

UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA SYLLABUS AND CONTRACT SPRING 2021

ORCHESTRA MUN 1210 / 3213 / 6215

ORCHESTRAL REHEARSALS ARE HELD EVERY TUESDAY AND THURSDAY
FROM 1:55 PM TO 3:50 PM (PERIODS 7 & 8) IN STEINBRENNER HALL

Instructor: Dr. Raymond Chobaz, MUB 127, Tel. 352-273-3157, Email: rchobaz@arts.ufl.edu
Graduate Assistant: Matthew Wardell, MUB 127, Email: mwardell@ufl.edu
Orchestra Manager: Erynne San Antonio, MUB 127, Email: esanantonio@ufl.edu
Schedule & Location: Tuesdays & Thursdays – 7th & 8th Periods: 1:55 to 3:50 PM in STEINBRENNER
Office Hours: Tuesdays & Thursdays – 5th & 6th Periods, MUB 127

PRELIMINARY NOTE

We will have face-to-face instructional sessions to accomplish the student learning objectives of this course. In response to COVID-19, the following policies and requirements are in place to maintain your learning environment and to enhance the safety of our in-classroom interactions.

- You are required to wear approved face coverings at all times during class and within buildings. Following and enforcing these policies and requirements are all of our responsibility. Failure to do so will lead to a report to the Office of Student Conduct and Conflict Resolution.
 - This course has been assigned a physical classroom with enough capacity to maintain physical distancing (7 feet between each string player) requirements. Please utilize designated seats and maintain appropriate spacing between each other. Please do not move chairs and desks.
 - Sanitizing supplies are available in the classroom if you wish to wipe down your stands prior to sitting down and at the end of the class.
 - Follow your instructor's guidance on how to enter and exit the classroom. Practice physical distancing to the extent possible when entering and exiting the classroom.
 - If you are experiencing COVID-19 symptoms, please use the UF Health screening system and follow the instructions on whether you are able to attend class.
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ANTICIPATED REHEARSAL SCHEDULE

The guidelines for ensembles this fall requires that all rehearsal periods last no longer than 30 minutes each and need to be followed by at least a 15-minute break. The countdown for rehearsal starts with the first person entering the hall, and the break starts with the last person leaving the hall, a procedure to be monitored by an assigned person with a stop watch. Since we are required to leave the building (not just the hall), I suggest that we bring an umbrella!

In order to expedite entering and leaving Steinbrenner Hall all Violin and Viola Players will use the upper West and all Cello and Bass Players the lower West entrance to Steinbrenner Hall entering the building at a 6 feet's distance from each other with the principals leading the section in at 1:50 pm.

Because of these restrictions we must count on your full cooperation and goodwill. The rehearsing, recording or streaming schedule will therefore have to look as follows:

Entering:	1:55 – 2:00 PM	Seating, setting up stand, getting instrument and music ready and tuning
Rehearsal Period I:	2:00 – 2:25 PM	Actual Rehearsing (~25 Minutes)
Break I:	2:25 – 2:40 PM	Exiting the building at 6 feet's distance the same way you entered it
Rehearsal Period II:	2:40 – 3:10 PM	Actual Rehearsing (~25 Minutes)
Break II:	3:10 – 3:25 PM	Exiting the building at 6 feet's distance the same way you entered it
Rehearsal Period III:	3:25 – 3:45 PM	Actual Rehearsing (~20 Minutes)
Exiting & Chairs:	3:45 – 3:50 PM	

Due to these unusual and unprecedented circumstances it is very hard to predict when exactly we actually are going to be ready to be recorded for future streaming. It seems most reasonable that we rehearse one piece at a time, then record it if possible when we are ready before we go on to the next piece.

WHAT IS EXPECTED TO GUARANTEE PROFESSIONAL PERFORMANCE STANDARDS?

ATTENDANCE is mandatory for ALL rehearsals, recording and streaming sessions. **Attendance is monitored at all rehearsals by your turned-off cellphone in your assigned pouch. NO ABSENCES WILL BE APPROVED FOR RECORDING AND STREAMING SESSIONS (this includes class conflicts).**

ABSENCES and CONFLICTS must be approved in advance and in person (DELEGATING BY A THIRD PARTY IS NOT ACCEPTABLE)! Anticipated conflicts with other classes (incl. labs, reviews, tests, field trips, etc.) must be resolved **during the FIRST WEEK of the semester**. Note: Conflicts with other orchestras or ensembles are NOT excusable. **EVERY ABSENCE REQUIRES A MAKE-UP REHEARSAL** with your section leader.

EVERY UNEXCUSED ABSENCE will result in a deduction of **10 points** from your final grade! **Unacceptable excuses include:** class and exam conflicts (see above), transportation trouble, paper cut, sprained ankle, picking up people at the airport, conflicts with other orchestras, sick pets, **fraternity, sorority or any other social activities**. Anyone with an illness that does not require a doctor's visit should attend rehearsal. **Acceptable excuses include:** Sickness with a doctor's note, proven family emergencies, funerals, field trips, etc. We highly discourage missing rehearsal for any reason but understand that emergencies do happen.

EVERY TWO APPROVED ABSENCES without a doctor's note will result in a deduction of **5 points from your grade!**

EACH LATE ARRIVAL will lower the final grade by **5 points**. Anyone not prepared to play when the concertmaster steps on the podium for tuning will be considered late. The same rule is in effect for unexcused **early leaving**.

EMERGENCIES must be recorded in person to Erynne San Antonio at esanantonio@ufl.edu by **1:30 PM** the day of the rehearsal. Notifications coming in after 1:30 PM are considered unexcused.

COMMUNICATION: E-mail messages before and/or after rehearsals from the orchestra director are part of your instruction. Make sure your email box is not full! **ALL emails sent by the Conductor, Orchestra Manager or Librarian have to be read and their content applied before the next rehearsal.**

PRACTICE and PREPARATION of one's part is professionally expected and required for every rehearsal.

In rehearsals musicians do not learn their parts, they learn what part they play in the overall picture

RETURN OF ALL MUSIC: the end of every recording or streaming. Failure to return the music will lower the grade by **5 points** per day and require a penalty fee from the rental agency.

Your **FINAL GRADE** IS COMPLETELY IN YOUR OWN HANDS, based on all points mentioned above **in addition to ATTITUDE**, which includes **PUNCTUALITY, ATTENTIVENESS (NO USE OF MOBILE and NO TALKING** during rehearsals which is unprofessionally, disrespectful, and disruptive to peers and instructor alike), **APPROPRIATE ATTIRE** (no caps, hats, sunglasses), **COOPERATION**, and **PROFESSIONAL CONDUCT** (NO GUMS, magazine reading, leaving and entering rehearsals at will).

COURSE EVALUATION is expected to provide professional and respectful feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing course evaluation online via GatorEvals.

REMINDER: Food and Drinks are prohibited in ALL classrooms!

ALL ELECTRONIC DEVICES MUST BE TURNED OFF AND STOWED AWAY BEFORE ALL REHEARSALS, RECORDING AND STREAMING EVENTS

PLEASE, SUBMIT ONE COPY OF YOUR CONTRACT TO EVERY SINGLE ONE OF YOUR PROFESSORS THE FIRST WEEK OF CLASS TO AVOID CONFLICTS!

ORCHESTRA SYLLABUS

Course Objectives

The University Symphony Orchestra is dedicated to the learning of symphonic music through performance. The literature includes standard orchestral and choral masterworks, operas and ballets from the 18th century to the present by composers of all nations and genders. It is also committed to the promotion of new, noteworthy, and overlooked works.

Requirements

Participation in Orchestra is determined by the studio instructors of the wind, brass and percussion areas, and by a successful audition for all string instruments. Instruments must be owned, in good condition and well maintained. Regular E-mail messages from the Orchestra Director are part of your instruction. Make sure your email box is not full! **ALL emails sent by the Conductor, Orchestra Manager or Librarian have to be read and their content applied before the next rehearsal.**

Recording and Streaming Attire

All Black – Long black skirts/pants with long sleeved black shirts/blouses (NO TUXEDO), no ties or bow ties, black shoes and socks (no sneakers).

Attendance Policy

The class meets every Tuesday and Thursday from 1:55 to 3:50 p.m. in STEINBRENNER HALL. All members of the orchestra are to attend **ALL** scheduled rehearsals, dress rehearsals, and recording and streaming events. Conflicts and absences (of any nature) must be resolved in advance. **A copy of this contract must be submitted to each of your professors outside the School of Music the first week of the semester.** **EMERGENCIES** must be notified **PERSONALLY** (delegation is NOT acceptable) to the Office at 273-3157 or to esanantonio@ufl.edu by **1:30 PM** before rehearsal. Any notifications after 1:30 PM are considered unexcused. **See the orchestra contract for examples of what are considered excused or unexcused absences/late arrivals/leaving early.** See the follow section, "Grading Policy," for penalties in regard to absences and late arrivals.

Grading Policy

Grades evaluation: **96-100 A / 91-95 A- / 88-90 B+ / 85-87 B / 81-84 B- / 78-80 C+ / 75-77 C / 71-74 C- / 68-70 D+ / 65-67 D / 61-64 D- / -60 E**

Every student begins the semester with 100 points. Students will lose points in the following ways:

- Every **UNEXCUSED ABSENCE** from rehearsal results in a 10-point deduction from the student's grade.
- An **UNEXCUSED ABSENCE** of a **CONCERT, RECORDING** or **STREAMING SESSION** will result in an **E**. A **LATE ARRIVAL** will automatically result in a **C**.
- Every **LATE ARRIVAL** or **LEAVING EARLY** of a rehearsal or break during rehearsal will result in a 5-point deduction from the student's grade.
- Failure to return music will lower the grade by **5 points for each day late**.
- Cell Phone use during rehearsals, recordings or concerts will lower the grade by **5 points for each occurrence**.

Textbooks and Orchestral Parts

There are no textbooks required. What is required is that **ALL email contents from ORCHESTRA (Conductors, Personnel Manager or Librarian) must be applied immediately**. The Orchestra Library and/or the Rental Agency will provide all instrumental music parts. It is the musician's responsibility to return all parts immediately and in good condition the night of every concert to the orchestra librarian. Failure to return music will lower the musician's grade by **5 points for each day late** and require a penalty fee by the rental agency. Any lost or damaged parts or folders will have to be replaced by the individual musician. **No ink or ballpoint marks** are permitted in any music parts. **Only use soft Pencil No. 1 or 2 to mark parts.**

Health and Wellness Resources and Students with Disabilities

- Student Health Care Center: 352-392-1161
- Students with disabilities who experience learning barriers and would like to request academic accommodations should connect with the disability Resource Center by visiting

disability.ufl.edu/students/get-started. It is important for students to share their accommodation letter with their instructor and discuss their access needs, as early as possible in the semester.

- *U Matter, We Care*: If you or someone you know is in distress, please contact umatter@ufl.edu or call the *Counseling and Wellness Center* at 352-392-1575 to refer or report a concern.

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