MUS 441: Orchestra
MUS 441V: Orchestra IP
MUS 541: Orchestra (0 credit)
Course Syllabus
Fall, 2019

Course Meeting Time: Tuesdays and Thursdays, 5:20-6:50 PM
Course Location: Orr Auditorium Stage / Patterson Hall (PH) 51 (Rehearsal Room)

Professor:
Dr. Melinda Crawford Perttu
Office: Patterson Hall; Room 61B
Office Hours: As posted on office door and by appointment
Office Phone: 724-946-7271
E-mail: perttumh@westminster.edu

Course Description: A study of representative Baroque, Classical, Romantic, and Modern literature for chamber and symphony orchestra. Several performances are presented each year, one or more of which may utilize student soloists or choral organizations. The orchestra is open to all qualified students and faculty of the College. Students desiring partial Intellectual Perspectives (IP) credit in Visual & Performing Arts should register for MUS 441V.
Prerequisite: permission of the instructor.
Credit: 1 semester hour.

Course Description: MUS 441V: Same as 441, except that students earn Intellectual Perspectives (IP) credit in Visual & Performing Arts after 4 semesters of 441V. Additional assignments will be required from students registered for this course.

Course Outcomes:
Regardless of what section in which a student is registered, a student will be able to:
- play his/her instrument, as part of a cohesive unit, selected standard repertoire at a performance level.
- follow rehearsal and performance practices characteristic of professional ensembles.
- demonstrate an understanding of various conducting practices.
- change his/her playing style to match the genre/character of the repertoire.

In MUS 441V, a student also will be able to:
- identify technical/musical issues within his/her own performance.
- creatively define methods of practicing that will solve personal performance issues.

2019-2020 Concert Schedule:

Concert Call Times are TBA, but expect at minimum of one hour prior to the performance. All concerts will take place in Orr Auditorium.

Thursday, October 17, 2019 @ 7:30
Sunday, December 8, 2019 @ 4:00
Friday, February 28, 2020 @ 7:30
Saturday, May 2, 2020 @ 7:30

Class Expectations:
Please have your instruments ready and tuned before the start of class.

The rehearsal schedule, a seating plan, and seat assignments for the current concert can be found on the bulletin board outside of Dr. Crawford Perttu’s office. Please put your music in rehearsal order prior to rehearsal.

Please add measure numbers to ALL of your parts BEFORE the second rehearsal.
All music, original parts and photocopied practice parts alike, MUST be returned at the conclusion of each concert or you will be charged for the cost of replacement parts.

**There WILL be rehearsal on the Tuesday before Thanksgiving Break. Please make your travel plans accordingly.**

**Grading:** Attendance, preparation, rehearsal conduct, and concert attendance are all factors that will influence grading. Concert attendance is mandatory. Missing any portion of your performance (due to any reasons that would be classed as “unexcused”) in a concert will result in your overall grade for the course being lowered by two entire letter grades. (Ex: A is lowered to C; A- is lowered to C-, etc.)

The following rubric will define the grading used in this class:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Attendance</th>
<th>Preparation*</th>
<th>Rehearsal Conduct</th>
<th>Recording Assignments</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>Attended all rehearsals. No unexcused absences.</td>
<td>Music is prepared to a performance level. No improvement is needed.</td>
<td>Ready to rehearse on time. Ready to play when requested.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A-</td>
<td>Attended most rehearsals. One unexcused absence.</td>
<td>Music is almost prepared to a performance level and improvement is noted.</td>
<td>Ready to rehearse on time. Mostly ready to play when requested.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B+</td>
<td>Attended most rehearsals. Two unexcused absences.</td>
<td>Music is suitably prepared to be performed in rehearsal and improvement is noted.</td>
<td>Almost always ready to rehearse on time. Mostly ready to play when requested.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>Attended most rehearsals. Three unexcused absences.</td>
<td>Music is suitably prepared to be performed in rehearsal, yet no improvement is noted.</td>
<td>Ready to rehearse on time. Sometimes ready to play when requested.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C+</td>
<td>Attended some rehearsals. Four unexcused absences.</td>
<td>Music is under-prepared to be performed in rehearsal and improvement is noted.</td>
<td>Almost always ready to rehearse on time. Sometimes ready to play when requested.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>Attended some rehearsals. Five unexcused absences.</td>
<td>Music is under-prepared to be performed in rehearsal yet no improvement is noted.</td>
<td>Sometimes ready to rehearse on time. Infrequently ready to play when requested.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Each student will be evaluated based on his/her current performing abilities.

**Grading Scale:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>93-100</td>
<td>B</td>
<td>73-76</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A-</td>
<td>90-92</td>
<td>B-</td>
<td>70-72</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B+</td>
<td>87-89</td>
<td>C+</td>
<td>67-69</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>80-82</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>63-66</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>77-79</td>
<td>D</td>
<td>60-62</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C+</td>
<td>71-72</td>
<td>D+</td>
<td>Below 60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>Below 70</td>
<td>D</td>
<td>Below 60</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Students must attain a grade of B- or higher in order for this course to count toward the music major. Additionally, students may be asked to re-audition at any time if it is clear that their performance is making a negative impact on the group as a whole.

**Attendance Policy:** The attendance policy in this course follows the College policy, which is outlined in the Westminster College Undergraduate Catalogue. Students are expected to attend all classes. It is well known that it is impossible for a performing group to perform at its highest level when personnel do not attend each rehearsal.

I may excuse absences for the following reasons: course-related field trips; illness that is documented by a doctor’s note (not including the “self-reported sick in room” notice from the Student Health Center); death or serious illness in the immediate family as is verified by someone other than the student; appearance in court; co-curricular and extracurricular activities recognized and/or sponsored by the College; or another extraordinary reason as deemed appropriate by me.
All absences must be documented with an excuse form. The form can be found next to Dr. Crawford Perttu’s door or on D2L. ALL reasons for missing rehearsals must be documented this way. Please turn the form in to Dr. Crawford Perttu or to her assistant at least one week prior to absence. Please remember that simply because an excuse form has been turned in for an absence, it is not necessarily considered an excused absence.

Three tardies (not being tuned and ready to play as rehearsal starts) will equal one unexcused absence.

No food or drink is permitted during rehearsal.

**Concert Dress:** Gentlemen: Tuxedo with appropriate white shirt, black cummerbund/vest, and black bow-tie. Black socks and shoes.

Ladies: All black. As these are formal concerts, the clothing must be kept professional. No sleeveless tops or flip-flops (even if they are black). Black pants are acceptable; skirts, if worn, must be long and with black hose. When judging your outfit, please remember that the gentlemen are wearing tuxedos; however, cocktail-style dresses or short skirts are not professional.

**Sectionals:** Sectionals held outside of class time are required of music majors who are enrolled on their primary instrument in Orchestra (MUS 441 or MUS 441V) as a class. A minimum of two hours of sectional time is required for each concert. Sectional time may be divided however a section deems necessary. Scheduling and participation in the sectionals are conducted on the honor system. Finally, members of the orchestra who are not required to participate in sectionals MAY (and are encouraged to) participate in their section’s sectional practice.

**Intellectual Perspectives (IP) credit in Visual & Performing Arts:** For the students enrolled in MUS 441 V, the following assignments apply:

Twice prior to each concert, record yourself performing excerpts of your own orchestral part. The excerpts are of your own choosing based on the technical demands of your part and should be representative of all of the selections programmed for the upcoming concert. Once you have identified the excerpts that you wish to use, get Dr. Crawford Perttu’s verbal approval or by submitting the attached forms.

After recording, please write a two-page doubly spaced reflection paper detailing your analysis of your recorded performance. Please include mention of the following: intonation, tone, use of dynamics, rhythmic accuracy, tempo, vibrato, and technical demands. Mention areas of difficulty (technical and/or musical) and how you strategically plan to address those issues. The grading rubric that will be used to determine your grade is on D2L.

Your recorded performance will not be graded. It will be used to illuminate the issues that you discuss in your written analysis.

The goal of this assignment is not to prove how brilliantly you can perform the easier sections, but to describe how you are going to strategically improve your playing both musically and technically. However, brilliant performances of the hardest sections are always appreciated. ;-)

You may digitally record your selections via the equipment of your choosing (cell phones, etc.). (A digital recorder and its manual are available from Dr. Crawford Perttu if needed.) Once you have completed the assignment, upload the recordings to D2L. Please print out your written analysis, staple the excerpt form on top of it, and turn the packet in to Dr. Crawford Perttu.

**Due Dates for (IP) Recordings and Papers (there will be NO reminders):**

Concert I: Sept. 17 & Oct. 10
Concert II: Nov. 7 & Nov. 26

**E-mail and Computer Use:** I will be e-mailing students in the course critical information and will also be posting important files to network accounts. Students are required to use the Westminster.edu e-mail account and network accounts, or must have their e-mails forwarded from Westminster.edu to another account. In addition, students are
required to check e-mail with reasonable frequency, preferably every day, as important course updates may occur via e-mail rather than in class, in an effort to preserve valuable class time. If e-mail accounts are too full or over quota, I will NOT resend e-mails; students are required to monitor the quotas on their accounts. Additionally, all class information will be posted on D2L.

Academic Honesty: Passing off a person’s recorded performance as one’s own is a breach of the College’s policy on academic integrity. In addition, the standards in this course conform to the College’s policy, which states: “Academic dishonesty is a profound violation of the expected code of behavior. It can take several forms including, but not limited to, plagiarism, cheating, misrepresentation of facts or experimental results, unauthorized use of or intentional intrusion into another’s computer files and/or programs, intentional damage to a computer system, and unauthorized use of library materials and privileges. Academic dishonesty in any of these forms will not be tolerated. Students who engage in academic dishonesty face penalties such as failure in the course involved or expulsion from the College. All instances of academic dishonesty will be reported to the Dean of the College.”

Student Support Services and Special Accommodations: Students who have special needs that may affect their academic or personal life should seek resources on campus to assist them, such as Disability Support, the Learning Center, Diversity Services, and Library Instruction. In this course, accommodations consistent with college policy will be made for students who are utilizing appropriate support services. After consulting with the appropriate support service, students are encouraged to speak with me in a confidential appointment about necessary accommodations.

Note on Cellphone Use: Cellphones must be silenced during rehearsals and concerts. No texting is permitted.
MUS 441V – Recording Excerpt Form

Name: ______________________________________________________________

Part: __________________________

Circle one: Concert I Concert II

Recording I Recording II

Selected Excerpts:

____________________________________________________________________

____________________________________________________________________

____________________________________________________________________

____________________________________________________________________

____________________________________________________________________

____________________________________________________________________

____________________________________________________________________

____________________________________________________________________

MUS 441V – Recording Excerpt Form

Name: ______________________________________________________________

Part: __________________________

Circle one: Concert I Concert II

Recording I Recording II

Selected Excerpts:

____________________________________________________________________

____________________________________________________________________

____________________________________________________________________

____________________________________________________________________

____________________________________________________________________

____________________________________________________________________
MUS 441V – Recording Excerpt Form

Name: ____________________________________________

Part: _________________________

Circle one:  Concert I    Concert II
            Recording I    Recording II

Selected Excerpts:

_____________________________________________________________________

_____________________________________________________________________

_____________________________________________________________________

_____________________________________________________________________

_____________________________________________________________________

X ____________________________

MUS 441V – Recording Excerpt Form

Name: ____________________________________________

Part: _________________________

Circle one:  Concert I    Concert II
            Recording I    Recording II

Selected Excerpts:

_____________________________________________________________________

_____________________________________________________________________

_____________________________________________________________________

_____________________________________________________________________

_____________________________________________________________________
