

Sul Ross State University

Mariachi and Jazz Ensemble Syllabus MUS 1113

Instructor: Jeffrey J. Meyer, D.M.A.

Office: FAB 103 **Office Hours:** TBA

Phone: office: 432-837-8018 cell: 785-840-6077 (text only in emergency situations, please)

Email: jeffrey.meyer@sulross.edu

Class Meeting Time: M 6:00 – 8:50 pm, FAB 100

Course Description

A study of literature for Mariachi Ensemble and Jazz Ensemble, including intensive study of styles, techniques, and performance practices. Students will gain experience in large groups and small combos and perform several times over the course of the semester.

Textbook and Materials

Students are responsible to provide their own instruments and accessories or to arrange this with the director. Music to be studied will be checked out to students. Students must return all materials and equipment checked out prior to the end of the semester or will have a hold on their records and will be financially responsible for replacing any materials not checked-in.

Student Learning Outcomes

Upon completion of this course, students will be able to:

1. Demonstrate improved ensemble playing ability.
2. Demonstrate improves sight-reading ability appropriate to individual skill level.
3. Demonstrate knowledge of appropriate historical and musical style appropriate to literature studied.
4. Discuss one or more new styles of music, one or more new composers, and one or more new pedagogical techniques covered during the semester.

Music Program Learning Objectives

This course is a required course for a major in instrumental music. As such, it helps the student to meet one or more of the program learning outcomes for the major. These learning outcomes include:

The graduating student will demonstrate:

1. the ability to integrate appropriate musical expression into performance.
2. the ability to prepare appropriate program notes.
3. the ability to evaluate and critique a musical performance.

ADA Needs

Sul Ross State University is committed to equal access in compliance with the Americans With Disabilities Act of 1973. It is the student's responsibility to initiate a request for accessibility services. Students seeking accessibility services must contact Mary Schwartze, M. Ed., L.P.C., in Counseling and Accessibility Services, Ferguson Hall, Room 112. The mailing address is P.O. Box C-122 Sul Ross State University, Alpine, TX 79832. Telephone: 432-837-8203. E-mail: mschwartz@sulross.edu.

Rehearsal Policies

1. Students are expected to attend each rehearsal and to arrive on time. Excessive absences and late arrivals impact the ability of the ensemble to rehearse effectively and may negatively impact the student grade.
2. Students are expected to have all necessary materials at each rehearsal. This includes all instruments, music, accessories, and a working pencil.
3. If you must miss rehearsal, please inform the director no less than 36 hours in advance so your absence can be planned for.

Attendance Policy

Since we have relatively few class meetings, and a great amount of material to cover, attendance is required. Extenuating circumstances should be discussed with the instructor prior to an absence, or as soon as possible following. Work conflicts are treated as unexcused absences and are not tolerated. Unexcused absences will be treated as follows:

1st Absence: Warning

2nd Absence: Lowering of earned grade by one full letter and revocation of scholarship monies

3rd Absence: Lowering of earned grade by two full letters

4th Absence: Lowering of earned grade to an F

5th Absence: Expulsion from class

Tardy Policy

Being late to class is disruptive to other students, the teacher, and the learning process. If you enter after the start of class, you are tardy. The start of class is defined as the point at which the teacher begins teaching. Your first tardy is free. After that, every two tardies will be counted as one unexcused absence, and will fall under the attendance policy in effecting your grade. If you are tardy for what you believe is an excusable reason, please speak with me in person after class.

Cell Phone Policy

Class time is limited and use of cell phones causes unneeded distraction to the learning process. Therefore, cell phone use during class is strictly prohibited, and repeated violation of this policy will have an effect on your grade. The following are the grade repercussions for violation of this policy:

1st Offense – Warning

2nd Offense – Lowering of earned grade by one full letter

3rd Offense – Lowering of earned grade by two full letters

4th Offense – Lowering of earned grade to an F

5th Offense – Expulsion from class and revocation of scholarship monies

Professional Communication Policy

All communication with me should be done via email or my office phone number, both of which are listed at the top of the syllabus, or in person. You will be expected to check your email on a regular basis for communications from me. Facebook is not an acceptable form of professional communication.

Dress

Performance dress will be:

Men – Clean Black Shirt (preferably long sleeved), Black Pants/Slacks (No jeans or denim material), Black Belt, Black Socks, Black Shoes.

Women – Clean Black Blouse (No spaghetti straps or tank-tops), Black Slacks or skirt (No Denim, skirts should be at least knee length), appropriate black socks and shoes, conservative make-up and jewelry.

Grading

Grades are not given, they are EARNED. Students will have the opportunity to earn points in the following areas:

Daily Rehearsal Attendance, Preparation, and Participation – 5 pts per day

Prompt arrival, have all necessary materials and music, positive attitude and willingness to work hard.

Performances – 50 pts per performance

Prompt arrival at call time, have all necessary materials and music, proper dress

Contract Return – 100 points

In order to ensure understanding, please read this syllabus, get any pertinent questions answered, sign, and return to the instructor no later than the beginning of rehearsal on August 31. Returning the contract on-time results in earning 100 points, turning it in late results in losing 25 points per day until it is turned in.

Letter grades will be based on the following percentages:

90-100 = A = Excellent

80-89 = B = Good

70-79 = C = Average

60-69 = D = Poor

Below 60 = F = Failure

I = Incomplete

Calendar (events in bold signify required attendance)

Daily Activities will include at least 3 of the following:

- Study of daily routines and warm-ups
- Scales and technical exercises
- Balance, blend, and intonation studies
- Rehearsal of literature for performance
- Listening to literature to be performed or other standard repertoire, accompanied by a discussion
- Study of chamber music
- Improvisation
- Sight-reading
- Discussion of performance practice issues

The following are known dates, excluding rehearsals, that are important for the Mariachi Ensemble. Dates may be added, but only with reasonable advanced notice. If you have questions regarding the calendar, please consult the director.

<u>Date/Time</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Location</u>
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Monday, August 24	Classes begin	Sul Ross U.
Wednesday, August 26, 5:30 pm FAB 200	Music Major Meeting	
Saturday, September 5, 6:00 pm Jackson Field	Home Football Game	
Thursday, September 17, 7:30 pm Theater	Faculty Sampler Recital	Studio
Wednesday, September 23, 5:30 pm 200	Studio Class	FAB
Monday, September 28, All day Jackson Field	Marching Invitational	
Thursday, October 15, 7:30 pm Marshall	Wind Ensemble/Concert Choir	
Saturday, October 17, 6:00 pm Jackson Field	Home Football Game	
Sunday, October 18, 3:00 pm Marshall	Alpine Community Band	
Wednesday, October 21, 5:30 pm 200	Studio Class	FAB
Saturday, October 24, 6:00 pm Jackson Field	Home Football Game	
Saturday, October 31, TBA	Homecoming Parade	Downtown
Saturday, October 31, 1:00 pm Jackson Field	Home Football Game	
Monday, November 16, 7:30 p.m. Espino Center	Mariachi and Jazz Ensemble	
Wednesday, November 18, 5:30 pm 200	Studio Class: RECITAL HEARING	FAB
Friday, November 20, 6:00 pm	Mariachi/Jazz at Artwalk	TBA
Saturday, November 21, TBA Downtown	Artwalk Parade	
Thursday, December 3, 7:30 pm Marshall	Wind Ensemble/Concert Choir	
Friday, December 4, noon Theater	Student Recital Rehearsal	Studio
Sunday, December 7, 3:00 pm Marshall	Alpine Community Band	
Sunday, December 7, 7:30 pm Studio Theater	Student Recital	
Wednesday, December 10, TBA Theater	Music Juries	Studio

TBA – dress/call times and early Saturday rehearsals for Marching Band, times to move equipment to-and-from Marshall for concerts

Contract

I have read and understand this syllabus, schedule, and set of policies. I will make necessary adjustments to my schedule, and understand that I am required to be at all rehearsals and performances. I understand that my colleagues rely on my presence and I on theirs, and that mutual respect and accountability are part of being a member of the Lobo Jazz/Mariachi Program. I will communicate questions, conflicts, and concerns in a timely and respectful manner.

Name

Date

Signature