



ESCUELA UNIVERSITARIA
DE ARTES. MADRID

Orchestration and Mockups I

COURSE GUIDE

BACHELOR'S IN MUSIC COMPOSITION

COURSE 2026/2027



Universidad
Rey Juan Carlos

Course data

<i>Duration</i>	Annual
<i>Credits</i>	4,5 ECTS
<i>Modality</i>	In-person
<i>Language</i>	English
<i>Faculty</i>	Performing Arts
<i>Teacher</i>	Vincenzo Germano

Course presentation

Technical possibilities and characteristics (acoustic and timbre) of the instruments in a symphony orchestra: string, woodwind, brass, percussion, plucked string and keyboard instruments. Introduction to sound libraries and working with digital sound.

Student competencies

CG01	Manage information from different sources and apply it to the area of musical creation
CG02	Generate own artistic concepts and develop the ability of expressing them through musical tools and languages.
CG03	Apply the most appropriate working methods to overcome the challenges of the study and practice of individual and/ or collective music, seeking excellence and quality.
CG04	Know the technological resources typical for the discipline and its applications in the musical creation, assimilating innovations that appear
CG05	Solve problems and generate work dynamics in multidisciplinary environments.
CG06	Develop in professional practice a professional ethic based on esthetic, environmental and diversity observation and sensibility.
CG07	Understand one's professional activity as a tool to raise awareness of the importance of the artistic creation and its impact in the development of sociocultural values.
CG08	Present in a written and spoken way the content and objectives of one's professional activity both to a non-professional public and to a specialized one, using correctly technical and general vocabulary, both in Spanish and in a foreign language.
CG09	Know different study and research methodologies for expanding the ability to a continuous development and innovation in one's activity within the performing arts and audiovisual industries.
CG10	Develop critical discourses towards personal and interpersonal activity adapting to cultural, social, artistic and professional changes.
CE01	Develop skills for identifying, understanding and memorizing of the musical material

CE02	Identify and appreciate in auditory and intellectual way different types of musical and sound structures.
CE03	Know the fundamentals and structure of musical language and apply them to interpretative, creative and research practice.
CE04	Know the main repertoires and musical stylistic resources, extracting techniques and structures for their application.
CE05	Know the most recent trends and proposals in different fields of the musical creation.
CE06	Interpret in analytical way all the musical resources of a piece of any style, as well as connect and apply those features in one's own and others' music.
CE07	Identify the fundamentals of musical acoustics, the acoustic characteristics of the instruments, their technical, sound and expressive possibilities, as well as their combinations and results.
CE08	Use new technologies in the area of music and acoustics in all kind of contexts and formats, in order to apply them to specific needs of the project.
CE09	Become familiar with the techniques of recording, reproduction and circulation of music in different formats, including those derived from new technologies and from multimedia systems.
CE10	Know processes and requirements of the music applied to stage and to multimedia and audiovisual projects to develop compositions in which the dramatic has a dominant role.
CE14	Carry out a professional commission using different marketing strategies and communication techniques.
CE15	Create, plan, direct and develop an own musical project of a professional quality.

Learning outcomes

Upon completion of this course, each student must be able to:

1. Identify the instruments in a variety of instrumental ensembles according to their acoustic characteristics and sound, expressive and technical range.
2. Identify and understand the musical layers of a fragment of piece in any musical style.
3. Discern, through hearing, the instruments in a musical texture.
4. Know the functions and characteristics of digital tools used in instrumentation and orchestration.
5. Analyze the differences in sound and function of digital and analogical media.
6. Resolve technical and creative exercises using the instruments that best achieve the desired sound.

Teaching methodology

MD1	Participatory lecture.
MD2	Case studies and debate.
MD3	Problem resolution and discussion of results.

Course content

Content	1. String instruments. Family of instruments, instruments within this family, possibilities and extended techniques. 2. Woodwinds. Family of instruments. History and sonority of the instruments within this family. Transposition. Extended techniques. 3. Brass instruments. Family of instruments. History and sonority of the instruments within this family. Transposition. Extended techniques. 4. Percussion, plucked string and keyboard instruments. Mallet percussion. Membranophones and idiophones. Different interpretation lines in percussion. The harp: tuning, sonority and use of pedals. the piano: sonority, register and inclusion in an orchestra. 5. Introduction to sound libraries and working with digital sound.
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Learning activities

AF1	Theory and combination theory-practice learning.	15 h.
AF2	Classroom/lab exercises and practice.	15 h.
AF4	Arts appreciation activities: seminars, visits to exhibitions or viewings of visual/audiovisual works.	9 h.
AF5	Research activities: search and selection of documentation, reading of support materials and bibliographic and visual references.	25 h.
AF7	Assessment	6 h.
AF8	Self-study of theoretical content and autonomous assignment work and practical activities.	65 h.

** The hours assigned to the different learning activities may vary depending on the academic needs of the course, the group or the teaching team.*

Assessment

GENERAL ASSESSMENT CRITERIA

ATTENDANCE

The classes are in-person, and attendance is mandatory, as it is a determining factor in the continuous assessment system, as well as in class attitude and participation. However, in exceptional cases due to health situations or family reconciliation, students may request online access as a methodological adaptation (for more information, please contact the student department).

MARKS

Continuous Assessment is a comprehensive assessment of each student's results judged on the assessment criteria described in the following section, on a scale of 0 to 10 as provided in current legislation.

Students wishing to bring up their grade in the extraordinary/re-assessment period must first contact the Registrar's Office to expressly waive in writing all of the marks they obtained in the regular assessment period. Their final assessment mark will be the mark obtained in re-assessment.

SPELLING AND EXPRESSION

The grading of written examinations and assignments will consider spelling, grammar, and clarity of expression. Errors in spelling, punctuation, and writing style may negatively affect the final grade, depending on their nature, frequency, and severity.

UNIVERSITY WRITTEN REPORTS

These must have a title page, table of contents and bibliography listing at least 4 sources. These works must be original. Excerpts from other authors must be properly cited. Demonstrable plagiarism is an academic offence. If one student copies the work of another student, both shall be held accountable.

SPECIFIC ASSESSMENT CRITERIA

REGULAR ASSESSMENT PERIOD

The teaching team will provide the details/specifications on the content or submission of assessment tasks; this information will be given in class or in a document made available to the student on the Virtual Course Space (in Spanish, *Aula Virtual*).

Assignments not submitted by the deadlines set by the teaching team will receive an assessment mark of 0.

<i>Assessment task (*)</i>	<i>Revaluable/non-revaluable</i>	<i>Minimum mark yes/no</i>	<i>% of final mark</i>
SE2 Assignments and projects.	Yes	Yes (minimum mark 5)	60%
SE3 Continuous assessment: weekly tasks and homework, periodical reports, problem resolution.	No	No	25%
SE5 Attitude and participation.	No	No	15%
			100%

(*) Records and evidence of all of the assessment tasks (writings, recordings, etc.) listed in this table will be kept and filed in the Registrar's Office.

EXTRAORDINARY/RE-ASSESSMENT PERIOD

Students who have not passed the course during the regular assessment period may choose one of the following extraordinary assessment options:

- **Option 1: Criterion-based reassessment.** Assessment will be limited exclusively to the reassessable criteria that were not passed during the regular assessment period. The reassessment activity will be of the same nature as the original one (exam, assignment, etc.). The grades obtained in the ordinary assessment period for non-reassessable criteria (provided the minimum passing grade was achieved) will be retained and included in the weighted calculation of the final extraordinary assessment grade.
- **Option 2: Comprehensive reassessment.** Students may complete a single assessment activity accounting for 100% of the extraordinary assessment. The nature of this activity will be determined by the instructor and may include an oral or written examination, submission of a portfolio, theoretical and/or practical assignments, or other equivalent forms of assessment.

The instructor must communicate both Option 1 and Option 2 for the extraordinary assessment through the course notice board on the virtual campus at least 10 days prior to the extraordinary assessment date.

Students must respond to this communication via the virtual campus notice board, indicating their choice of Option 1 or Option 2, at least 3 days prior to the extraordinary assessment date. If a student does not respond, the instructor will automatically apply Option 2 (a single assessment activity accounting for 100% of the extraordinary assessment).

REVIEW OF ASSESSMENT MARKS

As set out in the TAI School of the Arts Student Handbook.

Resources

RECOMMENDED BIBLIOGRAPHY

Adler, S. (2002). *The Study Of Orchestration*. Third / Fourth Edition. Norton.

VISITS, MASTER CLASSES, EVENTS AND ADDITIONAL WORKSHOPS

Programmed by TAI and related to the course.