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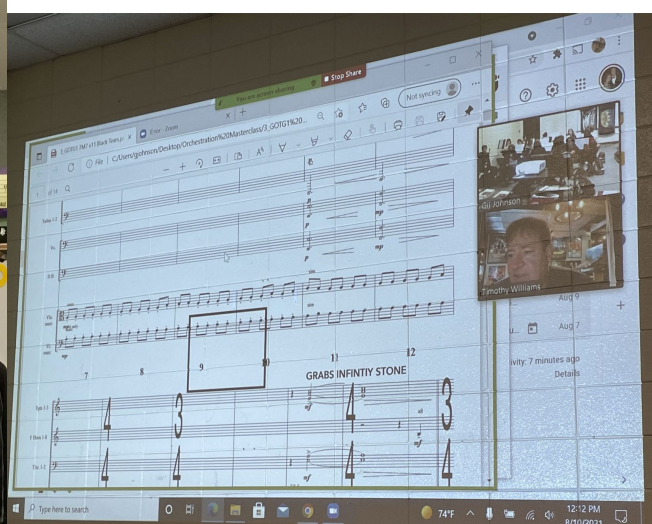
Music Tech Curriculum You *AND* Your Students Will Enjoy!

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This class can offer many opportunities for your students!

A Music Tech Curriculum is not only engaging for your students, but culturally relevant!

Film Music easily blends into this course and learning about it will be fun for you & your students!



Scheduled but
never happened....
Benjamin Wallfisch

THANKS COVID!



OUTLINE FOR TODAY:

1. Planning
2. Preparing
3. Overview of Curriculum
4. Selected Units



Planning: Education

1. Investigate & communicate what you need.
2. Develop a brief statement about your class.



Planning: Equipment & Money

PC:

Mixcraft

\$800.00

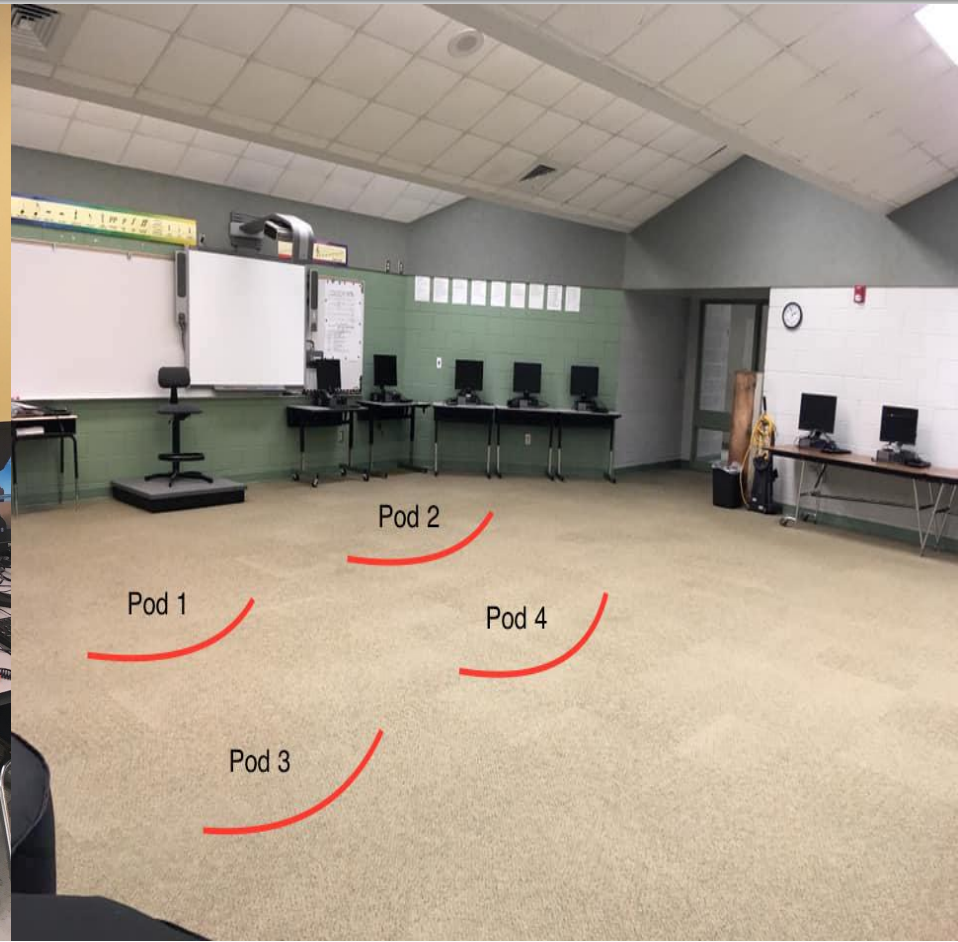
For 25 Member Class

\$1050.00

For 32 Member Class



Planning: Class Size & Set Up



Planning: Class Size & Set Up

Semester Long

55 minute schedule try to cap
@ 25 students.

Block schedule try to cap
@ 32 students.



Preparing: You ARE a Composer!

In order to help your students, you have to practice this craft!

Utilizing samples/plugin-ins for projects.

This can benefit your whole music program!



Preparing: You ARE a Composer!

Example 1:

6 months in

First contest.

Goal: Write/develop a
four note theme.

Tied into students first
theme project.

Scored using the free
labs from Spitfire Audio

Preparing: You ARE a Composer!

Example 2:

Two years in.

1 month completion.

Goal: Develop an engaging project for the orchestra and personal goal of composing using notation rather than DAW.

Scored using the free BBC Orch. from Spitfire Audio



Preparing: You ARE a Composer!

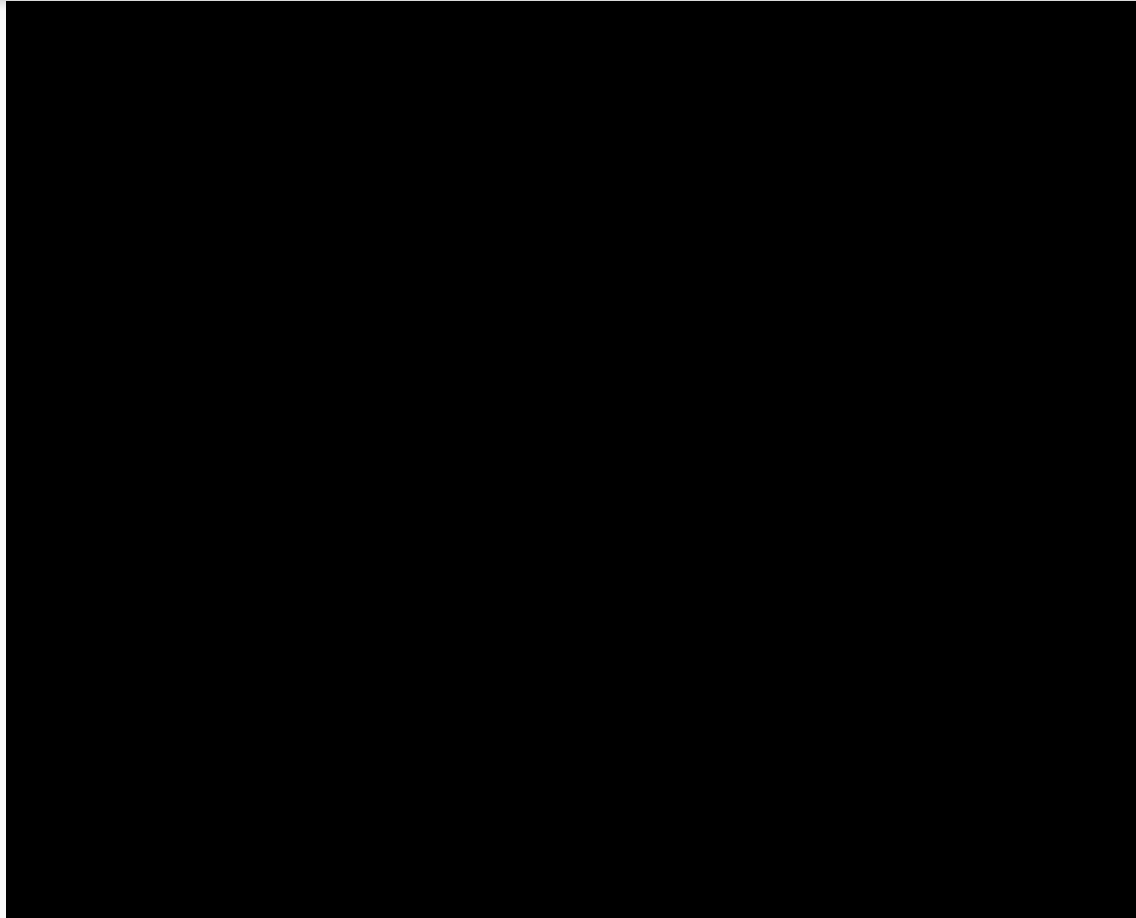
Example 3:

6 months later.

2 Weeks Completion

Goal: Fully orchestrate a score and then mix/edit into Logic Pro. Combine the skills I've been working towards.

Scored using the free BBC Orch. from Spitfire Audio



Course Objectives:

1. To gain an appreciation and understanding of the film music industry and the technology used in creating music for this industry.
2. To use this knowledge to create original music for selected scenes, using guidelines set by the teacher.
3. To be able to operate music technology (software/samples,etc) and gain fundamental skills used in the music industry.
4. HAVE FUN & BE CREATIVE!
5. Prepare students for either college/ career.

My Music Tech Curriculum

Units:

1- The Purpose of Music in Film

2- Elements of Music (harmony, melody, rhythm, & form).

Student Project: ABA Form Composition

4- Themes in Film Music

Project:

Temp Score

Theme Music Project

5- Timbre & Instrumentation

Project: TSW will score a scene using two of the four instrument families.

6- The History of Film Music

7- Variations of Themes

TSW will score a scene creating a theme & variation.

8- Genre Study: Horror/Scary Music.

TSW use several techniques used in horror music to score a scary scene.

9- Final Project- This project will be a 2-3 minute scene that incorporates each of the units that we discussed.

Smaller Projects:

Composer spotlight assignment, music for television/video games, Christmas Music (Fall), Free Friday Projects,

Soundtrack Vs a Score

TSW create a soundtrack (using YouTube & Google slides) for their life. Using MixCraft TSW create an original score for their life.

Teaching Students to Think Critically

1. Listen/analyze/break down examples.

2. Ex:



3. Focus on the scene!



Teaching Students to Think Critically

1. Start with what they know.

2. PBS Kids Theme Project

3. EX:

Emma 9th

Kamari-10th



Themes in Film Music Unit

Step 1:
Examples in the classroom.

Step 2:
Spot, Temp, & Score the same scene

Step 3:
Student applies this knowledge to scene
of their choice.



Themes in Film Music Unit

Step 1: Examples in the classroom.

Return of The Jedi

Darth Vader's Theme is stated as his ship arrives and his theme repeats, gradually getting louder as the ship lands, his name is stated, and finally as we see him on screen.



Themes in Film Music Unit

Step 1: Examples in the classroom.

Wonder Woman

We discussed layers with this theme earlier. Listen to how the layers are introduced and placed with the visuals in this scene.

Layer 1- The rhythm drives the momentum/action forward

Layer 2- The melody is introduced as WW arrives in the room to fight.



Themes in Film Music Unit

Step 2:

Spot the scene together as a class.

Using audio loops, have the students “Temp” the scene so they can practice placing sounds with visuals.

From their loops, have them practice creating their own sounds.



Themes in Film Music Unit

Carly 10th- Band

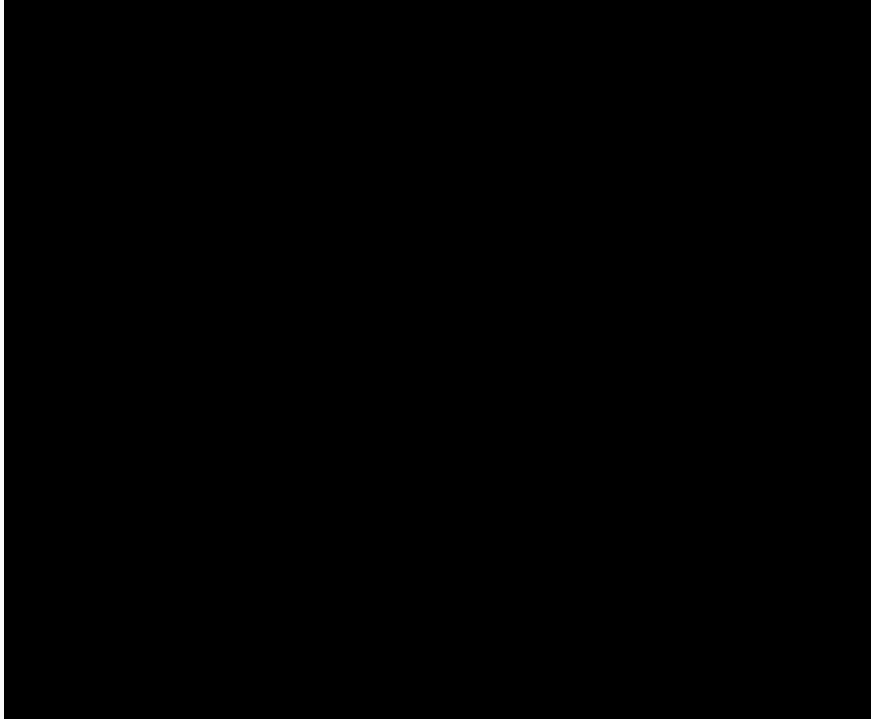
AJ- 10th- MS Band 1 Yr/ HS Guitar 1 yr



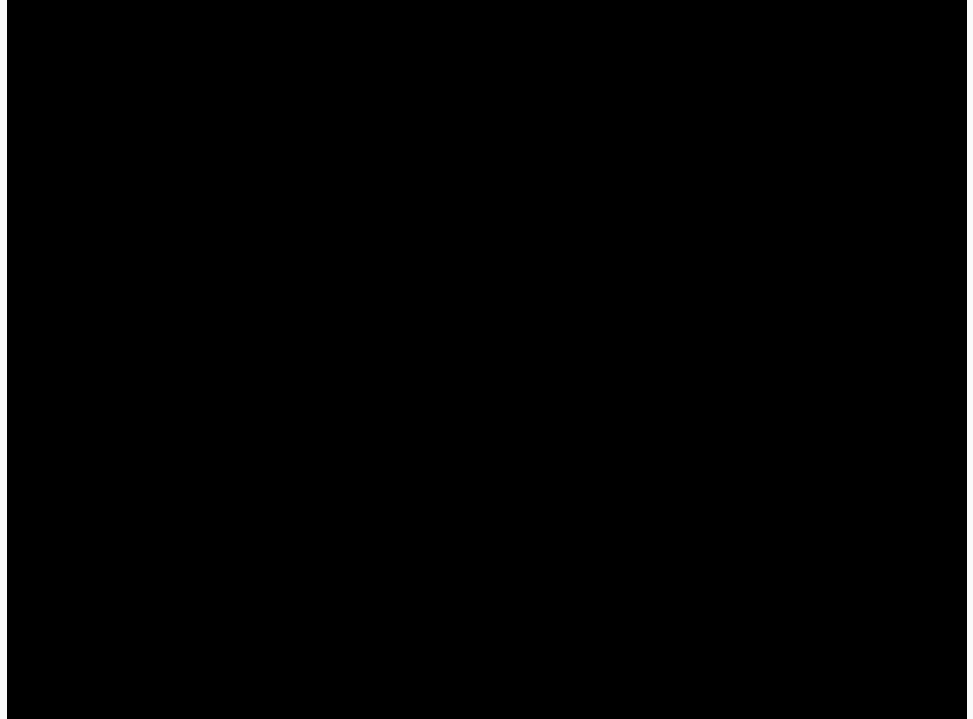
HS Theme Project Student Examples

Student applies the knowledge we have discussed and practiced to a scene.

Jonah Senior- No prior music classes, but plays Guitar for fun.



Kadiel- Senior- Prior Music Classes



Theme Project Student Examples

Student applies knowledge to scene of their choice.

Acceptable 7th grade no music class



Exceptional 7th Grade- 1 year piano



Timbre & Instrumentation Unit

Instrumentation Project I

Director Instructions to Composer for Documentary on Sharks:

Your task is to compose music for this documentary scene featuring sharks. I have included a temp score to help you as I want this scene to have the same feel as the temp video.

I only want Strings and brass, **nothing else**.

Music is to start at approximately 9 seconds into the clip as the waves start.

Step 1

Go to google classroom and download the project template & temp video for your guidance. You do not have to copy the melody, exactly, but you do need to keep the same musical form and feel.

Step 2

In MixCraft open your sound library and experiment with the string and brass tracks. You can use individual brass & string instrument tracks or full section tracks.

You will be allowed up to five virtual instrument tracks. You will **NOT** be given any audio tracks for this project!

Step 3

You will compose two, short, 4 note melodies to accompany this project. Again, listen to your temp score video to get ideas for this.

You will need two layers of music throughout your project

****Remember to structure your theme using melody & harmony****

Timbre & Instrumentation Project Examples

Original Video:



Student Video: Anna 8th Grade- Band



Fun Presentation Idea

The Music Tech Oscars

Dress up, roll out the red carpet,
& invite their teachers!

This is a HIT!



Questions?

Thank you for attending!

Email:
gjohnson@bryan.k12.ga.us



Small Project Example

Composer Spotlight Assignment

Great assignment between units.

Allows for the student to practice research and presentation skills.

Allows for the student to research diverse composers.



Resources

Mixcraft Education Page

Score! A Film Music
Documentary/Podcast

Facebook Groups!
I Teach Music Tech
Film Scoring & Orchestration Applied

The CueTube!



Closing Thought

Film composer Hans Zimmer stated in a 2017 interview,

I think one of the responsibilities we have as film composers in Hollywood, or anywhere, is we're the last people on earth who on a daily basis commission orchestral music. Without us orchestras might just disappear and I think that would create a rift in human culture that's much larger than a bunch of musicians out of work. I think it will be such a loss to humanity.

