**Proposal**: Arrangement of Aerosmith’s “Dream On” for Brass Quintet

First two weeks of November- Intro and first verse, enter into musescore

Second two weeks of November- Second verse and pre-chorus, enter into musescore

First two weeks of December- Chorus/Outro entered into musescore, finishing touches (import to garageband and upload to canvas)

**Steps to Completion:**

1. Write out lead sheet with chords to song, and transcribe melody.
2. Write in block chords to musescore.
3. Add rhythm to chords according to guitar/bass rhythm.
4. Assign melody periodically to different instruments, and determine when each instrument is part of the accompaniment.
5. Write out each part to vary rhythm and “interesting licks” between different parts.
6. Compose fills for transitions between sections.
7. Finishing touches (Make sure the entire piece is cohesive, and add dynamics/articulations.)
8. Export midi files as separate tracks into garageband.
9. Edit with volume controls and playback settings.
10. Export to midi file and upload to canvas.

**Use in the Classroom:**

Arranging songs/writing covers of them is a good way to exercise theory knowledge and aural skills by transcribing, and writing parts. This kind of project is extremely beneficial for students because it gives them a chance to learn how to use music notation software, and become comfortable with file transfers and conversions. So, with a high utility for both assessment of musical knowledge and skills, and a sizable exposure to music related computer software, this kind of project is extremely beneficial in the classroom to teach multiple different concepts throughout the entirety of the process required for a project of this magnitude. Secondarily, if students can make quality arrangements of popular songs, then those arrangements could be used for pep band and other athletic music events, allowing part of the budget to be spent on other things. By arranging your own songs for pep band/marching band, you save money and that money can be spent more pressing things such as instrument repair/purchase.

**Reflection:**

Overall I think the arrangement turned out well. The voicing and parts all seem to fit together well, and the transitions work together cohesively. I was very pleased with the finished product, and wouldn’t change much about the scoring/composing elements. The things that didn’t go particularly well: brass midis are just plain awful. Also, trying to adjust dynamics in garageband to balance everything perfectly is extremely difficult. So, I would try to be more accurate with my dynamics when writing the parts in musescore, that way once they are all in garageband, I don’t have to fuss with them as much. Other than this balance issue though, I wouldn’t really want to change much. What I learned from this project: I learned a lot about voicing and how to write parts without having any one part being extremely bland. Also, I learned a lot of the ins and outs of musescore and garageband, allowing me to save time and be more efficient with them while using them in the future. My aural skills are pretty good to begin with, so the transcribing wasn’t really a problem, and I just used my own creativity to compose licks in between sections and for extra melodic material. So, the main things that I learned/skills that I gained could be summed up as such; I learned to proficiently use garageband and musescore in a time efficient manner, and gained skills pertaining to my knowledge of instrumentation and arranging.