

Sul Ross State University
Woodwind Ensemble-MUS 1113-005
Spring 2017

Professor: Mary-Elizabeth Thompson, D.M.A.

Email: mary.thompson@sulross.edu

Office: FAB 202

Phone: (432) 837-8130

Class Meetings: Friday 10:00 a.m.-11:00 a.m., FAB 202; additional times to be decided by students

Office Hours: Monday 1:00-2:00 p.m.; Tuesday/Thursday 12:00-12:30 p.m.; Wednesday 10:00-11:00 a.m., 3:15-4:00 p.m.; Friday-by appointment

Course Description

The Woodwind Ensemble studies and performs woodwind ensemble repertoire, orchestral transcriptions, and other music for woodwind chamber settings. The Woodwind Ensemble performs at least two times per semester.

Student Learning Outcomes for Music Majors:

SLO 1: All students will demonstrate the ability to integrate appropriate musical expression into performance.

SLO 2: All students will demonstrate the ability to research and prepare appropriate program notes.

SLO 3: All students will demonstrate the ability to evaluate and critique a musical performance.

This course contributes to addressing these cumulative SLO's.

Student Learning Outcomes (SLOs)

After completing this course students should be able to:

1. Demonstrate improved ensemble playing ability. (*Knowledge, Skill, and Disposition*)
2. Demonstrate improved sight-reading ability appropriate to individual skill level. (*Skill and Disposition*)
3. Demonstrate knowledge of appropriate historical and musical style appropriate to literature studied. (*Knowledge, Skill*)
4. Discuss one or more new style(s) of music, one or more new composer(s), and one or more new pedagogical technique(s) covered during the semester. (*Knowledge and Disposition*)

Major Assignments with Matched SLO's

1. Students will practice their ensemble parts individually in preparation for rehearsals. (*1,2,3*)
2. Students are required to meet with their sections to practice deficient portions of the music. (*1,3*)
3. Students are expected to listen to this music and music by these composers and important artists at home. (*1,2,3,4*)
4. Students will perform this repertoire in front of a live audience. (*1,3*)

Required Equipment

- A well-maintained instrument
- Assigned music
- A metronome and a tuner
- Pencil

Rehearsal Policies

This class is structured in two parts per week: one hour of ensemble rehearsal (to be determined by students) and one hour of coaching with the instructor at the regular class meeting time.

1. Students are expected to attend each rehearsal/coaching 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/coaching. (*see Required Equipment*)
3. If you must miss the rehearsal/coaching, please inform the instructor 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. Unexcused absences will be treated as follows:

- 1st Absence: Warning
- 2nd Absence: Lowering of earned grade by one full letter
- 3rd Absence: Lowering of earned grade by two full letters
- 4th Absence: Lowering of earned grade to an F
- 5th Absence: Expulsion from class

No absence will be excused without written authorization. If you are receiving a Band Excellence Scholarship, unexcused or excessive excused absences may impact the amount you receive.

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. Written authorization may be required. Excessive tardiness may affect scholarship recipients.

Grading

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

- Daily Participation Grade (contract return, preparation & participation) 50%
- Performances (Prompt arrival at call time, have all necessary materials and music, proper dress) 50%

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

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

Concert Dress

Performance dress will be:

Men – clean black/solid color shirt (preferably long sleeved), black pants/slacks (no jeans or denim material), black belt, black socks, black shoes.

Women – clean black/solid color blouse (no spaghetti straps or tank-tops), black slacks or skirt (no denim, skirts should be at least knee length), appropriate black socks/black hose or tights and shoes; conservative make-up and jewelry.

Performing for school functions may require a change in dress, such as wearing school colors. The instructor will inform the group in a timely fashion if this is required.

Professional Communication Policy

All communication with me should be done either in person, by office phone, or through email. You are expected to check your email **daily**.

Students with Disabilities

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, Texas 79832. Telephone: 432-837-8691. E-mail: mschwartz@sulross.edu

Tentative Schedule and Topics to be Covered (Subject to change)

Weekly rehearsals and coachings will include the following:

- study of daily routines and warm-ups
- 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
- sight-reading
- discussion of performance practice issues

Performances for the ensemble will be scheduled ASAP based on students' schedules and venue availability. A new schedule will be distributed if needed after those dates are confirmed.

Week of...	Event
1/16	Syllabus, Listening
1/23	Ensemble Rehearsal
Sat. 1/28	Big Bend Brass Bash (<i>you are encouraged to attend part of this as it will include chamber music performances</i>)
1/30	Coaching 1
2/6 (TMEA – reference)	Coaching 2
2/13	Coaching 3
2/20	Coaching 4
2/27	Coaching 5
3/6	Coaching 6
Tuesday, 3/7	Brass Studio Recital (<i>you are encouraged to attend as it will include chamber music performances</i>)
3/13	SPRING BREAK
3/20	Coaching 7
3/27	Coaching 8
4/3	Coaching 9
4/10	GOOD FRIDAY (no class)
4/17	Coaching 10
Thursday, 4/20	Dr. Meyer Faculty Recital (<i>you are encouraged to attend as it will include chamber music performances</i>)
4/24	Coaching 11
5/1	Listening to performances