Brass Chamber Music (Islander Brass Quintet +1)  
MUSI 1135 007  
Fall 2019 Syllabus, Schedule, and Policies

Instructor: Dr. Mary Thornton  
Office: CA 135  
Telephone: 825-3234, cell 361-688-3976  
Office Hours: As posted at CA 135  
Meets: Tuesdays at Hamlin Middle School, approx. 4-6pm, final time  
TBA, plus two other times per week, one rehearsal with mentor,  
and one independent

Course Description:  
Islander Brass Quintet +1 is for winners of the Harmon A. and Grace W. Dobson Islander  
Chamber Music Scholarship Program scholarships. This course will emphasize the  
development of characteristic brass quintet sound, chamber music aesthetics, and  
fundamentals of technique and musicianship. This course will also include the  
development of capabilities in pedagogy and beginner band teaching techniques.

Attendance/Absence Policy:  
Attendance is required at all rehearsals and performances. A student will be dropped  
from IBQ +1 after one unexcused absence. This would mean the forfeiture of the  
scholarship as well. Late arrivals at rehearsals, performances, or teaching days will not be  
tolerated and may result in adverse scholarship consideration. Parameters of the  
scholarship award offer letter are required to be met. Leadership, responsibility and a  
proactive approach to fulfilling the requirements of your scholarship are expected. The  
members of IBQ +1 will be required to coordinate their rehearsal schedule with their  
faculty member by the end of the first week of class.

Grading:  
Grading is based on attendance, rehearsal attitude, and improvement. Those students  
who attend all rehearsals and performances, maintain a positive attitude in all rehearsals,  
and learn all of the required music will receive an A in the course. Failure to learn the  
music will result in a lower grade. Rehearsals missed due to an approved illness with  
medical excuse are required to be rescheduled since a chamber rehearsal minus one of the  
parts is less than productive.

Performances:  
At this point the performances for IBQ +1 are to be announced. It is imperative that the  
IBQ +1 be aware that opportunities and requirements for performances may appear  
throughout the semester. IBQ +1 members will need to be proactive with the maintenance  
of a calendar so that scheduling of opportunities is without error and can be done easily.  
IBQ +1 will be a priority and it is essential that the habits of a professional musician are  
established. The faculty mentor will endeavor to provide two weeks of notice for
opportunities. Plan on a recital class and a formal recital appearance during each semester. When in doubt, contact Dr. Thornton.

**Course Objectives/Rehearsal Procedures:**
The IBQ +1 will rehearse twice a week at times determined by the ensemble members. It is essential and required that a regular rehearsal schedule is established by the end of the first week of class. Additional rehearsal times will be agreed upon as needed by instructor and ensemble members.

1) At the end of this course students will have improved intonation, musicianship, technique, and knowledge of brass quintet repertoire.
2) This course will provide valuable experience in performing in time, and in cohesive style.
3) Students will learn to lead a chamber ensemble and follow within a chamber ensemble.
4) Students will gain valuable experience teaching beginning band students.

**UNIVERSITY POLICIES**

*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.

*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.

*Dropping a Class*
I hope that you never find it necessary to drop this or any other class. Dropping this class will result in the loss of your scholarship. **Please consult with your academic advisor, the Financial Aid Office, and me, before you decide to drop any course.** Should dropping a class 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. The last day to drop a class with an automatic grade of “W” this term is November 8, 2019.

**Grade Appeals**
As stated in University Procedure 13.02.99.C2.03, *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 Procedure 13.02.99.C2.03, *Student Grade Appeals*. These documents are accessible online at: [http://academicaffairs.tamucc.edu/rules_procedures/assets/13.02.99.C0.03_student_grade_appeals.pdf](http://academicaffairs.tamucc.edu/rules_procedures/assets/13.02.99.C0.03_student_grade_appeals.pdf). For assistance and/or guidance in the grade appeal process, students may contact the Associate Dean’s office in the college in which the course is taught. For complete details on the process of submitting a formal grade appeal in CLA, please visit the College of Liberal Arts website, [http://cla.tamucc.edu/about/student-resources.html](http://cla.tamucc.edu/about/student-resources.html).

**Classroom/professional behavior**
Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi, as an academic community, requires that each individual respect the needs of others to study and learn in a peaceful atmosphere. Under Article III of the Student Code of Conduct, classroom behavior that interferes with either (a) the instructor’s ability to conduct the class or (b) the ability of other students to profit from the instructional program may be considered a breach of the peace and is subject to disciplinary sanction outlined in article VII of the Student Code of Conduct. Students engaging in unacceptable behavior may be instructed to leave the classroom. This prohibition applies to all instructional forums, including classrooms, electronic classrooms, labs, discussion groups, field trips, etc.

**Academic Integrity/Plagiarism**
University students are expected to conduct themselves in accordance with the highest standards of academic honesty. Academic misconduct for which a student is subject to penalty includes all forms of cheating, such as illicit possession of examinations or examination materials, falsification, forgery, complicity or plagiarism. (Plagiarism is the presentation of the work of another as one’s own work.) In this class, academic misconduct or complicity in an act of academic misconduct on an assignment or test will result in failure of the course.