

MUSP 002 –Symphonic Wind Ensemble
Syllabus and Course Calendar
Spring 2019

Instructor: Richard D. Edwards, Ph.D.
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Class Meetings: MWF 4:15 - 5:30, Presser rehearsal room in Sanborn Hall
Office Hrs: Office Hours: 9:00 – 10:00 (MWF)

Course Description

The Ohio Wesleyan University Symphonic Wind Ensemble provides performance experiences in a wide range of musical styles and periods for all students at OWU. The music varies from semester to semester and is selected to provide a challenging opportunity for musical growth. A **“Schedule of Events”** accompanies this syllabus and constitutes an essential part of the course requirements.

Course Objectives

Students who have successfully completed this course will:

1. Perform at a high level of proficiency independently, as a section member, and as an ensemble member.
2. Demonstrate and describe concepts of good intonation, balance between melodic and accompaniment lines, balance between players, instrumental blend, and sonorous tone color.
3. Demonstrate and describe concepts of phrasing, dynamics, articulation, rhythmic precision and ensemble clarity as it relates to quality performance.
4. Problem solve strategies to improve the performance of assigned works or self-identified target areas in their music that represent artistic moments and/or challenging passages as an individual musician, as a section, and as an ensemble.
5. Work creatively and collaboratively with others.
6. Fully participate in the process of large ensemble sequential rehearsing and pacing in relation to short- and long-term performance goals.

Student Expectations

- Be early, be prepared musically, be warmed up and tuned.
- Come to rehearsal open-minded and ready to learn in ways that you might not understand.
- Use your time in rehearsal to become a better musician: listen actively, understand your role and how your part fits with others in your section, and the ensemble.
- Know where the melody and focal point of the music is at all times and protect it by playing with appropriate balance.
- Stay focused. Respect the rehearsal process and the efforts of those around you.

Getting Help

At some point, most students need help, but they're often unsure about asking. It's normal to not understand something we've covered, to struggle with a performance concept, or to be uncertain of how to begin (and finish) a project. Needing help *isn't* a sign that you don't belong here, that the course is too hard for you, or that you're not as talented as everyone else. I may not know what you need help with until we look at the challenge together so the first policy is to *ask for help when you need to*.

How do you do that? Walk up and talk to me right after rehearsal. Check my office hours (at the top of the syllabus) and come by during those times. Can't make office hours or can't wait until the next one? Send me an email, and we'll sort it out in person or online. Aren't sure if I can help with your problem? I can probably point you to someone who can.

Grading Policy and Attendance

Symphonic Wind Ensemble members earn a .25 unit of academic credit for their full participation. During the first week of classes, each student will receive a schedule of events for the entire semester including dress rehearsals, off-campus performance dates, and concerts. Grades will be based on

Attendance with focused participation at rehearsals and performances	90%
Completion of reading/writing assignments and in-class reflections	10%

Students are urged to keep a personal calendar to keep track of assigned music, rehearsal targets, and performances. There are no written exams.

Attendance policies for this course are based on the essential nature of teamwork in large ensemble performance. Each member of the ensemble is expected to come to every rehearsal fully prepared to listen, perform, and collaborate with the entire group.

Unexcused Absences

None or One	A (semester grade)
Two	B (semester grade)
Three	C (semester grade)
Four	Withdrawn from the course with F for the semester

Absence from a dress rehearsal or concert will result in a grade of F for the semester.

Tardy to Rehearsal (late arrival): Arriving late to rehearsal will not be tolerated. Two unexcused tardies will count the same as one unexcused absence.

Excused Absences or Tardies: Any absence from a rehearsal (or tardy) must be cleared **in advance***

1. (BEST OPTION) Contact the conductor in person, **in advance.***
 - a. Immediately after rehearsal
2. Stop by Office Hours
 - a. MWF, 9:00 – 10:00 (Sanborn 204)
3. Telephone Dr. Edwards **in advance*** and explain what's up
 - a. Office: (740) 368-3721
4. Email Dr. Edwards at rdedward@owu.edu **in advance.***
5. As a last resort, leave emergency messages on the voicemail at the phone number listed above **in advance.***

*** It is the conductor's responsibility to determine if the requested absence or tardy is excused.** If illnesses occur frequently, you may be asked for written documentation from a physician. The mere fact that you have informed the conductor in advance about missing a rehearsal does not automatically guarantee you will be excused. Please **do not schedule** routine health visits (doctor, dentist, optometrist), job interviews, academic advising appointments, tutoring sessions, auditions, veterinarian appointments, car repairs, etc. during the rehearsal time.

Concert Attire

Wearing the required concert attire for any performance is a requirement of the course. Students who elect not to comply will, at the discretion of the conductor, be asked not to perform and/or may expect to have their course grade lowered. Part of the mission of this course is to prepare each student for the realities and expectations of a professional music performing career, including acceptable concert attire.

For the formal concerts, men must wear a traditional black tuxedo, white shirt, black bow tie, black socks and black dress shoes. For the formal concerts, women must wear a black full-length concert dress or black pants with black blouse outfit with black dress shoes. Short black dresses (knee length or shorter) are not acceptable, nor are "prom-type" dresses which may feature excessive ruffles and decorations such as sequins. For men and women, the

wearing of a dark navy-blue outfit as a substitute for black is not acceptable. Wearing tennis shoes or sneakers, even black ones, is not acceptable. Only the conductor or guest-conductors may amend these concert attire guidelines with advance planning.

On certain occasions, such as the OWU Honor Band, the concert attire may change to other specifications. This would be announced well in advance. In these instances, wearing tennis shoes or sneakers would again not be acceptable.

Loan of OWU Equipment & Music

Failure to return university owned instruments or university owned folders of music by the prescribed time will result in a Grade of “Incomplete” for the term. Loss or Damage Fees associated with missing parts and equipment will be:

Loss of Instrument or Equipment:	Total assessed value at time of loan
Damage to Instrument or Equipment:	Total cost of repair
Music Folder:	\$20
Rental Music:	\$15 per part
Original Parts:	\$3 per part
Copies	\$1.50 per part

Rehearsal Calendar and Practice Targets

The conductor will post a schedule on the Presser rehearsal room door with all upcoming works to be rehearsed for the current and following week. Students are responsible for preparing assigned music to the best of their ability in advance of each rehearsal by focusing on targeted passages addressed in rehearsals, self-diagnosed areas of need, and personal performance concepts (e.g., tone production, note accuracy, intonation, rhythmic precision, articulation, dynamic contrast, phrasing).

Schedule of Events

Saturday January 19, 2019

OWU High School Honor Band* (Gray Chapel)

Rehearsal	9:00 a.m. – 11:45 a.m.
Lunch	12:00 p.m. – 12:45 p.m.
Sectional	1:00 p.m. – 1:50 p.m.
Rehearsal	2:00 p.m. – 4:45 p.m.
Dinner Break	5:00 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.
Concert	7 p.m.

Students report on stage at 6:45 p.m.

Tuesday, April 23, 2019

OWU Symphonic Wind Ensemble Concert **

Performance begins at 8 p.m. in Gray Chapel

Students report on stage at 7:15 p.m.

* It is my goal that 2019 is the final year in which the high school honor band is a required event for all OWU student members in the Symphonic Wind Ensemble. Preparations are already underway to generate enrollment *entirely* with high school students for the 2020 honor band.

** This later than normal concert date is due to a prior arrangement to share a portion of our concert time with the Worthington Kilbourne High School Wind Ensemble. Compared to previous semesters, this will create additional weeks of rehearsal leading up to the performance. To alleviate student schedules and to avoid peaking too soon before the concert, most Friday rehearsals will not be held after 1/21/19. Any return to Friday rehearsals will be announced with at least two week’s notice. NOTE: Two meetings per week from 1/21 – 4/22 will offer *more* rehearsals than if we were to meet three times per week between 1/21 – 3/22.

Regular MWF rehearsals will resume in Fall 2019.