Islander Winds (Woodwind Ensembles) Syllabus
Spring 2020
MUEN 1136 Section 007
T 4:00pm – 6:00pm
Dr. Scott Pool
Texas A&M University Corpus Christi
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Office Hours are posted on my office door or are made by appointment.

Course Description: Islander Winds Quintet 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 woodwind 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.

Learning Objectives: The IW 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.

Attendance

Rehearsals – Students are required to attend all scheduled rehearsals and teaching duties, which are arranged in the first week of the semester. A student may miss one rehearsal unexcused in the semester without lowering of the final grade. For each unexcused absence after the first, the student’s grade is lowered one letter, and the student will not be able to continue with the scholarship program.

Concerts/Recitals – Islander Winds members are required to attend all scheduled concerts and recitals. A list of required concerts/recitals will be provided at the beginning of the semester and may be updated periodically throughout the semester.
Performance and Preparation

**Group Rehearsals and Performances** – Students are to come to all rehearsals with music fully prepared. **Rehearsal time is not to be spent practicing**, but instead, time is spent discussing strategies and techniques to improve the group’s performance. Students are expected to practice the assignments given each week and come to the rehearsal **ready to perform**. Do not come to the rehearsal without having properly warmed up. Performances are required and will be arranged throughout the semester. If a conflict arises, it must be approved by Dr. Pool at least one week prior. Since this is a scholarship group, it should be the top priority if a conflict arises. Work, family events, other gigs, etc. will not be acceptable excuses to miss rehearsals or performances.

Grading

There are two main aspects of grading for this course: attendance and performance. Attendance has been discussed, but grading individual performance will be assessed by the professor. Although certain standards are set by the Department of Music, students are expected not to simply meet the minimum standard, but to realize their full potential. A student’s grade may be lowered if his/her own personal performance standard, which I determine, is not met.

At the beginning of the semester, each student will be assigned a grade of C. After each rehearsal, the student’s grade will be raised or lowered one level of grade (plus or minus: C moves to C+ or C-) until the end of the semester with the resulting final grade for the course.

Course Schedule

The following layout with major assignments can be used as a guide for the semester, but may be changed at the discretion of the professor.

Week 1 – Rehearsal progress
Week 2 – Rehearsal progress
Week 3 – Rehearsal progress
Week 4 – Rehearsal progress; Performance
Week 5 – Rehearsal progress
Week 6 – Rehearsal progress
Week 7 – Rehearsal progress
Week 8 – Rehearsal progress; Performance
Week 9 – Rehearsal progress
Week 10 – Rehearsal progress
Week 11 – Rehearsal progress
Week 12 – Rehearsal progress; Performance
Week 13 – Rehearsal progress
Week 14 – Rehearsal progress; Performance
Week 15 – Rehearsal progress

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.

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. 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.

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 your academic advisor, the Financial Aid Office, and me, before you decide to drop this course. 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. April 10th will be the last date to drop your class and receive a “W”.