



**Sul Ross State University**  
**Woodwind Ensemble-MUS 1113-005**  
**Spring 2021**

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

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**Office:** FAB 202

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**Class Meetings:** TBD

**Office Hours:** Tuesdays 10:00-11:00 a.m.; Thursdays and Fridays 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 Objectives (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*)

**Marketable Skills**

The music student graduating with a BM in music (instrumental or vocal performance; instrumental or vocal education; or music business) should have the following Marketable Skills:

1. \*Ability to collaborate and network with others to achieve a shared goal, utilizing problem solving, flexibility and improvisation, and consideration of others' thoughts and creative processes.
2. Proficiency in public speaking and writing about music, especially in teaching basic musical concepts to all ages and incorporating technology for presentation and production.
3. \*Ability to prepare and perform a program of age-appropriate, relevant, and diverse repertoire, as an individual or part of an ensemble, to an audience, advocating for the arts through engaging with and serving the community.
4. \*Experience using problem solving skills and abstract thinking to analyze compositions and examine their aesthetic through musical and extra-musical concepts, such as historical context and text setting.
5. Ability to create and disseminate basic marketing and public relations materials, as well as resumes, websites, and digital portfolios.

*Marketable Skills specifically addressed by this course indicated with \**

### **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 members outside of scheduled meetings 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**

- Internet access (*this service provided on campus*)
- Device with recording capability
- A well-maintained instrument
- Assigned music, pencil
- A metronome and a tuner
- Musician mask and bell cover (*if applicable*)

### **Rehearsal Policies**

Students will participate in one large woodwind ensemble or be grouped into smaller ensembles, depending upon the instrumentation of the class members. The 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. This structure will be altered slightly for each group if multiple ensembles are part of the class.

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 **24 hours** in advance so your absence can be planned for.

### **Performances**

Students registered for the class are required to perform on **at least two** music major studio during the semester. As we are still in an ongoing pandemic, there are fewer performing opportunities available than in previous years. However, if additional performing opportunities become available, we will evaluate them and decide together.

### **Attendance Policy**

COVID-19 policies

- If a student has been sick with any disease, they must be fever-free for **at least 24 hours** (without fever reducing medication) before attending rehearsal or class in person.
- If a student contracts COVID-19 or is in contact with someone that contracted it, they must follow university policy for reporting and be released from quarantine before returning to rehearsal or class in person.

Taking care of our general health and well-being this semester is very important and if you feel sick, it would be best to discuss with your ensemble partners whether an in-person rehearsal is advisable or if you should rehearse online instead. Feel free to ask if you are unsure about whether you should be meeting in person.

Since we have relatively few class meetings, attendance is required. Extenuating circumstances should be discussed with the instructor prior to an absence, or as soon as possible following. 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.

### **Grading Procedures**

***Your final grade will be determined by the following formula:***

1. Daily Participation Grade (preparation & participation): 60%
2. Performances (Prompt arrival at call time, have all necessary materials and music, proper dress): 40%

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

### **Concert Dress**

Performance dress for a more formal event (*i.e. this dress not required for a regular studio class, for example*) 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.

### **Professional Communication Policy**

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

### **Special Needs**

Sul Ross State University is committed to equal access in compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1973. Students with qualifying disabilities who seek accommodations must initiate a request for a meeting for accessibility services. Students seeking accessibility services must contact Rebecca Greathouse Wren, M.Ed., LPC-S, Counseling & Accessibility Services, Telephone: 432-837-8203, or E-mail: [rebecca.wren@sulross.edu](mailto:rebecca.wren@sulross.edu). For more information see: <https://www.sulross.edu/page/1384/accessibility-services>

### **SRSU Library Services**

The Sul Ross Library offers FREE resources and services to the entire SRSU community. Access and borrow books, articles, and more by visiting the library's website, [library.sulross.edu](http://library.sulross.edu). Off-campus access requires logging in with your LoboID and password. Librarians are a tremendous resource for your coursework and can be reached in person, by email ([srsulibrary@sulross.edu](mailto:srsulibrary@sulross.edu)), or phone (432-837-8123).

### **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 on the study of chamber music
- sight-reading
- discussion of performance practice issues

***As soon as a weekly coaching time has been set, a schedule will be made and distributed.***