Course Description
This course provides the student with the necessary instruction to acquire the skill to play in a large ensemble that includes woodwinds, brass, percussion, and strings. The core members of this class will be the string players. Instruments from other families will be included when needed depending on the repertoire. Discussions on the history of the works being performed will be part of the class content.

Course Objectives
1. To develop a sense of what it means to play in an orchestra
2. To gain knowledge of large ensemble (chamber orchestra) string literature as well as symphonic works. Pieces of music from the standard repertoire will be chosen at the beginning of the semester at the discretion of the instructor.
3. To perform two public concerts during the semester
4. To develop a keen sense of rhythm, intonation, and quality of sound through the weekly practice.
5. Students will acquire the ability to follow a conductor and interpret conducting gestures into musical performance.
6. Students will learn to perform without conductor in a chamber orchestra setting.

Course Materials
1. Students should have a good instrument and keep it well maintained and adjusted. If I determine that your instrument needs repairs, you must repair it or find a replacement as soon as possible. Failure to do this may affect your final grade.
2. I will provide the repertoire that will be used throughout the semester. Make sure to bring your music to rehearsals, and performances. Failure to do so will affect your grade in a negative manner.
3. Students should have proper concert attire for performances. In less formal occasions the instructor and students can come to an agreement about a different concert wear. For all performances we used what is called *Concert Black*. This means the following:

   - **Men:** Black tuxedo, white shirt, bow tie, polished black shoes, black socks, (No White Socks!).
   - **Women:** Black dress at or below the knees or a black top with black pants & black shoes.

**Ensemble Policies**

Students have to be respectful with each other and learn how to work as a team. If a difficult situation arises between students that will have an effect in the final musical result, discuss it with me immediately. We will find a solution that will allow the accomplishment of the class objectives.

**Dress Code**

The dress code policy is designed so all players look professional and uniform. It is expected that all members will adhere to the code. Those found in violation of the code will be dismissed from the concert and be subject to the consequences as outlined in the syllabus.

**MEN**

Black tuxedo (or matching black jacket and pants)

- White button down shirt
- Black bow tie

**WOMEN**

Black outfit with the following parameters:

- Black pants: must be full length, to the top of the shoes. No stretch or pajama pants.
- Black shirt: Full neckline, arms covered to the wrist
  - No plunging necklines
  - No exposed shoulders, arms or back
- If you wear a black jacket, you may wear a white shirt underneath. No print shirts of any kind.
- If you wish to wear a DRESS:
  - Must be full length (to the top of the shoes)
  - Must cover the arms to the wrists
  - Skirts must go to the tops of the shoes; short skirts are not allowed.
EVERYONE

Shoes
- Black, close-toed dress shoes
  - No tennis shoes or sandals
- Black dress socks, at least calf height
  - Women may wear black tights
No perfume/cologne or strong lotions
No bright and/or dangling jewelry

Grading

Attendance is mandatory. Rehearsals will be monitored by the instructor. You have to come to class individually prepared. Although we are working in a large ensemble, my expertise in the field of ensemble playing allows me to know if you are doing the work or not.

Ensemble preparation will get a grade and individual preparation will have a separate grade. I will have a series of performance quizzes during the semester that will serve as seating auditions and will be counted as 50% of your grade. Attendance will be the other 50%. The Concert constitutes the main project for this class. Failure to attend performances will give the instructor enough ground for dismissing or failing the student. These are the dates for the performances during the spring:

Tuesday March 1, 2016. 7:30 P.M. Texas A&M Performing Arts Center
Thursday April 14, 2016. 7:30 P.M. Texas A&M Performing Arts Center

Dropping a Class

I hope that you never find it necessary to drop this or any other class. However, events can sometimes occur that make dropping a course necessary or wise. Please consult with me before you decide to drop to be sure it is the best thing to do. Should dropping the course be the best course of action, you must initiate the process to drop the course by going to the Student Services Center and filling out a course drop form. Just stopping attendance and participation WILL NOT automatically result in your being dropped from the class. [DATE from academic calendar] is the last day to drop a class with an automatic grade of “W” this term.

Classroom/professional behavior

Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi has a diverse student population that represents the population of the state. Our goal is to provide you with a high quality educational experience that is free from repression. You are responsible for following the rules of the University, city, state and federal government. We expect that you will behave in a manner that is dignified, respectful and courteous to all people, regardless of sex, ethnic/racial
origin, religious background, sexual orientation or disability. Behaviors that infringe on the rights of another individual will not be tolerated.

Grade Appeals

Students who feel that they have not been held to appropriate academic standards as outlined in this class syllabus, equitable evaluation procedures, or appropriate grading, may appeal the final grade given in the course. A student with a complaint about a grade is encouraged to first discuss the matter with the instructor. For complete details on the process of submitting a formal grade appeal, please visit the College of Liberal Arts website, cla.tamucc.edu/students/studeninfo.html. For assistance and/or guidance in the grade appeal process, students may contact the Associate Dean.

Disabilities Accommodations

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you believe you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please call or visit Disability Services at (361) 825-5816 in Corpus Christi Hall 116.

If you are a returning veteran and are experiencing cognitive and/or physical access issues in the classroom or on campus, please contact the Disability Services office for assistance at (361) 825-5816.

Statement of Academic Continuity

Recommended text or compose your own] In the event of an unforeseen adverse event, such as a major hurricane and classes could not be held on the campus of Texas A&M University–Corpus Christi; this course would continue through the use of Blackboard and/or email. In addition, the syllabus and class activities may be modified to allow continuation of the course. Ideally, University facilities (i.e., emails, web sites, and Blackboard) will be operational within two days of the closing of the physical campus. However, students need to make certain that the course instructor has a primary and a secondary means of contacting each student.

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. Degree plans are prepared in the CLA Academic Advising Center. The University uses an online Degree Audit system. Any amendment must be approved by the Department Chair and the Office of the Dean. All courses and requirements specified in the final degree plan audit must be completed before a degree will be granted. The CLA Academic Advising Office is located in Driftwood #203. For more information please call 361-825-3466.