



Scoring for Film and Video - Northwest Spring Branch Campus

MUSC 2433
CRN 38480- Spring 2018
Spring Branch Campus- Screening Theater | 3:00 pm - 5:30 pm | Tues./Thurs.
16 weeks

Instructor: Jeff Walton

Instructor Contact Information: jeffrey.walton@hccs.edu ; 713.718.5961 ; Learning Web URL: <https://learning.hccs.edu/faculty/jeffrey.walton>

Office location and hours

Please feel free to contact me concerning any problems that you are experiencing in this course. You do not need to wait until you have received a poor grade before asking for my assistance. Your performance in my class is very important to me. I am available to hear your concerns and to discuss course topics. Feel free to come by my office anytime during these hours or we can set up a time to meet.

M / W - 4pm - 6pm

T / TH - 12pm - 1pm

Course Description

This course is designed to teach the fundamental skills of writing, sequencing, and synchronizing music for film, television, and video – with an emphasis on film music. Music is a major contributor to the drama of feature films and television and, by the end of this semester, I hope each of you will have a significant amount of knowledge in the inner workings of film composition. We will cover the technical, historical, and conceptual aspects of film scoring. We will watch and analyze many films and scores from the early classics through the latest releases. This course will cover the various techniques of scoring including writing for different genres, conceptualizing your music, spotting music, writing under dialogue, choosing proper instrumentation and sounds, creating themes and IDs for television and commercials, music for animation, and final music delivery.

In addition to analyzing film music, much of the class will consist of hands on writing to picture using Logic Pro. Students who wish to record live instrumentation for their scoring assignments are encouraged to do so as well.

This course will also cover the business of writing music for media including music budgets, publishing, copyrights, licensing, music supervision, hiring musicians, booking studio sessions, and music contracts and agreements.

Prerequisites:

Student should have taken Midi 2 prior to taking this course.

Course Goal:

Have students understand and apply concepts and techniques of modern scoring for media utilizing current digital music programs and DAWs.

Student Learning Outcome:

1. Identify and define terminology associated with film scoring.
2. Demonstrate production and conceptualizing of music for picture using LogicPro.
3. Compare and contrast older film music styles with modern film music production.
4. Demonstrate the ability to deliver a final score and cue sheet in a professional manner.

Students will:

Understand and apply advanced concepts and techniques in creating deliverable musical scores for modern media, film, and television.

SCANS or Core Curriculum Statement and Other Standards

The following workplace competencies and foundation skills have been designed into this course curriculum.

Identify and define terminology associated with film scoring.

Demonstrate production and conceptualizing of music for picture using LogicPro.

Compare and contrast older film music styles with modern film music production.

Demonstrate the ability to deliver a final score and cue sheet in a professional manner.

16 WEEK CALENDAR

16 Week Calendar

Week 1: Intro to film music ; class will watch the documentary Lights, Action, Music.

Week 2: Themes ; The Untouchables/ Ennio Morricone ; Setting up a QT in Logic;
Project 1- QT in Logic ;

Week 3: Silent films and early film music ; Intro. to the film score pioneers Alfred Newman, Erich Korngold, Franz Waxman, Dimitri Tiomkin , David Raksin, Max Steiner and Miklos Rozsa. Watch excerpts from The Hollywood Sound.

Week 4: Project 1- QT in Logic due ; Project. 2 - Scoring a Scene ; Setting the tone for your score ; Look at examples of modern scoring; Sign up for individual instruction for Project 2.

Week 5: Individual instruction for Project 2. Psycho; Bernard Herrmann; The Theremin

Week 6: Project 2 due; assign Project 3

Week 7: Review for Mid-Term

Week 8: Mid-Term

Week 8: Jerry Goldsmith; Alien score deconstruction ;

Week 9: Contracts and Publishing; Project 3 due. Assign Project 4

Week 10: John Barry

Week 11: Animation; Project 4 due. assign Project 5

Week 12: Hitchcock/Danny Elfman

Week 13: Hans Zimmer

Week 14: Thomas Newman; Project 5 due;

Week 15: Final Review

Week 16: Final Exam

Instructional Methods

Instruction includes project-based learning, film score analysis, discussions, demonstrations, lectures and peer-to-peer learning.

Student Assignments

1. Project 1: Synchronizing a QT in Logic
2. Project 2: Scoring a scene 1
3. Project 3: Scoring a scene 2
4. Mid-term
5. Project 4: Scoring a scene 3
6. Project 5: Demoing a QT with music
7. Final Exam

Weekly schedule and projects are subject to change.

Instructor Requirements:

As your Instructor, it is my responsibility to:

- Provide the grading scale and detailed grading formula explaining how student grades are to be derived
- Facilitate an effective learning environment through class activities, discussions, and lectures
- Description of any special projects or assignments
- Inform students of policies such as attendance, withdrawal, tardiness and make up
- Provide the course outline and class calendar which will include a description of any special projects or assignments
- Arrange to meet with individual students before and after class as required

To be successful in this class, it is the student's responsibility to:

- Attend class and participate in class discussions and activities
- Complete the required assignments and exams:
- Ask for help when there is a question or problem
- Keep copies of all paperwork, including this syllabus, handouts and all assignments
- Complete the class with a 70% passing score

Program/Discipline Requirements:

1. Students must turn in all assignments to be eligible to pass the course.
2. Students should turn in assigned work on time. Assignments that are turned in late will lose 11 points for every subsequent class day that the work is not turned in.
3. Students are expected to attend all classes. Students should sign the sign-in sheet at the beginning of each class. If you do not sign the sheet, you will be counted absent. If you want an A in this class you should attend all classes.

Projects: There will be several lab assignments and projects. Some will deal with the most recent topics covered in class.

Mid-Term: Multiple choice test covering everything we have covered in class up to that point.

Final Exam: The final exam will also be multiple choice and will cover the remaining half of the semester plus questions from the mid-term.

HCC Grading Scale

90-100 = A
80 - 90 = B
70 - 79 = C
60 - 69 = D
Below 60 = F

Grading Criteria

Your instructor will conduct quizzes, exams, and assessments that you can use to determine how successful you are at achieving the course learning outcomes (mastery of course content and skills) outlined in the syllabus. If you find you are not mastering the material and skills, you are encouraged to reflect on how you study and prepare for each class. Your instructor welcomes a dialogue on what you discover and may be able to assist you in finding resources on campus that will improve your performance.

Grading Percentages

Projects: 50% of your grade
Quizzes, Mid-Term, and Final Exam: 50% of your grade

Instructional Materials

None

EGLS3 Evaluation for Greater Learning Student Survey System

Towards the end of the semester, students will be asked to participate in the online survey EGLS3. I usually add 5 points to student's final exam grade if they show proof that they have completed the survey.

HCC Policy Statements

Access Student Services Policies on their Web site:

<http://central.hccs.edu/students/student-handbook/>

Access DE Policies on their Web site:

All students are responsible for reading and understanding the DE Student Handbook, which contains policies, information about conduct, and other important information. For the DE Student Handbook click on the link below or go to the DE page on the HCC website.

The Distance Education Student Handbook contains policies and procedures unique to the DE student. Students should have reviewed the handbook as part of the mandatory orientation. It is the student's responsibility to be familiar with the handbook's contents. The handbook contains valuable information, answers, and resources, such as DE contacts, policies and procedures (how to drop, attendance requirements, etc.), student services (ADA, financial aid, degree planning, etc.), course information, testing procedures, technical support, and academic calendars. Refer to the DE Student Handbook by visiting this link:

<http://de.hccs.edu/media/houston-community-college/distance-education/student-services/DE-Student-Handbook.pdf>

Access CE Policies on their Web site:

<http://www.hccs.edu/continuing-education/>

At HCC the safety of our students, staff, and faculty is our first priority. As of August 1, 2017, Houston Community College is subject to the Campus Carry Law (SB11 2015). For more information, visit the HCC Campus Carry web page at <http://www.hccs.edu/district/departments/police/campus-carry/>.

Houston Community College is committed to cultivating an environment free from inappropriate conduct of a sexual or gender-based nature including sex discrimination, sexual assault, sexual harassment, and sexual violence. Sex discrimination includes all forms of sexual and gender-based misconduct and violates an individual's fundamental rights and personal dignity. Title IX prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex-including pregnancy and parental status-in educational programs and activities. If you require an accommodation due to pregnancy please contact an Abilities Services Counselor. The Director of EEO/Compliance is designated as the Title IX Coordinator and Section 504 Coordinator. All inquiries concerning HCC policies, compliance with applicable laws, statutes, and regulations (such as Title VI, Title IX, and Section 504), and complaints may be directed to:

David Cross
Director EEO/Compliance
Office of Institutional Equity & Diversity
3100 Main
(713) 718-8271
Houston, TX 77266-7517 or Houston, TX 77266-7517 or Institutional.Equity@hccs.edu

HCC strives to make all learning experiences as accessible as possible. If you anticipate or experience academic barriers based on your disability (including mental health, chronic or temporary medical conditions), please meet with a campus Abilities Counselor as soon as possible in order to establish reasonable accommodations. Reasonable accommodations are established through an interactive process between you, your instructor(s) and Ability Services. It is the policy and practice of HCC to create inclusive and accessible learning environments consistent with federal and state law. For more information, please go to <http://www.hccs.edu/district/students/disability-services/>