Texas A&M University – Corpus Christi
Department of Music

MUEN 1139.001: Flute Ensemble
Meeting Time & Location: TBA
Fall 2011
email: diana.sipes@tamucc.edu

Dr. Diana Sipes
CA 132 825-3943
Office Hours: TBA and by appointment

Course Description: The university flute ensemble is a chamber ensemble that rehearses twice a week throughout each fall and spring semester. Each semester, the ensemble typically performs one full concert and participates in one or more additional concerts. Membership is open to all university students, under the following guidelines. Flutists accepted as music majors are automatically eligible for membership in the ensemble; non-music majors must complete a short audition for the instructor to be considered for membership.

Course Objective: The university chamber music ensembles provide student musicians with the valuable opportunity to work with peers in a situation in which every person is individually accountable. That is, since there is usually only one player on each part, each player is responsible for learning every aspect of that part to the best of his/her ability. In addition, chamber music with other flutists allows for deeper exploration of the unique challenges inherent in flute playing. This enhances and reinforces the issues addressed in applied lessons as well as in larger ensembles. Also, rehearsal sessions held both with and occasionally without a faculty coach encourage students to listen for themselves, developing important collaborative and teaching strategies which will be vital to the students’ later success in the music profession as teachers and performers. The selection, rehearsal, and performance of a wide range of music will challenge ensemble members aesthetically, musically, and intellectually.

Expectations: The role of the faculty coach is the selection and preparation of quality repertoire, and the use of appropriate rehearsal techniques to assist the ensemble in reaching its top performance level. It is imperative that each student accepts the responsibility of mastering the technical details — outside of the ensemble rehearsal — of his/her individual parts immediately following the initial reading. Attendance, punctuality, and preparation are required of all players. Please assist with rehearsal room setup and be warmed up and ready to play at the beginning of the rehearsal time.

Grading: Each ensemble member meeting expectations (i.e. preparation, attendance, growth) and having no unexcused absences from rehearsals/performances will receive a grade of “A.” Those not meeting expectations will receive a grade of “B” or lower. In the case of substandard preparation, a student will be called into a conference with Dr. Sipes to address issues and an opportunity given to show improvement before the course grade is lowered. Repeated absences and/or inadequate preparation of parts may result in part reassignment, at the instructor’s discretion. Excused absences from performances and rehearsals are extremely rare (i.e. death in the family, conflicting university function). Each unexcused absence from rehearsal will lower the student’s grade by one full letter grade. Two unexcused tardies will equal one unexcused absence. An unexcused absence from a performance will result in a failing grade in the course; therefore all the performances listed below are required events.

IMPORTANT: If you find that you are unable to attend a rehearsal or performance for any reason, you must contact Dr. Sipes by email (preferred), phone, or in person before said rehearsal or performance. Make sure that your folder is at the rehearsal. If impossible to do so prior to the rehearsal/performance (car accident on the way to rehearsal, etc.), contact Dr. Sipes as soon as possible.
FALL 2011 FLUTE ENSEMBLE PERFORMANCES
(other dates may be added during the semester)

Chamber Ensembles Concert
Date TBA, November, 7:30 pm
TAMU-CC Performing Arts Center

Flute Ensemble Concert
Date TBA, November, 7:30 pm
TAMU-CC Performing Arts Center

Additional Important College of Liberal Arts and University Information:

Notice to Students with Disabilities: Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi complies with the Americans with Disabilities Act in making reasonable accommodations for qualified students with disabilities. If you suspect that you may have a disability (physical impairment, learning disability, psychiatric disability, etc.), please contact the Services for Students with Disabilities Office, located in Driftwood 101, at 825-5816. If you need disability accommodations in this class, please see me as soon as possible.

Academic Advising: The College of Liberal Arts requires that students meet with an Academic Advisor as soon as they are ready to declare a major. The Academic Advisor will set up a degree plan, which must be signed by the student, a faculty mentor, and the department chair. The College's Academic Advising Center is located in Driftwood 203E, and can be reached at 825-3466.

Grade Appeal Process: As stated in University Rule 13.02.99.C2, Student Grade Appeals, a student who believes that he or she has not been held to appropriate academic standards as outlined in the class syllabus, equitable evaluation procedures, or appropriate grading, may appeal the final grade given in the course. The burden of proof is upon the student to demonstrate the appropriateness of the appeal. A student with a complaint about a grade is encouraged to first discuss the matter with the instructor. For complete details, including the responsibilities of the parties involved in the process and the number of days allowed for completing the steps in the process, see University Rule 13.02.99.C2, Student Grade Appeals, and University Procedure 13.02.99.C2.01, Student Grade Appeal Procedures. These documents are accessible through the University Rules Web site at http://www.tamucc.edu/provost/university_rules/index.html. For assistance and/or guidance in the grade appeal process, students may contact the Office of Student Affairs.