



MUS 69 - Chamber Music

Catalog Description

Transfer Status: CSU/UC

Prerequisite: Ability to play an instrument or sing; audition required

Unit(s): 1.00

Activity: 34.00 Contact hours/17.00 Out of class hours/51.00 Total hours/1.00 Unit(s)

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Course Description: This course is for the study, rehearsal, and public performance of literature appropriate to the chamber ensemble, with an emphasis on the development of skills needed to perform within a specialized ensemble. Different literature will be studied each semester. This course may be repeated 3 times to meet the requirements of the AA-T in Music. (C-ID MUS 185).

Objectives

Upon successful completion of this course, the student should be able to:

1. Play or sing in time with section and ensemble as directed.
2. Memorize performance repertoire as directed.
3. Play or sing the correct pitches as indicated with accurate intonation.
4. Play or sing with the articulation, dynamics, phrasing, and expression as directed.
5. Play or sing appropriately with the ensemble.
6. Play or sing stylistically appropriately to the period/style of the composition.
7. Perform improvised solos as applicable.
8. Adhere to professional level ensemble performance and rehearsal standards of conduct.
9. Demonstrate appropriate blend and balance within the ensemble and/or the section.

Course Content

Topic Titles / Suggested Time Topic		
	<u>Lecture/Activity</u>	
<u>Topics</u>		<u>Lec Hrs</u> <u>Act Hrs</u>
Intonation		4.00
a. Correct reading and production of pitches		
b. Tuning pitches and harmonies as a section		
c. Tuning of pitches and harmonies as an ensemble		
Expression: articulations, dynamics, phrasing		4.00
a. Correct readings of markings		
b. Following the conductor's gestures as applicable		
c. Agreement as a section		
d. Agreement as an ensemble		
Ensemble specific performance practices		4.00
Period performance practices as applicable		4.00
Perform improvised solos as applicable		4.00
Blend and Balance		4.00
a. Correct tone, volume, and timbre as appropriate to section		
b. Correct tone, volume, and timbre as appropriate to ensemble		
Memorize performance repertoire as directed		4.00
Professional standard of conduct		2.00
a. Demonstrate musical preparedness in rehearsal and performances		
b. Demonstrate professionalism with regard to attendance, attitude, deportment, and participation		
Rhythm		4.00
a. Precise reading of rhythm		
b. Playing or singing together as a section		
c. Playing or singing together as an ensemble		
d. Following the conductor as applicable		
Total Hours:		0.00 34.00

Methods of Instruction

- A. Class Activities
- B. Collaborative Group Work
- C. Demonstrations
- D. Discussion
- E. Group Discussions
- F. Guest Speakers
- G. Homework: Students are required to complete one hour of outside-of-class homework for every two hours of activity

Methods of Evaluation

- A. Exams/Tests
- B. Projects
- C. Demonstration
- D. Performance Examinations
- E. Group Participation
- F. Public Performance

Examples of Assignments

Reading Assignments

1. Read through the scores of the assigned music in preparation for rehearsal. Learn your part and have an overall understanding of the form and function of the piece.
2. Identify up to three recordings of the composition you are learning. Listen to each and select one for further study. Be ready to discuss in rehearsal how you think the musical interpretation by the musicians on the recording could guide the ensemble's performance.

Writing Assignments

1. Write the appropriate technical direction in your score that you will need for performance.
2. Choose a piece of interest and unravel the context surrounding its creation. Delve into the life and influences of the composer, shedding light on their unique musical style. Investigate the premiere and subsequent performances of the chosen composition, examining critical reviews and audience reactions. Conclude with reflections on the composition's enduring significance. Present your findings in a concise and well-organized manner (1-2 pages), ensuring proper citation of sources and possibly incorporating relevant visual aids to enhance understanding. This assignment aims to cultivate research and analytical skills while fostering a deeper appreciation for the interplay between a composer's life, their work, and its performance history.

Out-of-Class Assignments

1. Rehearse, practice, and prepare individual parts. Memorize the melody, chord progression, form, harmonies, and backgrounds.
2. Write and prepare solos to be performed over selected compositions.

Recommended Materials of Instruction

Other Learning Materials

Music and repertoire will be selected and provided by the instructor based on the needs and interests of the ensemble.

Minimum Qualifications

Music (Masters Required)

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