Dr. José G. Flores

Office CA 130

Concert Orchestra: MUEN-1124 & 3124.001- CONCERT ORCHESTRA

Spring 2020
Phone: 825-3746
E-mail: Jose.Flores@tamucc.edu
Monday 7:00 pm - 9:30 pm Center for the Arts 127
Wednesday 12:00 pm - 12:50 pm Center for the Arts 127
Office hours: Thursday 9:00 A.M. – 10:00 A.M.; Friday 9:00 A.M.- 1:00 P.M. or by appointment.

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 must be respectful with each other and learn how to work as a team. If a difficult situation arises between students that will have a negative 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 at least halfway between the elbow and wrist.
  - Skirts must go to the tops of the shoes or at least halfway between your knee and ankle; 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 bright and/or dangling jewelry

Grading

Attendance is mandatory. Rehearsals will be monitored by the instructor. 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 may have performance quizzes to my discretion during the semester. Attendance to rehearsals and concerts will constitute the main portion of the grade. 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:

March 10, 2020. 7:30 P.M. Texas A&M Performing Arts Center
April 29, 2020. 7:30 P.M. Texas A&M Performing Arts Center

On the concert day there will always be a dress rehearsal at 5:30 P.M. in the Performing Arts Center except the Holiday Gala which will have a different rehearsal time on Concert Day.

Attendance Policy

Music Majors: You are required to attend all class meetings and activities. A medical note will be the only proof of illness in case of an absence. One unexcused absences for a concert cycle will lower your grade one letter grade. Two absences in a concert cycle will lower your grade two letter grades. Three absences during the semester will earn you an automatic “D.” Four absences or more will give the instructor enough ground for dismissal or failing the student. Failure to attend performances will give the instructor enough ground for dismissing or failing the student as well.

Non-Music Majors: You are required to attend all class meetings and activities. A medical note will be the only proof of illness in case of an absence. Two unexcused absences for a concert cycle will lower your grade one letter. Three absences during the semester will earn you an automatic “C.” Four absences or more will give the instructor enough ground for dismissal or failing the student. If you are not to attend the class for other reasons, it will be to instructor’s
discretion to give you an attendance waiver. Failure to attend performances will give the instructor enough ground for dismissing or failing the student.

Respect for Diversity

We are the most diverse campus, in terms of self-disclosed ethnic identity, in the Texas A&M system. This means that we are all meeting and working with people who are different from ourselves in terms of identity, whether that is defined by race, ethnicity, gender, national origin, sexual orientation, and/or religion. Respecting and accepting people different than you is vital to your success in the class, on campus, and as a future professional in the global community.

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 or log onto http://www.tamucc.edu/~aac.

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 10, 2020 is the last day to drop a class with an automatic grade of “W” this term.

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.

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 using Blackboard and/or email. In addition, the syllabus and class activities may be modified. 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.

Islander Email Account

It is VERY IMPORTANT that you activate your Islander Email account, as it will serve as my primary means of correspondence with you. Throughout the semester, I will be sending emails sharing important information relating to the learning community and I want to ensure that you receive this information. For quick questions or minor issues, you may contact me via e-mail. For more complicated concerns or questions, please make use of my office hours or make an appointment to meet with me.

Disability Services

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, Room #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.