

MUSP 155: CHAMBER STRINGS ENSEMBLE I

Citrus College Course Outline of Record

Heading	Value
Effective Term:	Fall 2021
Credits:	4
Total Contact Hours:	108
Lecture Hours :	54
Lab Hours:	54
Hours Arranged:	0
Outside of Class Hours:	108
Prerequisite:	Audition.
Transferable to CSU:	Yes
Transferable to UC:	No
Grading Method:	Standard Letter, Pass/No Pass

Catalog Course Description

The study and performance of beginning level orchestra and chamber strings literature, with an emphasis on the development of high standards of personal and musical professionalism. Public performance and field trips required. 54 lecture hours, 54 lab hours.

Course Objectives

- Perform string ensemble music on the student's respective instrument at the beginning level.
- Identify and generate the use of vibrato in the ensemble at the beginning level.
- Measure the adjustment to the musical pitch of a stand partner.
- Students will show increased awareness of musical concepts related to string performance.
- Produce a consistent tone on all four strings which is clearly audible in the ensemble at the beginning level.
- Perform accurately when other musical parts employ different rhythms and/or counterpoint to student's own part at a beginning level
- Perform with sensitivity to musical balance within the group by making adjustments to the dynamic level.

Major Course Content

1. Assessment of individual students' entry instrumental proficiency
2. Introduction to professional rehearsal and performance etiquette for large symphonic ensembles
3. Introduction to the concept of characteristic tone and the development of beginning tone production techniques
4. Introduction to and development of beginning level intonation adjustment techniques
5. Introduction to and development of beginning level technical velocity development strategies

6. Introduction to beginning level large symphonic ensemble notation terminology
7. Introduction to beginning level conductor gestural commands
8. Introduction to and development of an intermediate level personal practice regimen
9. Introduction to beginning level musical rhythm concepts
10. Introduction to beginning-level individual, sectional and ensemble balance and blend concepts
11. Introduction to and development of beginning music phrasing, expression and dynamics techniques
12. Introduction to and development of beginning level sight-reading skills
13. Ongoing presentation of the historical, cultural, stylistic, theoretical, interactional, structural, and formal elements of the beginning orchestral literature rehearsed and performed
14. Preparation and performance of beginning orchestral ensemble literature focusing on individual part performance proficiency integrated with ensemble awareness
15. Semester One: Music of the Baroque
16. Semester Two: The Classical Era
17. Semester Three: 20th Century
18. Semester Four: the Romantic Era
19. Semesters One -Four: Elements of the String Ensemble
 - a. Violin
 - b. Viola
 - c. Cello
 - d. Double Bass
20. Semesters One-Four: Public performance
21. Semesters One-Four: Self-evaluation and instructor evaluation

Lab Content

Instrument groups meet to rehearse approved/assigned repertoire while reviewing and developing:

1. Scales, arpeggios, and melodic material on primary instrument
2. Practice application of proper performance techniques to assigned selections of chamber strings repertoire
3. Approved/assigned repertoire for public performance

Suggested Reading Other Than Required Textbook

Internet and/or library research (composer; historical era; stylistic, structural and formal elements; etc.) including listening, of orchestral literature rehearsed and performed.

Examples of Required Writing Assignments

Written evaluation of live and recorded wind band performances using standard music adjudication forms.

Essays evaluating live and recorded wind band performances.

Examples of Outside Assignments

Individual practice of instrumental skills. Study, mark, and prepare individual parts. Study and evaluate reference recordings. Write performance evaluation essays.

Instruction Type(s)

Lecture, Lab