

# MUSP 256: COMPETITIVE COLLEGIATE CHAMBER MUSIC ENSEMBLE

## Citrus College Course Outline of Record

Heading	Value
Effective Term:	Fall 2024
Credits:	4
Total Contact Hours:	144
Lecture Hours :	36
Lab Hours:	0
Hours Arranged:	108
Outside of Class Hours:	72
Total Student Learning Hours:	216
Prerequisite:	Audition.
Transferable to CSU:	Yes
Transferable to UC:	Yes - Proposed
Grading Method:	Standard Letter

## Catalog Course Description

The preparation and performance of professional instrumental chamber music ensemble literature with the primary goal of maximizing adjudication consideration and reward at instrumental chamber music ensemble competitions and festivals. Participation in instrumental chamber music ensemble competitions and festivals is required. This course may be taken four times. 36 lecture hours, 108 lab hours arranged.

## Course Objectives

- Maximize adjudication consideration and reward by successfully preparing and performing professional instrumental chamber literature at instrumental chamber music ensemble competitions and festivals.
- Interpret musical style and select the appropriate performance approach for professional (grade 5-6) level instrumental chamber music ensemble literature.
- Recognize and correctly translate, interpret and respond to music notation terms and symbols found in professional (grade 5-6) level instrumental chamber music ensemble literature, as well as the idiomatic jargon and terminology typically used in instrumental chamber music ensemble rehearsal.
- Produce an professional level characteristic instrumental tone quality on their instrument, control and adjust intonation through a professional range of their primary instrument's tessitura, correctly interpret and accurately project professional (grade 5-6) level musical rhythm on their instrument, project their individual part with an professional level control of balance and blend, and recognize and critique the achievement of these instrumental performance parameters by other members of the ensemble.

## Major Course Content

1. Assessment of individual students' entry instrumental proficiency
2. Introduction to and a brief history of instrumental chamber music ensemble competitions and festivals

3. Introduction to instrumental chamber music ensemble adjudication evaluation:
  - a. Adjudication and adjudicators
  - b. Various performance evaluation rubrics and criteria reference systems
  - c. Various instrumental chamber music ensemble classification systems
  - d. Various philosophies regarding music performance competition
4. Review of professional instrumental chamber music ensemble rehearsal and performance etiquette
5. Review and development of professional level characteristic tone production techniques
6. Review and development of professional level intonation adjustment techniques
7. Review and development of professional level articulation techniques
8. Introduction to professional level technical velocity and fluency development strategies
9. Review of advanced musical rhythm concepts
10. Review and development of professional level phrasing, expression and dynamics techniques
11. Introduction to professional level individual, sectional and ensemble balance and blend concepts
12. Introduction to professional level notation and competition stage performance terminology
13. Review and development of professional level sight-reading skills
14. Review and development of a professional level personal practice regimen
15. Ongoing presentation of the historical, cultural, stylistic, theoretical, interactional, structural and formal elements of the professional (Grade 5-6) level instrumental chamber music ensemble literature rehearsed and performed.
16. Preparation and performance of professional (Grade 5-6) level instrumental chamber music ensemble literature focusing on maximizing adjudication consideration.

## Hours Arranged Content

1. In addition to the lecture led portion of full ensemble rehearsals, instrument sections and section groupings meet weekly to review, develop and assess:
  - a. Tone production techniques
  - b. Intonation adjustment techniques
  - c. Articulation techniques
  - d. Technical velocity and fluency, and tone flexibility skills
  - e. Phrasing, expression and dynamics techniques
  - f. Individual, sectional and ensemble balance and blend
  - g. Musical rhythm reading skills
  - h. Musical rhythm execution and precision
    - i. Observe and evaluate live and recorded instrumental chamber music ensemble competition and festival performances
    - j. Prepare assigned instrumental chamber music ensemble literature for competition and festival performance
2. Additional full ensemble and sectional rehearsals are arranged, especially during the weeks approaching competition and festival performances.
3. Competition and festival performances are scheduled.

## **Suggested Reading Other Than Required Textbook**

Internet and/or library research (composer; historical era; stylistic, structural and formal elements; instrumental chamber music ensemble history; instrumental chamber music ensemble competitions; etc.) including listening, of instrumental chamber music ensemble literature rehearsed and performed.

## **Examples of Required Writing Assignments**

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

## **Examples of Outside Assignments**

1. Written evaluation of live and recorded instrumental chamber music ensemble performances using competition and festival music adjudication forms. 2. Essays evaluating live and recorded instrumental chamber music ensemble competition and festival performances.

## **Instruction Type(s)**

Lab, Lecture