

Bethel College Philharmonia Orchestra

MUS 352 (02)
Fall 2019 Syllabus

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Course Location: Memorial Hall, FAC 142

Course Meeting Times: Monday 7-9pm, Tuesday & Thursday 4-5pm
Office: FAC 160
Office Hours: As posted, and by appointment

Course Description

The Bethel College Philharmonia is the resident orchestra at Bethel College. It is comprised of outstanding string, wind and percussion students, and talented members of the Bethel College community. In addition to regular season concerts, members of the ensemble also serve as the orchestra for Bethel's stage productions and for the annual presentation of Handel's *Messiah*. Membership is by audition, and it is expected that instrumentalists will make a minimum commitment of one academic year to the ensemble.

Course Philosophy

The Bethel College Philharmonia Orchestra is guided by a philosophy that seeks to expose its students and community to the highest quality of music written for string, wind and percussion instruments. Through the rehearsal and performance of diverse repertoire, students are exposed to a wide variety of compositional styles, rehearsal processes, and expressive possibilities that challenge each student to develop their individual musicianship. This wide range of experiences affords the members of the ensemble an opportunity to receive a comprehensive musical education through a rigorous process of both rehearsing and performing.

Sensitivity to outstanding musicianship, historical styles, and appropriate performance practices are required. In addition to the highest expectations as an instrumentalist and artist, your ability to apply intellect and spirit in meaningful ways during rehearsals and concerts is also demanded.

Music

It is expected that music be picked up several days prior to the first rehearsal. You will find your music in the folder cabinet in FAC 142. Dr. Fontana will notify you when new music is distributed. Please be responsible and pick up your music in a timely manner once it has been distributed so that you can arrive at the first rehearsal completely prepared in every detail. Rehearsals are not intended as the locale where you learn your part. Professional behavior is expected. Excellent care for the music is absolutely required. Only use a pencil when writing on the music. Losses and damages to music will be the responsibility of whomever the music was assigned. Any rental music must be returned to Dr. Fontana within 24 hours of a performance, or late fees will be assessed to the student.

Concert Dress

The focus should be on the music, not on a specific individual.

Option 1: Black Tuxedo/Suit, plain, black collared shirt, black socks, black shoes

Option 2: Long, conservative dress, or equivalent black blouse, pants, black shoes. No bare shoulders.

For all: special dress expectations may be communicated at least two weeks in advance.

Grading

- You are training to become a professional; therefore being present and on time is viewed as a minimum responsibility.
- If you are sick or have an emergency, please contact me directly immediately via email so that I will be informed prior to the rehearsal of your potential absence.
- It is your responsibility to advise me of any potential absence two weeks in advance.
- Unexcused absences from rehearsals will reduce the grade by one letter grade per absence.
- Unexcused absence from a performance or dress rehearsal will reduce the grade to an F.
- Being late to rehearsal is unprofessional and will not be accepted. Habitual unexcused late arrivals (3) will result in the reduction of the grade by one letter.
- It is the responsibility of each player to professionally prepare all parts assigned. We do not rehearse to practice individual parts.
- Rehearsals are planned in advance and no player will be without sufficient notice for professional preparation.

Important Dates for the Semester

- **Sunday, October 6, 3pm, Memorial Hall- *Sott'er Celo De Italia!***
Respighi: Ancient Airs and Dances, Suite No. 3
Mascagni: Intermezzo from *Cavaleria Rusticana*
- **Wednesday, December 4, 2019**
Messiah-Sing with student conductors and soloists

Learning Objectives

As public performances are the primary product of the Philharmonia Orchestra, the development of professional-level ensemble performance skills is the primary learning objective in this course. While there are a host of other skills and concepts that you will develop, discover, and learn this semester, there are three principal learning objectives in this course:

Performance Skills

Students will...

- attain mastery of individual parts
- perform music with others with excellent technical skill (matching tone, pitch, blend, etc.)
- perform music with others with excellent expressive skill (style, phrasing, artistry, etc.)

Ensemble Skills

Students will...

- develop a personal code of conduct in which they dedicate themselves to the others in the ensemble (such as being musically prepared for each sectional and rehearsal, reliance on yourself to complete assigned tasks, etc.)
- develop a work ethic which enables them to contribute to the betterment of the ensemble in each sectional and rehearsal
- develop a demeanor that enhances the productivity and musicality of every rehearsal and sectional (such as avoiding personal conversations during rehearsals, turning off cell phones, etc.)

Professionalism Skills

Students will...

- complete administrative duties in a timely fashion (such as returning music, enrolling in course, completing personnel tasks assigned, etc.)

- demonstrate professional conduct while in performance venues and rehearsals
- perform in appropriate concert attire
- demonstrate timeliness in regards to start-times at all rehearsals, sectionals, and performances

Bethel College General Education Objective Outcome

Student will be able to use analytical, critical thinking, and/or creative processes to engage the visual arts, music, theater, or literature.

Bethel College Policies

Class Attendance and Absence

Regular class attendance is expected of all students at Bethel College. Academic class time takes precedence over rehearsals or practices, including athletic practices. When a student encounters a time conflict between a scheduled classroom activity and college-sponsored athletic competition, fine arts performance or a class-related field trip, the student must notify and seek counsel from the class instructor and college-sponsored activity director on which activity to attend. The student must not be automatically penalized for the absence from the activity he/ she did not choose to attend, but is responsible, to the degree possible, for the work (assignments/experience) missed by the excused absence.

Irregular class attendance normally leads to unacceptable work. If a student stops attending the class sessions in a course for which he/she is registered, a failing grade will be assigned in the course unless the student officially withdraws from the course.

Students are responsible for notifying their instructors of any upcoming events that will require them to miss class. It is also the responsibility of students who encounter serious medical or personal crises that unexpectedly require them to miss an excessive amount of class to consult with their instructors about their situation and acquaint themselves with the instructors' policies regarding incompletes.

Students missing an excess of 25% of the scheduled meetings of the course may receive a failing grade in that course. Instructors will be responsible for documenting the attendance record that triggers this action. The nature of any alteration to a course grade must be described in the course syllabus. Absences due to college-sponsored events do not count as unexcused absences or towards the 25% of scheduled meetings.

Intellectual Honesty and Plagiarism

The college believes intellectual honesty is a virtue central to the life of an academic community. All members of the Bethel community are held accountable for upholding that virtue. Academic misconduct, including cheating or plagiarism (the act of offering another's words, ideas, data or conclusions as one's own), will not be tolerated.

An instructor may, with written notice to the student, treat as unsatisfactory any student work that is a product of academic misconduct. An instructor may impose sanctions ranging from failure on the assignment or test to failure in the course. All cases of plagiarism will be reported to the vice president for academic affairs, the vice president for student life and the student's adviser.

Services for Students with Disabilities

Bethel College recognizes its responsibility to make reasonable accommodations for persons with disabilities who wish to participate in our academic program.

- A. Eligibility. Students requesting a substitution of requirements for graduation or admission to a program based upon hearing impairments, visual impairments or specific learning disabilities must submit documentation from competent professionals verifying that these disabilities exist.
- B. Request for Substitution of Requirements. A student who requests a substitution of requirements shall make the request in writing to the vice president for academic affairs. That request must include: (1) identification of the specific requirement for which a substitution is sought; (2) identification of the disability which is the basis for the request; and (3) documentation that the inability to meet the requirement for which a substitution is requested is related to the student's disability.
- C. Review of Requests for Substitution of Requirements. Within 10 working days from receipt of the request, the Vice President for Academic Affairs shall review it to determine its validity and whether or not a reasonable substitution exists that does not constitute a significant alteration in the academic program. The decision shall be conveyed directly to the student.
- D. Appeal Process. Students whose requests for reasonable substitutions have been denied may appeal that decision to the president in writing. The president may convene the Dean's Advisory Committee to review the appeal. The student has the right to be represented at that review. Decisions of that review are final. .

Title IX

Sexual harassment, sexual misconduct, and gender-based violence, as defined in the Student Handbook, violate Bethel College policy and Federal Civil Law. The College enforces its policy through an internal process and through the support, assistance, and encouragement of criminal investigation and prosecution of alleged offenders through the appropriate local, state, and federal external judicial forums. Should you or a friend ever experience any action or speech that feels coercive or discriminatory, you should report this immediately to the Title IX Coordinator, Bethany Charlsen. For further information please refer to the Student Handbook.