follows:

Daily Written, Listening or Scoring Assignments	20%
Scoring Projects (4) Strings, Woodwinds, Brass, & Percussion)	30%
Four Tests	25%
Final Project	10%
Final Exam	10%
Attendance, Preparation, & Participation	5%

**Grading scale:** The final grade is determined based on the following percentage allocation:

	87 – 89 = B+	77 – 79 = C+	67 – 69 = D+
94–100 = A	83 – 86 = B	73 – 76 = C	64 – 66 = D
90 – 93 = A-	80 – 82 = B-	70 – 72 = C-	0 – 63 = F

**Attendance:** Attendance is required and expected. If you are unable to attend class, please leave an email or phone message for the instructor indicating the reason for your absence. If you anticipate missing class, you should inform the instructor in advance, otherwise the absence will be unexcused. Acceptable excuses are a personal illness, a death in the family, or a university-sponsored trip. Unexcused absences in excess of 4 will result in an automatic grade of F. However, perfect or nearly perfect attendance will assist the final grade in favor of the student. Two tardies will equal an absence. (Be on time!!!).

**Assignment due dates:** Assignments are due at the beginning of the class session. Late assignments will not be accepted without an acceptable excuse supported by documentation. Failure to attend class does not excuse late assignments (leave them in your instructor’s mailbox before class if unable to attend). Assignments must be on time. Please plan ahead and pace yourself accordingly.

**Incompletes:** The grade of incomplete is granted only in cases of documented emergencies or illness, and then only when permission has been obtained from the instructor, no later than one week before the final class meeting.

**Academic Integrity:** A student responsible for scholastic dishonesty may be assigned an automatic grade of an “F” for the course. Students may certainly work together on homework assignments. However, copying assignments is unacceptable and may require action according to the CWU guidelines. Central Washington University maintains a strong stance on academic dishonesty: “If you engage in academic dishonesty related to this class, you will receive a failing

grade on the test or assignment, and a failing grade in the course. In addition, the case will be referred to the Dean of Students for appropriate disciplinary action.”

# MUS 422A Winter 2009

# ORCHESTRATION

## Course Schedule

### Week 1 –

**Jan. 6**

Reading: Chapters 1 & 3  
In-Class: Introduction  
The Orchestra  
Introduction of String Instruments  
Assignment: HW1

**Jan. 8**

***Due:*** ***HW1***  
Reading: Chapters 2 & 3  
In-Class: String Instruments  
Bowling & Special Techniques  
Assignment: HW2

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### Week 2 –

**Jan. 13**

***Due:*** ***HW2***  
Reading: Chapter 2  
In-Class: Bowed String Instruments  
Assignment: HW3

**Jan. 15**

***Due:*** ***HW3***  
Reading: Chapters 4 & 5  
In-Class: Plucked String Instruments  
Scoring for Strings  
Assignment: HW4  
Scoring Project No. 1 (Strings)

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### Week 3 –

**Jan. 20**

***Due:*** ***HW4***  
Reading: Chapter 5  
In-Class: Scoring for Strings  
Test Yourself I - Strings  
Assignment: Study for Test No. 1 (Strings)  
Work on Scoring Project No. 1 (Strings)

**Jan. 22**

Reading: Chapter 6  
In-Class: ***Test No. 1 (Strings)***  
The Woodwind Choir

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Assignment: Finish Scoring Project No. 1 (Strings)

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**Week 4 –**

**Jan. 27**

**Due:** *Scoring Project No. 1 (Strings)*  
**Reading:** Chapters 6 & 7  
**In-Class:** Individual Woodwind Instruments  
**Assignment:** HW5

**Jan. 22**

**Due:** *HW5*  
**Reading:** Chapter 7  
**In-Class:** Individual Woodwind Instruments  
**Assignment:** HW6

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**Week 5 –**

**Feb. 3**

**Due:** *HW6*  
**Reading:** Chapters 7 & 8  
**In-Class:** Individual Woodwind Instruments  
Scoring for Woodwinds  
**Assignment:** HW7

**Feb. 5**

**Due:** *HW7*  
**Reading:** Chapter 8  
**In-Class:** Scoring for Woodwinds & Strings  
Test Yourself II - Woodwinds  
**Assignment:** Study for Test No. 2 (Woodwinds)  
Work on Scoring Project No. 2 (Woodwinds)

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**Week 6 –**

**Feb. 10**

**Reading:** Chapter 9  
**In-Class:** *Test No. 2 (Woodwinds)*  
Introduction to Brass Instruments  
**Assignment:** Finish Scoring Project No. 2 (Woodwinds)

**Feb. 12**

**Due:** *Scoring Project No. 2 (Woodwinds)*  
**Reading:** Chapters 9 & 10  
**In-Class:** Individual Brass Instruments  
**Assignment:** HW8

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**Week 7 –**

**Feb. 17**

**Due:** *HW8*  
**Reading:** Chapter 11  
**In-Class:** Scoring for Brass Instruments  
**Assignment:** Study for Test No. 3 (Brass)  
Work on Scoring Project No. 3 (Brass)

**Feb. 19**

**Reading:** Chapter 12  
**In-Class:** *Test No. 3 (Brass)*  
The Percussion Ensemble  
**Assignment:** Finish Scoring Project No. 3 (Brass)

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**Week 8 –**

**Feb. 24**

**Due:** *Scoring Project No. 3 (Brass)*  
**Reading:** Chapter 12  
**In-Class:** Percussion: Instruments of Definite Pitch  
**Assignment:** HW9

**Feb. 26**

**Due:** *HW9*  
**Reading:** Chapter 12 & 13  
**In-Class:** Percussion: Instruments of Indefinite Pitch  
Keyboard Instruments  
**Assignment:** HW10

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**Week 9 –**

**Mar. 3**

**Due:** *HW10*  
**Reading:** Chapter 13-14  
**In-Class:** Scoring for Percussion  
Test Yourself IV (Percussion and Keyboard)  
**Assignment:** Study for Test No. 4 (Percussion)  
Work on Scoring Project No. 4 (Percussion)

**Mar. 5**

**Reading:** Chapter 15 & 19  
**In-Class:** *Test No. 4 (Percussion and Keyboard)*  
Scoring for Orchestra/Band or Wind Ensemble  
**Assignment:** Finish Scoring Project No. 4 (Percussion)  
Begin Final Project

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**Week 10 –**

**Mar. 10**

**Due:** *Scoring Project No. 4 (Percussion)*  
**Reading:** Chapters 15 & 19  
**In-Class:** Scoring for Orchestra/Band or Wind Ensemble  
**Assignment:** Work on Final Project

**Mar. 12**

**Reading:** Chapters 15 & 19  
**In-Class:** Special Devices – Infrequently used Instruments  
**Assignment:** Finish Final Project  
Study for Final Exam

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**Final Exam Week: Mar. 16-20**

**Tuesday, March 17<sup>th</sup>: 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.**  
**Written Exam**  
**Final Project Presentations**