

Cornell University

MUS 3631: Wind Symphony (CU Winds)

Credit Hours: 1-2 / Admission by audition only

Tuesdays, 4:45-6:25pm, Bailey Hall; Thursdays, 4:45-6:45pm, Lincoln Hall B20

Instructor: James Spinazzola

237 Lincoln Hall, jms862@cornell.edu, 5-7102

Office hours: Monday, 11am-12pm, 1-2pm; Tuesday & Thursday, 3-3:30pm;
and by appointment

Teaching Assistant: Daniel Sabzghabaei

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www.cuwinds.com

Welcome!

Course Description and Rationale

The goal of this music performance course is to provide the opportunity for you as a woodwind, brass, or percussion performer to rehearse and perform standard and emerging literature in large and chamber ensemble settings.

In this course we will focus on self and ensemble expression, engagement, participation, collaboration, and performance. We will address musical concepts including, but not limited to: ensemble balance & blend, intonation, phrasing & expression, articulation, tone, rhythmic precision, color, and unified interpretation.

Learning Outcomes

Upon completion of this course, students will be able to:	Instructional strategies that will foster this outcome:	Evidence and measures used to assess achievement of outcome:
Identify, define, and classify musical concepts including, but not limited to: ensemble balance & blend, intonation, phrasing & expression, articulation, tone, rhythmic precision, and unified interpretation with accuracy and velocity	Presentation of examples both in isolation and in representative contexts in rehearsals; peer feedback, both in class and on the ensemble rehearsal blog	Instructor and student review of rehearsal and performance recordings; comparison with reference recordings of professional ensembles
Demonstrate knowledge of complex rhythmic musical notation fundamental music	Presentation of examples in class, both in isolation and in representative contexts; and in online instructor videos	In-class readings with instructor and peer feedback; review of rehearsal and performance recordings

Demonstrate knowledge of general and nuanced concepts and techniques related to musical phrasing and expression	Presentation of principles and examples; collaborative experimentation with techniques applied to current repertoire	Peer and instructor review, both in class and of rehearsal and performance recordings
Demonstrate awareness of non-musical elements of successful, high-functioning collaborative performance (e.g., collegiality, punctuality, kindness, and patience)	Instructor-led discussion of core principles; instructor modeling of high-functioning sectionals; biweekly sectionals led by student section leader; regular in-class evaluation of rehearsal culture	Student and instructor feedback on rehearsal and sectional culture of learning
Perform quality repertoire at a high level, demonstrate awareness of specific differences between quality and marginal performances, and articulate those differences in a kind and respectful manner	Instructor description of core criteria used for assessing quality in musical performance, and modeling of appropriate language used in critical evaluation	Self- and peer-reflection on rehearsal and performance recordings, compared to and contrasted with reference recordings of professional and peer ensembles
Explore music making as a vehicle for cross-cultural exchange and collaboration, public engagement, and global awareness	Student participation in instructor-organized off-campus ensemble service-learning experiences	Self- and peer-reflection on in-class surveys and online service-learning blog

Expectations

All members of this course are expected to commit to personal and ensemble excellence. Regular and faithful attendance to all rehearsals, dress rehearsals, and concerts is understood. Please bring a pencil to every rehearsal and use it regularly to mark your music. Warm up and be mentally prepared before we begin. (“If you are on time, you are late.”) **Commit. Be a supportive, patient, and helpful colleague.**

- We do not rehearse to learn individual parts, but rather to learn how each part functions within the score.
- You cannot cram for musical performance.

If you are a section leader you have the added responsibility of *leading* your section - both technically and musically - during sectionals and rehearsals. **Section leaders are expected to organize and lead sectionals at least once every two weeks**, and to communicate with the conductor regarding the progress of sectionals.

Section members are expected to help create high-functioning, efficient sectionals by being on time, prepared, and engaged.

Active Learning

A primary goal for this course is to maintain a rehearsal atmosphere in which you are consistently engaged in active learning. In the ideal scenario, you are playing more than you are listening to others play, and when you are playing, *your energy is out of the stand*. You have learned the essential elements of your part outside of class, and as a result you are able to focus on *hearing, seeing, and collaborating*.

You will occasionally be expected to view brief learning materials designed to help you gain initial exposure to new material before class, thereby enabling us to focus on higher-level cognition in class. Videos, recordings, rehearsal excerpts, and documents will be posted regularly on Blackboard.

Soloists and principal players may be asked to record brief excerpts outside of class and send them to the instructor for comments and suggestions.

Fall Concert Dates

- **Saturday, September 29 Bailey Hall**
 - 11am-12:15pm – dress rehearsal
 - 2:40pm – call time
 - 3:00pm – concert begins
- **Saturday, November 17, Bailey Hall**
 - 11am-1:00pm – dress rehearsal
 - 7:00pm – concert begins

Regular Season Concert Attire

Formal option 1:

Black suit or tuxedo, white shirt, **solid black or red bow tie**, black dress shoes, and **black** socks.

Formal option 2:

Floor-length black skirt, black pants (no denim), or black **long-sleeved** dress. **Long-sleeved** black blouse. Black dress shoes, simple jewelry. No low necklines, bare shoulders or midriffs. Open-toed shoes are acceptable **with black or plain hose**.

Members who do not abide by the above guidelines will be excused from the performance and given an unexcused absence, which will result in a failing grade for the semester.

Informal performances:

Black pants (dressy denim is fine), **black** shoes & **black** socks or hose, Wind Symphony shirt (approximately \$15, ordered in bulk the outset of each semester).

Ensemble Grading

All musicians MUST register for this course, either for a grade or S/U. You will earn an A in the course with excellent attendance, consistent preparation and execution at rehearsals and performances, and class participation based on conscientious review of the guidelines presented above.

Attendance Policy

If missing a rehearsal or sectional is unavoidable, you must inform the instructor at least two days in advance. Section leaders must notify the conductor of absences from sectionals before the next rehearsal. If you must miss a rehearsal due to an emergency, please get in touch with the conductor as soon as possible. Acceptable reasons for missing a rehearsal or sectional do not include studying, fraternity events, or hunger...you get the idea.

Rehearsals

- 2 unexcused tardies = no grade change; 2nd tardy will necessitate a meeting with the instructor
- 3 unexcused tardies = 1 unexcused absence
- 1 unexcused absence from rehearsal = grade reduction from A to A-
- 2 unexcused absences from rehearsal = a B in the course
- 3 unexcused absences from rehearsal = a failing grade in the course and dismissal from the ensemble

To reiterate, if you miss three rehearsals without an explanation, you will be asked to leave the ensemble. Nothing personal, but your actions will be deemed unfair to the group.

Performances

An unexcused absence from a performance will result in a failing grade for the semester.

Repertoire

Our repertoire has been selected carefully to provide musically satisfying experiences. You will receive a folder and music in the first rehearsal. If your folder is lost or damaged, **you will be asked to pay \$8 (our cost) for its replacement.** Concert programs are published on www.cuwinds.com.

Commitment

Although this course is technically one semester in duration, a year-long commitment to the ensemble is expected. Please contact the instructor immediately if you do not plan to participate

in the course next semester.

Statement of Inclusivity and Respect

One of strengths of this ensemble is that our members represent a rich variety of backgrounds and perspectives. All members are expected to contribute to an inclusive and respectful class environment by treating others with fairness, honesty, integrity, and respect. Civil discourse, reasoned thought, sustained and constructive engagement, and a collaborative spirit are required of all students in this course.

Students with Disabilities: Your access in this course is important. Please give me your Student Disability Services (SDS) accommodation letter early in the semester so that I have adequate time to arrange your approved academic accommodations. If you need an immediate accommodation for equal access, please speak with me after class or send an email message to me and/or SDS at sds_cu@cornell.edu. If the need arises for additional accommodations during the semester, please contact SDS.

Live Performances & Recording

Participating in live performances is a requirement of this course. Live performances will be recorded and the recordings may be made available to authorized Cornell users (those holding a valid Net ID and password) via streaming media or its technological successors.

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) protects educational records of students, and performances are part of the educational record; students may be identified individually in the metadata associate with the recordings, particularly in the case of students with exceptional roles (soloists, conductors, composers, etc.). Students participating in large ensembles will be given a standard release form to sign to allow the performances to be recorded and streamed. Students who choose not to submit permissions forms will not be identified individually in the public metadata associated with the recordings.

*Service-Learning Tour to Haiti and the Dominican Republic
International partners: Holy Trinity School of Music, Port-au-Prince;
Carol Morgan School, Santo Domingo
January 7 – 17, 2019*

In addition to making music, CU Winds is devoted to the exploration of music as a vehicle for cultural exchange, service, and global awareness. In January we will embark on a service-learning tour to Haiti and the Dominican Republic. The tour will not be a singular experience, but rather the logical conclusion of our fall semester (much as our concerts are logical conclusions of the rehearsal process).

Throughout the semester we will prepare for the tour by performing relevant music, learning about our host countries, discussing service-learning essentials, and exploring the myriad ways in which our ensemble can become more powerful than the sum of our individual identities. These activities will be designed to help you have the best possible service-learning experience. Those participating in the tour will be expected to complete brief reading, writing, and reflection assignments, before the tour and during our time abroad. CU Winds officers and other interested students will be responsible for shaping activities and providing logistical and administrative assistance.

All students must enroll in Music 3631 for one credit at the outset of the semester. **Those planning to participate in the tour will be permitted to register for one additional credit after submitting their commitment letter and deposit on September 4th.** To be clear, this is not mandatory, and is applicable in the fall semester only.

Itinerary

(subject to minor changes)

Monday	7 January	9:00am-12:00pm 1:00-2:30pm 4:00pm	Rehearse in Lincoln B20 Rehearsal continues Travel via coach to hotel near JFK airport
Tuesday	8 January	8:00am 11:55am 3:00pm	JetBlue 1835: 8:00-11:55am (JFK-PAP) Arrive in Port-au-Prince & proceed through customs Check into Hotel Oloffson https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hotel_Oloffson Late-afternoon workshop Dinner & free evening
Wednesday	9 January	10:00-11:30am 11:30am-12:30pm 12:30-2:30pm 2:30-4:30pm 5:00-7:00pm 7:30pm	Rehearse at Holy Trinity Music School (HTMS) Lunch at HTMS Collaborate with HTMS students & faculty Free time at Hotel Oloffson Rehearse with HTMS musicians at HTMS Dinner with HTMS musicians (restaurant TBA) Evening at Hotel Oloffson
Thursday	10 January	9:30am-11:00am 11:00am-12:30pm	Discussion and Q&A about Haitian history and politics with: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Patrick Delatour (former Haitian Minister of Tourism) ○ Père David César (HTMS director) ○ The Rev. Stephen Davenport III Lunch

		1:00pm-2:30pm	Teaching sessions at HTMS
		2:30-5:00pm	Relax at Hotel Oloffson, light snack included
		5:00pm	Travel to Hotel Karibe for evening concert http://karibehotel.com/home/
		8:00pm	Concert with HTMS Post-concert reception at rooftop lounge http://karibehotel.com/home/asu-rooftop-lounge-2/
Friday	11 January	7:00am	Breakfast
		8:15am	Travel via coach to Jacmel, Haiti
		12:00pm	Check into one of the following hotels (all located on the same block):
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Hotel Florita https://www.hotelflorita.com/ ○ L' Auberge du Vieux Port http://laubergeduvieuxport.com/ ○ Colin's Hotel www.colinshotel.com ○ Manoir Adriana Hotel (new hotel, website under construction)
			Lunch at hotels - Swim - Relax
			Dinner with HTMS musicians, evening free
Saturday	12 January	Morning	Rehearse with HTMS
		12:00pm	Lunch at hotels
			Afternoon free
		5:00pm	Dinner at hotels
		8:00pm	Concert with HTMS on Jacmel boardwalk
		10:00pm	Post-concert dance party with RAM www.ramhaiti.com
Sunday	13 January	9:00am	Breakfast at hotels
		11:00am	Coach service from Jacmel to Port-au-Prince
		1:00pm	Stop en route & perform at St. Etienne Episcopal Church in Buteau (in the mountains north of Jacmel)
		3:00pm	Resume travel
		5:00pm	Arrive at Hotel Oloffson Dinner, conversation, free evening
Monday	14 January	7:30am	Breakfast
		9:00am	Check out Coach service to Santo Domingo, DR

		5:00pm	Arrive at Carol Morgan School https://www.cms.edu.do/ Meet host families Dinner and night with hosts
Tuesday	15 January	9:00am 11:30am PM	Assembly performance at Carol Morgan School Lunch at CMS Collaborations with CMS students Dinner and night with hosts
Wednesday	16 January	AM PM	Breakfast with hosts Travel via coach to Punta Cana Check into hotel Dinner & free evening
Thursday	17 January	AM PM	Breakfast at hotel - Swim - Relax Travel to Punta Cana airport JetBlue 1468: 3:52p-7:01p (PUJ-JFK) Proceed through customs Coach service to Ithaca (c. 12am arrival)

Financial Responsibility

Most of our expenses will be supported by private donations, but all members who participate in the tour will also be asked to make the following financial contribution.

- Flight: \$530.00 (rounded up from \$526.11)
- Travel agency fee: \$15
- Ensemble fees (baggage, meals, etc.): \$205

TOTAL: \$750

Deadlines

- Tuesday, September 4, 6:30pm
Tour commitment letter and **\$50 nonrefundable deposit** (checks addressed to Cornell University)
- Tuesday, October 30, 6:30pm
Remaining balance due

Financial Assistance

The CU Wind Symphony believes no student should forego the tour for financial reasons. Students requiring financial assistance will have the opportunity to apply for a travel grant through the Off-Campus Opportunity Fund (OCOF). OCOF is predominantly for short-term

programs when financial aid is less available. The fund consolidates the application and awarding process of four previously distinct grants offered through the following central units:

- Cornell Abroad: Global Encounters Scholarship
- Engaged Cornell: Community-Engaged Student Travel Grant Program
- Global Cornell: Undergraduate Student Travel Grants
- Office of Academic Diversity Initiatives (OADI): Student Individuals Funding Sponsorship

The tour syllabus will be distributed in the second week of the fall semester. Students enrolled for two credits will be expected to attend the following event (assuming it does not conflict with another curricular activity):

- RAM (Haitian roots-music band based in Port-au-Prince)
Thursday, September 27, 8pm, The Haunt (downtown Ithaca) – free admission