GROSSMONT COLLEGE

Official Course Outline

MUSIC 240 – STRING ORCHESTRA

1. Course Number Course Title Semester Units Semester Hours

MUS 240 String Orchestra 1 3 hours lab: 48-54 hours

48-54 total hours

2. Course Prerequisites

Audition

Corequisite

None

Recommended Preparation

None.

3. Catalog Description

An activity based course that studies representative string orchestra compositions in a wide variety of styles at regular rehearsals and public performances. Musical literature differs each semester to allow the student to meet course objectives through weekly/semesterly repetition in rehearsals and in-class performances.

4. Course Objectives

The student will:

a. Perform assigned parts from selected literature for string orchestra.

b. Demonstrate proper instrumental techniques.

c. Solve musical problems in pitch, tone, blend, dynamics, and articulation.

d. Compare and contrast musical interpretations of assigned string orchestra music.

e. Analyze compositions studied.

f. Distinguish musical differences among various styles.

g. Interpret music within stylistic parameters.

h. Assist in designing and implementing musical performances.

i. Evaluate ensemble performances.

5. Instructional Facilities

a. Classroom.

b. Music stands.

c. Library of string orchestra music.

e. Whiteboard with music staves.

f. Chairs with no arms.

g. Audio/video sound system.

6. Special Materials Required of Student

a. A string orchestra instrument.

b. Concert attire.

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7. Course Content

a. Rehearsing string orchestra music with other instrumentalists under the direction of the instructor.

b. Instrumental techniques and blending of ensemble instruments.

c. Interpretation of music symbols and core instructions.

d. Creation of phrasing and expression within the music studied.

e. Historical significance and relevant facts about the composers.

f. Analysis and discussion of the style elements in the compositions studied.

g. Discussion of the different styles.

8. Method of Instruction

a. Lecture.

b. Demonstration.

c. Class discussion.

d. Weekly performance assignments.

e. Analysis of compositions.

f. Critique of student performances.

9. Methods of Evaluating Student Performance

a. Performance assignments.

b. Written music notation assignments.

c. Weekly rehearsal performance quizzes.

d. Final concert performance exam.

10. Outside Class Assignments

a. Weekly performance assignments.

b. Written assignments on performance practice, composers, reflection papers.

11. Texts

a. Required Text(s):

(1) None.

b. Representative Repertoire:

(1) Concerto Grosso No. 1 in D Major, Op. 6 No. 1 – A. Corelli

(2) Dido & Aeneas Suite – H. Purcell

(3) Symphony in B minor, H. 661 – C.P.E. Bach

(4) String Symphony No. 1 in Major, MWV N1 – F. Mendelssohn

(5) Simple Symphony – B. Britten

(6) Holberg Suite – E. Grieg

(7) St. Paul Suite – G. Holst

Addendum: Student Learning Outcomes

Upon completion of this course, our students will be able to do the following:

1. Perform assigned parts using correct pitches
2. Perform assigned parts using correct rhythm
3. Follow verbal and visual direction from the instructor

Date approved by the Governing Board: December 11, 2018