Course Number: MUEN 3140. 001
Section: 001 and 002 Fall 2019
Name of Instructor: Dr. Carrie Pierce
Office Hours: Mon Wed 4:20pm -6:20pm
Office: CA 140
Email: carrie.pierce@tamucc.edu
Office Phone: 825-2371
Course Name: String Ensemble

Course Description:

This course provides the student with the necessary instruction to acquire the skill to play in a string quartet. It will also provide general knowledge about the culture of bowed string instruments. This may include discussions on the history of the different members of the family and important performers of string instruments in general.

*** This is a working syllabus that can be revised during the course of the semester by the instructor. If there is a revision, an updated syllabus will be handed out both in class and via email.

Learning Outcomes:

By the end of this course, students will be able to

• Perform selected repertoire for the chamber ensemble in which they are participating
• Demonstrate the ability to work collaboratively to produce a high quality performance in a chamber ensemble
• Demonstrate understanding of how the compositions they are performing are constructed in terms of principles of music theory/analysis and how it might pertain to their performance of the music
• Demonstrate understanding of the biography of the composer(s) of the compositions they are performing and how it might pertain to their performance of the music
• Demonstrate understanding of the historical context in which the music they are performing how it might pertain to their performance of the music

Course Materials:

1. The student 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 assigned coachings, 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.

The instructor will grade each lesson individually and as a group. Ensemble preparation will get 25% of the grade and individual preparation will get the other 25% of the grade. Each lesson will have a grade from 1-100 for each item. They will be averaged at the end of the semester and this will become the lesson grade. The performances throughout the semester will be worth 50% of the grade. The lesson grade will be averaged with the grade of the performances and they will become the final grade.

**Ensemble Policies:**

Students need to maintain an atmosphere of respect with each other and learn how to work as a team. If a difficult situation arises between people in an ensemble outside of class, the issue should be discussed with me immediately. We will find a solution that will allow the accomplishment of the class objectives.

**Course Outline:**

Because the nature of this class, a specific outline by class session is impractical. Each class session is a coaching on how to perform and rehearse to prepare a musical program in a string quartet. The objectives to be cover during each week will depend on the different problems that arise during the preparation process.

**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. 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. November 8 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](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 Honesty/Plagiarism**

**Definition:** In an instructional setting, plagiarism occurs when a writer deliberately uses someone else’s language, ideas, or other original (not common-knowledge) material without acknowledging its source. Plagiarism is a violation academic expectations, but it is sometimes difficult to understand what plagiarism actually is. Often, students commit unintentional plagiarism (not citing sources properly, for example), because they are unaware of the standards that apply. Plagiarism includes:

- Using the work of another as your own,
- Downloading or purchasing ready-made essays off the web and using them as your own,
- Using resource materials without correct documentation,
- Using the organization or language of a source without using quote marks and proper citation.
- Turning in a researched project without citing sources in an appropriate documentation style.

When you are confused about citation of quotes or ideas, please visit the Writing Center or me to get help. Information on MLA documentation rules and APA documentation rules is available at Purdue University’s OWL: [http://owl.english.purdue.edu/](http://owl.english.purdue.edu/), and from our local Writing Center at CASA.

**Statement of Academic Continuity**

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.