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
MUSC 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 pop/rock 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. Microsoft Office

IV. 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.
V. **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.

VI. **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. Late Assignment Policy

   If the student is unable to complete an assignment on time, then he or she must contact the instructor immediately by email.

   Assignments that are submitted after the due date without prior approval from the instructor will receive the following deductions:
1. Late assignments submitted within one week of the due date will receive a 10% deduction.

2. Assignments submitted more than one week late will receive a 20% deduction.

3. Assignments submitted two weeks late or after the final date of the course will not be accepted.

4. Late Discussion Board threads or replies will not be accepted.

Special circumstances (e.g., death in the family, personal health issues) will be reviewed by the instructor on a case-by-case basis.

D. Disability Assistance

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

## MUSC 525

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Module/Week</th>
<th>Reading &amp; Study</th>
<th>Assignments</th>
<th>Points</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>6 presentations 7 videos</td>
<td>Course Requirements Checklist, Class Introductions, DB Forum 1, Assignment 1 – How Great Thou Art, Contemporary, Assignment 2 – Blessed Assurance, Contemporary</td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>4 presentations</td>
<td>Assignment 3 – Amazing Grace, Assignment 4 – Chord Analyzation</td>
<td>60 60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>4 presentations</td>
<td>DB Forum 2, Assignment 5 – A Cappella Arrangement</td>
<td>50 60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>3 presentations 1 video</td>
<td>Assignment 6 – Rescore You Are Good</td>
<td>60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>1 presentations 2 videos</td>
<td>DB Forum 3, Assignment 7 – Rescore Blessed Assurance</td>
<td>50 60</td>
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<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>3 presentations</td>
<td>Assignment 8 – Hallelujah Chorus</td>
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<tr>
<td>7</td>
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<td>DB Forum 4, Assignment 9 – Celtic Style Arrangement, Assignment 10 – Halo Style Composition</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>3 presentations</td>
<td>Final Project</td>
<td>200</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**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**.