

# FLORIDA ATLANTIC UNIVERSITY™

## Graduate Programs—NEW COURSE PROPOSAL<sup>1</sup>

UGPC APPROVAL \_\_\_\_\_  
 UFS APPROVAL \_\_\_\_\_  
 SCNS SUBMITTAL \_\_\_\_\_  
 CONFIRMED \_\_\_\_\_  
 BANNER POSTED \_\_\_\_\_  
 CATALOG \_\_\_\_\_

DEPARTMENT: MUSIC

COLLEGE: ARTS & LETTERS

**RECOMMENDED COURSE IDENTIFICATION:**

PREFIX \_\_\_MUN\_\_\_\_\_ COURSE NUMBER \_\_\_6018\_\_\_\_\_ LAB CODE (L or C) \_\_\_\_\_

(TO OBTAIN A COURSE NUMBER, CONTACT [MJENNING@FAU.EDU](mailto:MJENNING@FAU.EDU))

COMPLETE COURSE TITLE: ADVANCED COMMERCIAL MUSIC ENSEMBLE

**EFFECTIVE DATE**

(first term course will be offered)

**CREDITS<sup>2</sup>:**

**TEXTBOOK INFORMATION:**

- 1) STUDENT INSTRUMENT
- 2) NOTEBOOK WITH BLANK MUSIC MANUSCRIPT PAPER
- 3) BINDER
- 4) CHARTS (WILL BE PROVIDED BY INSTRUCTOR)

GRADING (SELECT ONLY ONE GRADING OPTION): REGULAR \_\_\_\_\_ SATISFACTORY/UNSATISFACTORY \_\_\_\_\_

**COURSE DESCRIPTION, NO MORE THAN THREE LINES:**

THIS ENSEMBLE PROVIDES STUDENTS WITH THE TOOLS AND EXPERIENCE NECESSARY TO EXCEL AS STUDIO AND PERFORMING MUSICIANS IN THE COMMERCIAL MUSIC WORLD. STUDENTS ANALYZE, STUDY, ARRANGE AND PERFORM A VARIETY OF COMMERCIAL MUSIC STYLES.

**PREREQUISITES\*:**

**COREQUISITES\*:**

**REGISTRATION CONTROLS (MAJOR, COLLEGE, LEVEL)\*:**  
AUDITION REQUIRED

\* PREREQUISITES, COREQUISITES AND REGISTRATION CONTROLS WILL BE ENFORCED FOR ALL COURSE SECTIONS.

**MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS NEEDED TO TEACH THIS COURSE: 1) MEMBER OF THE GRADUATE FACULTY OF FAU. 2) HAS A TERMINAL DEGREE IN THE SUBJECT AREA (OR A CLOSELY RELATED FIELD).**

Faculty contact, email and complete phone number:  
 Michahel Zager  
[mzager@fau.edu](mailto:mzager@fau.edu)  
 561.297.0601

Please consult and list departments that might be affected by the new course and attach comments.<sup>3</sup>

**Approved by:**

Department Chair: \_\_\_\_\_  
 College Curriculum Chair: \_\_\_\_\_  
 College Dean: \_\_\_\_\_  
 UGPC Chair: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Graduate College Dean: \_\_\_\_\_  
 UFS President: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Provost: \_\_\_\_\_

**Date:**  
 11/10/14  
 11/12/14  
 11/12/14  
 11/12/14 11/12/14  
 11/12/14

1. Syllabus must be attached; see guidelines for requirements: [www.fau.edu/provost/files/course\\_syllabus.2011.pdf](http://www.fau.edu/provost/files/course_syllabus.2011.pdf)
2. Review Provost Memorandum: **Definition of a Credit Hour** [www.fau.edu/provost/files/Definition\\_Credit\\_Hour\\_Memo\\_2012.pdf](http://www.fau.edu/provost/files/Definition_Credit_Hour_Memo_2012.pdf)
3. Consent from affected departments (attach if necessary)

Email this form and syllabus to [UGPC@fau.edu](mailto:UGPC@fau.edu) one week before the University Graduate Programs Committee meeting so that materials may be viewed on the UGPC website prior to the meeting.



**MUN 6018 Advanced Commercial Music Ensemble**  
**One credit - Spring 2015**  
**CRN TBA; Meeting time: TBA**  
**AL133 - Boca Raton Campus**

**Instructor Contact Information:**

Name: Professor Alejandro Sanchez-Samper    Office Address: AH110  
Office hours: MR 9-10, 2-3  
Phone: (561) 297-3820 (Dept. of Music)  
Email: asanch51@fau.edu

**Course Pre-Requisites / Corequisites:** Audition required. Music majors or minors only

**Course Description:** This ensemble provides students with the tools and experience necessary to excel as studio and performing musicians in the commercial music world. Students analyze, study, arrange, and perform a variety of commercial music styles, including, but not limited to, rock, pop, jazz, funk, alternative, country, soul, R&B, Latin, and world music. May be repeated for credit, according to maximum allowed per selected degree.

**Course Objective/Student Learning Outcomes:** Students will be rehearsing and performing commercial music works with emphasis on reading charts and ensemble playing. Upon successful completion of this course students will:

- Develop the ability to not only express yourself musically, but also the ability to converse with your fellow performers musically.
- Develop the importance of critical listening within the context of commercial music (i.e. rock, pop, jazz, funk, alternative, country, soul, R&B, Latin, and world music) ensemble.
- Be exposed to performance practices in a commercial music.

**Course Evaluation Method:** Students will be graded by the following:

- **Assignments:** At least eight (8) tunes will be rehearsed and performed. For each arrangement, students are responsible for learning each within a two (2) weeks timeframe. You are encouraged to **find recordings of these tunes and listen to them, sing with them, play along with them.** Buy them, borrow them, or find performance videos online.
- **Attendance:** Attendance and punctuality are critical to the success of the ensemble. We function as a group; our goal is to offer a performance that is a product of everyone in the group. If someone is missing, the group work suffers. **Unexcused tardies** (more than five minutes) and **unexcused absences** will negatively impact the final grade as follows:
  - 1 tardy = one letter grade
  - 2 tardies = two letter grades
  - 3 tardies = three letter grades
  - 4 tardies = F
  - 1 absence from a rehearsal = two letter grades
  - 2 absences from a rehearsal: = F
  - 1 tardy/absence from a performance = F



The instructor will determine if an absence is excused or unexcused. If you are going to be late, unable to come, or need to leave early, please let the instructor know as soon as possible before class. Excused absences carry no penalty, but notification and documentation must be presented to the instructor no later than the class immediately following the absence. Failure to give proper notice will result in the absence being unexcused.

- Attendance policy does not contradict Provost memoranda:  
<http://www.fau.edu/provost/files/religious2011.pdf>  
<http://www.fau.edu/provost/files/studentabsences.pdf>

**Course Grading Scale:**

- Final grades will be assigned as follows:
 

|            |    |           |    |           |    |
|------------|----|-----------|----|-----------|----|
| 93% - 100% | A  | 80% - 82% | B- | 67% - 69% | D+ |
| 90% - 92%  | A- | 77% - 79% | C+ | 63% - 66% | D  |
| 87% - 89%  | B+ | 73% - 76% | C  | 60% - 62% | D- |
| 83% - 86%  | B  | 70% - 72% | C- | 0% - 59%  | F  |

- **Class Work**

- 10 classes: (Rehearsal #2-6, #8-12) x 4 (points) = 40%
  - 4 points-assignments (participation and material preparation):
    - 4 = excellent
    - 3 = good
    - 2 = average
    - 0 - 1 = poor
- 1 Class: (Rehearsal #7: Repertoire Exam) x 1 =15%
  - 15 points = (10+5)
    - 10 points (Material Preparation) = 7%
      - 10 = excellent
      - 8 = good
      - 6 - 7 = average
      - 0 - 5 = poor
- Total
  - 40+15=65%

- **Performance**

- Preparation and stage conduct = 45%

**Special Course Requirements:** Sessions will include rehearsing, listening and discussion. Students are expected to:

- Be in the rehearsal room ready to play at the scheduled time fully awake and attentive.



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- Know their parts when you come to a session.
Practice outside of sessions in order to succeed in this course.
Completed the given assignment(s).
Each student should plan to devote a minimum of 2 hours per week for outside reading, practicing, and listening.
Participate through suggestions and constructive critique.
Participation: In the midst of everything we are doing, it is our time to play music together, to take all that we have learned and are learning about music and apply it in a performance setting. Your complete commitment is expected. In exchange, you can expect to be challenged, to be fully supported, and to derive great pleasure sharing in the music we create.

Particularly in school ensembles, the abilities of members can vary significantly. It is our ability to converse with each other musically that can transcend the differences between us and help all of us to become more fluent, expressive musicians. So it is critical to individual and group success that we all recognize the following: each person offers a significant unique contribution to the entire group. There are no individual stars here. Just like other aspects of music-making, ensemble playing is a discipline to be practiced. As an ensemble, we will be successful if our performances are recognized as musical conversations in which all players participate on equal terms. This doesn't necessarily mean that each person plays the same amount of time in each song. There will be some tunes in which some folks are chatting more with each other, while the others are actively listening. Conversation doesn't happen unless someone is listening.

- Performances: There will be a Commercial Music Ensemble Concert (date?), which will serve as a final exam. Each member will be evaluated on preparation and stage conduct. Everyone is required to show up at (Time) for sound check and stay for the duration of the entire concert. After all groups have performed, all CME students have to come up on stage to help strike the stage and put everything away. Please make all necessary arrangements to be there on (date) from ? p.m. until ? p.m. Students who leave before the instructors have allowed them to do so on the day of the performance will be penalized with a 40% point deduction.

Required Texts/Readings/Materials:

- Your instrument
Notebook with blank music manuscript paper
Binder
Charts (will be provided by the instructor)
Pencil with eraser

Supplementary/Recommended Readings: N/A.

Course Topical Outline: Course Schedule (May be subject to change)

Week 1 – Audition/Introduction ..... (date)



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- Week 2 - Rehearsal #1 (Rhythmic patterns 1)..... (date)
Week 3 - Rehearsal #2 (Rhythmic patterns 2)..... (date)
Week 4 - Rehearsal #3..... (date)
Week 5 - Rehearsal #4..... (date)
Week 6 - Rehearsal #5..... (date)
Week 7 - Rehearsal #6..... (date)
Week 8 - Rehearsal #7 (Repertoire Exam) ..... (date)
Week 9 - Rehearsal #8..... (Date)
Week 10 - Rehearsal #9..... (date)
Week 11 - Rehearsal #10..... (date)
Week 12 - Rehearsal #11..... (date)
Week 13 - Rehearsal #12..... (date)

CME Concert (Final Exam): Nov. 15 at 3:00pm (University Theater)

- Week 15 - Post Concert session/Final Comments..... (date)

\*There will be no make up for any exams/performances/rehearsals, unless it is caused by the event of a hurricane or other emergency.

Classroom Etiquette Policy:

- Students are expected to refrain from the use of handheld Internet or texting devices during class and may only use computers to aid in note taking. Should a student be found in violation of this etiquette, they will be asked to leave class and take the absence.
Cell phones should be turned off.
Students are asked to sit in the chairs in a proper manner and keep feet from residing on other furniture.
Out of courtesy to other students and to the professor, students are asked to arrive in a timely manner.
No food or drink (except bottled water) is permitted.
Please be courteous of the space and pick up after yourself when you leave.

Course Communication:



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All pertinent information regarding this course can be found on Blackboard at the following site:  
<http://blackboard.fau.edu> In addition, **all electronic communication must originate from a valid FAU email address. Any email sent from an email provider outside of FAU will not be read or replied to.**

**Students with Disabilities:** In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), students who require special accommodations due to a disability to properly execute coursework must register with the Office for Students with Disabilities (OSD) located in Boca Raton - SU 133 (561-297-3880). Any student registered with the office of Student Disabilities should present verification and need of assistance during the first week of classes. All possible and reasonable accommodation will be offered to that student through the course of the semester. Information can be found at: <http://osd.fau.edu/>

**Incomplete Policy:** Grades of Incomplete ("I") are reserved for students who are passing a course but have not completed all the required work because of exceptional circumstances

**Code of Academic Integrity:** *Students at Florida Atlantic University are expected to maintain the highest ethical standards. Dishonesty is considered a serious breach of these ethical standards, because it interferes with the University mission to provide a high quality education in which no student enjoys an unfair advantage over any other. Dishonesty is also destructive of the University community, which is grounded in a system of mutual trust and places high value on personal integrity and individual responsibility. For full details of the FAU Code of Academic Integrity, see University Regulation 4.001 at <http://wise.fau.edu/regulations/chapter4/4.001> Code of Academic Integrity.pdf.*

**Religious Accommodation:** In accordance with rules of the Florida Board of Education and Florida law, students have the right to reasonable accommodations from the University in order to observe religious practices and beliefs with regard to admissions, registration, class attendance, and the scheduling of examinations and work assignments. Students who wish to be excused from course work, class activities, or examinations must notify the instructor in advance of their intention to participate in religious observation and request an excused absence. The instructor will provide a reasonable opportunity to make up such excused absences. Any student who feels aggrieved regarding religious accommodations may present a grievance to the director of Equal Opportunity Programs. Any such grievances will follow Florida Atlantic University's established grievance procedure regarding alleged discrimination. <http://www.fau.edu/provost/files/religious2011.pdf>



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### MEMORANDUM

**Date:** October 10, 2014

**To:** Douglas Broadfield, Chair  
A & L Graduate Programs Committee

**From:** Prof. Rebecca Lautar, Chair   
Department of Music

**Subject:** Graduate ensemble course recommendation  
MUN 6018 – Advanced Commercial Music Ensemble

The Department of Music has deemed it necessary to add a graduate section of the existing Commercial Music Ensemble in order to accommodate the participation of graduate students in the Commercial Music concentration. The new course form and syllabus are attached with the course number suggested by the registrar's office.

Thank you for your time and consideration.