

Temple College/Texas A&M University - Central Texas
MUEN 1123/3123: Orchestra
1 credit hour
Fall 2019 - Spring 2020 Syllabus
UPDATED (revisions in red)

CONDUCTOR: Dr. Alexander Corbett

E-MAIL: alexander.corbett@templejc.edu

OFFICE: PAC 3530 (Temple College)

OFFICE HOURS: *By appointment. Since we cannot meet in person this semester, I am always happy to arrange a telephone call.*

COURSE OBJECTIVE: The goal of the Temple College Orchestra is to provide each member with training and experience in ensemble playing. We will achieve this through diligent preparation and commitment during rehearsals. Our work will culminate in concert performances that are scheduled throughout the academic year.

MEASURABLE LEARNING OUTCOMES:

1. Knowledge of preparation and performance of appropriate standard repertoire
2. Knowledge of appropriate standard literature
3. Develop collaborative skills

MEETING TIMES: Monday at 7:00 - 9:00 p.m. (plus other rehearsals/concerts as necessary)

ROOM: Carpenter Rehearsal Hall (CRH), Room 3532

AUDITIONS: All registered students will need to perform an audition in front of the conductor prior to playing in the ensemble. The conductor will provide instructions to sign up for an audition time in an email prior to the start of the semester. He will also provide the orchestral excerpt indicated in the third component of the audition requirements, which are listed here:

1. Scale of your choice
2. 2-3 minute solo piece that represents your highest level of playing
3. Orchestral excerpt (provided by the conductor in advance of the audition)

MATERIALS: Players will need to bring their instrument and folders/parts to every rehearsal and concert. In addition, each player must bring a **pencil** to make markings in their music during rehearsals. Parts will be available prior to the first rehearsal of each concert cycle. The conductor will notify players via email about where and when they may retrieve their parts. **It is imperative that everyone turn in their folders/parts backstage immediately following each concert.**

PRACTICE: Players are expected to come to rehearsal prepared. You must learn your parts individually so we can use rehearsal time to address musical and artistic items. We do not want to spend precious rehearsal time learning notes. If even one person doesn't know their part, it is detrimental to the artistic progress of the entire ensemble.

Individual practice time is different for different people. For some, 30 minutes per day is adequate. Others may need 60 minutes per day. **You** are responsible for determining the amount of practice time needed to learn your music. If you have questions about practice time or techniques, the conductor is always there to answer them.

REPERTOIRE RECORDINGS: The conductor will email you recordings of the concert repertoire. **Listen to these recordings frequently.** Knowing the overall sound of a piece of orchestral music makes rehearsals run that much more smoothly. Put them on your portable music device so you may play them as you walk from class to class.

CONCERT ATTIRE: Players are required to wear black dress clothes for concerts (including black dress socks and black dress shoes). Players may wear a white undershirt so long as they wear a black dress jacket over it. Black tuxedos with black bow ties are fine. All skirts should be knee-length or longer. Jeans, t-shirts, sweatshirts, sneakers, and other casual items are not allowed.

REHEARSAL AND CONCERT ETIQUETTE: Turn your cell phones on **silent** (no vibrate). Please **smile** during applause.

ATTENDANCE: The Temple College Orchestra prepares challenging repertoire with only one rehearsal per week. Therefore, it is essential that all players attend rehearsals faithfully. Rehearsals are not optional and should be treated as class periods. When you are absent, your part is also absent, which confuses other players and makes it very difficult to rehearse effectively. So, for the sake of the entire ensemble, be sure to attend rehearsals regularly and punctually. Players must be **in their seats and ready to tune by 7:00 p.m.** on Mondays.

If a student absolutely must miss a rehearsal, there needs to be a valid excuse. An illness or a family emergency are examples of valid excuses. Homework, study groups, or work meetings are not valid excuses. **Students must email the conductor at least 2 hours in advance of the rehearsal for an absence to be considered excused.** This rule exists as a courtesy to the conductor and your fellow orchestra members, as the format of each rehearsal will invariably change with each person's absence. Thus, the conductor must have time to revise the rehearsal schedule so that the rehearsal operates as smoothly as possible for the entire orchestra.

Unexcused absences will lower the final grade according to the grading system below (see "GRADING").

COMMENCEMENT: Every three years the orchestra performs at Temple College's Spring Commencement. The next time the orchestra is due to perform is in Spring 2021.

FINAL EXCERPT VIDEO: In light of COVID-19, the Temple College Orchestra had to cancel its Spring 2020 concert cycle effective March 17, 2020. Therefore, students' final grades will be determined in part by a final excerpt video.

Each student will have to video record themselves playing 1-2 passages from their orchestra music. The conductor will email students a list of the required passages for each instrument. The video does not have to be professionally recorded; a smartphone video is acceptable. **This video is due on Tuesday, April 21, 2020 at 5:00 p.m.** To submit it, send the video in an email (or upload the video to the cloud and email a link) to alexander.corbett@templejc.edu.

GRADING: A-F. Final grades will be based on the following:

- 70% for attendance (January 13-March 2)
 - One unexcused absence will lower the final grade to a B.
 - Two unexcused absences will lower the final grade to a C.
 - Three unexcused absences will result in the student being automatically dropped from the class.
- 30% for final excerpt video

Letter grades will be determined as follows:

A	90 - 100%
B	80 - 89%
C	70 - 79%
D	65 - 69%
F	0 - 64%

STUDENT HANDBOOK: As a student enrolled at Temple College, you have a series of rights and are entitled to a variety of services, accommodations, and resources. These are overviewed in the Student Handbook which can be found at <http://catalog.templejc.edu/index.php?catoid=16>.

CAMPUS POLICE: If you ever feel unsafe or find yourself in an emergency situation on the Temple College campus, please call the Temple College Campus Police. They can be reached at 8911 (from any on-campus telephone) or 298-254-8911 (from a cell phone or other telephone).

SCHEDULE (subject to necessary adjustment):

(NOTE: all classes meet at 7:00-9:00 p.m. in CRH 3532 unless otherwise indicated)

Fall 2019

Mon, Aug 26	Rehearsal
Mon, Sep 2	No Rehearsal (Labor Day)
Mon, Sep 9	Rehearsal
Mon, Sep 16	Rehearsal
Mon, Sep 23	Rehearsal
Mon, Sep 30	Rehearsal
Mon, Oct 7	Rehearsal
Mon, Oct 14	Rehearsal
Mon, Oct 21	Rehearsal
Mon, Oct 28	Rehearsal
Tue, Nov 5	Rehearsal, 7:00-9:00 p.m., CRH 3532
Mon, Nov 11	Rehearsal
Mon, Nov 18	Dress Rehearsal
Tue, Nov 19	CONCERT, 7:30 p.m. (CALL: 6:30 p.m.), Mary Alice Marshall Performing Arts Center Auditorium
Mon, Nov 25	No Rehearsal
Mon, Dec 2	No Rehearsal

Spring 2020

Mon, Jan 13	Rehearsal
Mon, Jan 20	No Rehearsal (Martin Luther King Jr. Day)
Mon, Jan 27	Rehearsal
Mon, Feb 3	Rehearsal
Mon, Feb 10	Rehearsal
Mon, Feb 17	Rehearsal
Mon, Feb 24	Rehearsal
Mon, Mar 2	Rehearsal
Mon, Mar 9	No Rehearsal (Spring Break)
Mon, Mar 16	Rehearsal - CANCELLED
Mon, Mar 23	Rehearsal - CANCELLED
Mon, Mar 30	Rehearsal - CANCELLED

Mon, Apr 6 Rehearsal, Mary Alice Marshall Performing Arts Center Auditorium -
CANCELLED

Mon, Apr 13 Rehearsal - **CANCELLED**

Mon, Apr 20 Dress Rehearsal - **CANCELLED**

Tue, Apr 21 CONCERT, 7:30 p.m. (CALL: 6:30 p.m.), Mary Alice Marshall Performing
Arts Center Auditorium - **CANCELLED**
FINAL EXCERPT VIDEO DUE

Mon, Apr 27 No Rehearsal

MENTAL HEALTH COUNSELING:

Temple College has a licensed counselor available to students in need of counseling or referral services. All counseling services are confidential. Please go to:

<https://www.templejc.edu/resources/mental-health-counseling/>

or phone 254-298-8318 to schedule an appointment.

- Suicide Prevention Lifeline: 1-800-273-8255 or text HELP to 741741
- Local Mental Health Crisis Lines: 1-800-888-4036 (Temple); 1-800-841-1255 (Round Rock)
- Domestic Violence Hotline: 1-800-799-7233

CIRCLE OF SUPPORT:

The Circle of Support is a program that is available to Temple College students who may need assistance with non-academic issues (i.e., financial, food, housing). It is located at the Arnold Student Union (ASU). For more details, please go to:

<https://www.templejc.edu/resources/circle-of-support/>

or phone 254-298-8767.

MARKETABLE SKILLS REQUIRED BY THIS COURSE (use these for building your resume):

- Critical Thinking
 - Creative thinking
 - Evaluation and synthesis of information
 - Problem solving
 - Set realistic goals
 - Set priorities
- Communication Skills
 - Perceiving nonverbal messages
- Empirical and Quantitative Skills
 - Goal setting
 - Extracting important information
 - Analyze information
 - Detail oriented
- Teamwork
 - Work effectively with others
 - Consider differing opinions
 - Advise/counsel/encourage
 - Negotiate priorities
- Social Responsibility
 - Intercultural competence
 - Knowledge of civic responsibility
 - Community development
 - Cultural arts development
- Personal Responsibility
 - Flexibility
 - Finish projects on time
 - Follow instructions
 - Time management