



ETAMU Wind Ensemble

MUS 300W.005

Spring 2026 Course Orientation

Garth Gundersen, conductor
Office: Music Building 193
E-Mail: Garth.Gundersen@etamu.edu
Office Hours: By appointment

Meeting Time: M,W,F 12:00-1:50 p.m.
Location: Rehearsal Hall/Band Hall

Course Description

MUS 300W.005 (Wind Ensemble) The Wind Ensemble is the premiere ensemble of the University. Membership in the ensemble is awarded after a rigorous and competitive audition. Students performing in wind ensemble must read music quickly, be well-prepared through individual practice for each rehearsal, and perform with solid technique and expressive nuance. As with all music ensembles, the course may be repeated for credit. Wind Ensemble is a one-hour credit course designed primarily for music majors. The course goal is to provide members a performance experience with a broad range of repertoire of the highest level, including both large ensemble works and chamber music.

Course Content and Student Learning Objectives

Course content includes:

- Graduating students will be able to demonstrate the mastery of technique and expressive nuance in solo and ensemble performance (performance concentration only).
- Understanding and demonstration of accurate individual, sectional and ensemble intonation and rhythm along with fundamental and advanced instrumental techniques while performing a varied repertoire of music within the ensemble
- Expressive performance of a varied repertoire of music representing styles and diverse cultures within the ensemble
- Understanding and utilization of standard musical terminology to describe intervals, music notation, chord structure, rhythm/meter, harmonic texture, form, and music symbols and terms referring to dynamics, tempo, and articulation with ensemble.
- Understanding and utilization of problem-solving skills to identify and correct problems with pitch, rhythm/meter, articulation, phrasing, and dynamics within an ensemble rehearsal setting.
- Guest composer lectures & Q&A Sessions
- Guest artists/educator lectures & Q&A Sessions

GRADES:

Your final grade will be determined by:

(60%) Music Preparation: Obvious detailed preparation of music (prior to rehearsal)

(20%) Performances and Assessments: Participation in and promptness to performances and/or assessments (virtual concerts, recording sessions, etc.). NOTE: sound checks are considered part of the performance.

(20%) Professionalism: Degree of professionalism exhibited in rehearsals, performances and virtual class meetings or guest lectures and timely and clear communication of illness, conflicts, concerns, etc. as would be expected of a professional educator or musician. Attendance and Promptness to sectionals and rehearsals is expected.

Required Sectionals will be held on a weekly basis (The principal player in each section is responsible for coordinating the sectional and informing Mr. Gundersen of any absences from sectionals via the weekly sectional attendance form)

Attendance Policy:

Since each member of the Wind Ensemble is critical to the success of the ensemble, all students are required to be present at each rehearsal and called sectionals and to participate fully in each class regardless of modality unless the absence falls under the excused absence policy.

Communication with the instructor of any absences is of the utmost importance. Excused absences are defined as illness, family emergency, or a University related event or activity (with prior approval). As with professional ensembles, students are expected to secure a qualified substitute for the rehearsal in advance. A full description of the substitute process will be discussed in the first rehearsal. Potential absences, other than those listed above, should be discussed directly with the conductor at the beginning of the semester or as early as possible. Final classification of absences will be at the sole discretion of the conductor.

- One unexcused absence = a maximum grade of B
 - Two unexcused absences = a maximum grade of C
 - Three unexcused absences = a maximum grade of D
 - Four unexcused absences = a maximum grade of F
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- An unexcused absence from a performance may result in an automatic grade of F and dismissal from the ensemble.
 - Tardies accumulate at the rate of Three unexcused tardies=One Unexcused absence
 - If at any time a student fails to meet the standards of attendance, rehearsal or performance for the ensemble, the student may be removed and replaced at the discretion of the conductor.

Use of Electronic Devices:

In order to maintain a focused learning environment, it is required that **cellular phones be turned off or made inaudible during class**. This includes checking emails on any other device.

Music Stands:

All Woodwind and Brass students must provide their own portable music stands for use in sectionals and practice rooms. University music stands will be used only for large ensemble rehearsals and performances. Students needing to order a portable music stand may obtain information from the band office on recommended stand models. Details will be discussed and recommendations made at the first class meeting.

Music and Concert Folders:

You will be given a concert folder for use during the semester. In addition, you will be given music and expected to return music at various times throughout the semester. Please listen and look for announcements regarding this process. If the pieces are originals, you are responsible for the maintenance of each piece that you are issued. Replacement costs for lost or damaged original music will be \$3 per page, and a lost or damaged black concert music folio will result in a \$20 replacement fee.

Concert Attire:

Gentlemen: Black Tuxedo, BLACK long-sleeved dress shirt, black long tie (to be purchased from the School of Music (est. cost \$15.00), Solid black Shoes and Socks. Please also have the normal white tux shirt and black bowtie for our most formal concerts such as the Holiday Gala.

Ladies: Black pants and top of appropriate style (top, jacket or blouse **MUST** have sleeves) Shoulders should be covered (no spaghetti straps)-Black shoes are required-sandals are not considered appropriate. Attire should be ALL black)

In addition to appropriate traditional concert attire, students are expected to maintain professional personal appearance in the concert setting.

UNIVERSITY POLICIES

School of Music Mission Statement:

The School of Music at East Texas A&M University promotes excellence in music through the rigorous study of music history, literature, theory, composition, pedagogy, and the preparation of music performance in applied study and ensembles to meet the highest standards of aesthetic expression.

University Mission Statement:

East Texas A&M University provides a personal educational experience for a diverse community of life-long learners. Our purpose is to discover and disseminate knowledge for leadership and service in an interconnected and dynamic world. Our challenge is to nurture partnerships for the intellectual, cultural, social, and economic vitality of Texas and beyond.

ETAMU Attendance

For more information about the attendance policy please visit the Attendance webpage and **13.99.99.R0.01 Class Attendance**

<http://www.tamuc.edu/admissions/registrar/generalInformation/attendance.aspx>

<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/13students/academic/13.99.99.R0.01.pdf>

Syllabus Change Policy

The syllabus is a guide. Circumstances and events, such as student progress, may make it necessary for the instructor to modify the syllabus during the semester. Any changes made to the syllabus will be announced in advance.

School of Music Engagement Expectations

Students are expected to actively participate in all assigned components of this course. Active participation includes being present, engaged, responsive, cooperative, respectful, and professional. It may also include providing feedback, asking questions, and being supportive of class members and faculty during instruction time.

Student Expectations

Students are expected to actively participate in all classes. Notification for excused absence must be received in advance. It is the individual student's responsibility to notify the instructor of a legitimate absence in advance. It is also the individual student's responsibility to acquire any missed notes and assignments from other students and/or the instructor.

Students are expected to actively participate in all classes by coming prepared and with all assigned materials. This course is a graduate research course. Bibliographical material, repertoire, library resources, applied techniques, as well as research techniques applicable to graduate study in music specific to flute/woodwind pedagogy will be surveyed and discussed. Be prepared to spend a significant amount of time doing research and review of materials outside of class.

Students are expected to demonstrate skills in pedagogy through their observation, analysis, discussion and feedback of the performances of other students. Students are expected to gain skills in this area by the observation of teaching techniques in their own private lessons and through the observation of teaching techniques of other students in studio class, guest artist classes on campus, and optional conference attendance or optional observations of master teachers online. Students will need to submit teaching videos and acquire a waiver from the student(s) in their videos.

Attendance Policy

Students are expected to attend all classes. It is the individual student's responsibility to notify the instructor of a legitimate absence in advance. It is also the individual student's responsibility to

acquire any missed notes and assignments from other students and/or the instructor. After one (1) unexcused absence, the student's final grade will be dropped by one (1) letter grade for each additional unexcused absence.

Late Assignments or Work

No Late Work accepted.

Texas Education Code – Music Education

This course content is aligned with the standards established by the Texas Education Code, covering areas such as Music, the Commissioner's Rules, Pedagogy and Professional Responsibilities, Technology, and English Language Proficiency. To review these standards, please visit the Music Education Program D2L Shell and select "Standards and Objectives."

Musician Health and Safety

As an Institutional Member of the National Association of Schools of Music, East Texas State A&M University supports the Association's commitment to student health and wellness. The following web address provides links to information for resources related to physical and mental well-being, as well as assists in offering preventative measures that students can take to avoid serious and/or chronic conditions: [Musician Health and Safety - East Texas A&M University](#)

Academic Integrity

Students at East Texas A&M University are expected to maintain high standards of integrity and honesty in all of their scholastic work. For more details and the definition of academic dishonesty see the following procedures:

13.99.99.R0.03 Undergraduate Academic Dishonesty

13.99.99.R0.10 Graduate Student Academic Dishonesty

AI use policy

East Texas A&M University acknowledges that there are legitimate uses of Artificial Intelligence, ChatBots, or other software that has the capacity to generate text, or suggest replacements for text beyond individual words, as determined by the instructor of the course. Any use of such software must be documented. Any undocumented use of such software constitutes an instance of academic dishonesty (plagiarism). Individual instructors may disallow entirely the use of such software for individual assignments or for the entire course. Students should be aware of such requirements and follow their instructors' guidelines. If no instructions are provided the student should assume that the use of such software is disallowed.

In any case, students are fully responsible for the content of any assignment they submit, regardless of whether they used an AI, in any way. This specifically includes cases in which the AI plagiarized another text or misrepresented sources.

Nondiscrimination Notice

East Texas A&M University will comply in the classroom, and in online courses, with all federal and state laws prohibiting discrimination and related retaliation on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, disability, age, genetic information or veteran status. Further, an environment free from discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression will be maintained.

Technology Requirements

LMS

All course sections offered by East Texas A&M University have a corresponding course shell in the myLeo Online Learning Management System (LMS). Below are technical requirements

LMS Requirements:

<https://community.brightspace.com/s/article/Brightspace-Platform-Requirements>

LMS Browser Support:

https://documentation.brightspace.com/EN/brightspace/requirements/all/browser_support.htm

Zoom Video Conferencing Tool

https://inside.tamuc.edu/campuslife/CampusServices/CITESupportCenter/Zoom_Account.aspx?source=universalmenu

Access and Navigation

You will need your campus-wide ID (CWID) and password to log into the course. If you do not know your CWID or have forgotten your password, contact the Center for IT Excellence (CITE) at 903.468.6000 or helpdesk@etamu.edu.

Note: Personal computer and internet connection problems do not excuse the requirement to complete all course work in a timely and satisfactory manner. Each student needs to have a backup method to deal with these inevitable problems. These methods might include the availability of a backup PC at home or work, the temporary use of a computer at a friend's home, the local library, office service companies, Starbucks, an ETAMU campus open computer lab, etc.

Communication and Support

If you have any questions or are having difficulties with the course material, please contact your Instructor.

Technical Support

If you are having technical difficulty with any part of Brightspace, please contact Brightspace Technical Support at 1-877-325-7778. Other support options can be found here:

<https://community.brightspace.com/support/s/contactsupport>

East Texas A&M University Supports Students' Mental Health

The Counseling Center at East Texas A&M, located in the Halladay Building, Room 203, offers counseling services, educational programming, and connection to community resources for students. Students have 24/7 access to the Counseling Center's crisis assessment services by calling 903-886-5145. For more information regarding Counseling Center events and confidential services, please visit <https://www.etamu.edu/counseling-center/>

Students with Disabilities-- ADA Statement

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you have a disability requiring an accommodation, contact the Office of Student Disability Services at 903-886-5150, 903-886—5835; email studentdisabilityservices@etamu.edu; online at Student Disability Services or in-person in Room 162 of the Velma K. Waters Library.

Tenets of Common Behavior

All students enrolled at the university shall follow the tenets of common decency and acceptable behavior conducive to a positive learning environment. (See current Student Guidebook)

Campus Concealed Carry Statement

Campus Concealed Carry - Texas Senate Bill - 11 (Government Code 411.2031, et al.) authorizes the carrying of a concealed handgun in East Texas A&M University buildings only by persons who have been issued and are in possession of a Texas License to Carry a Handgun. Qualified law enforcement officers or those who are otherwise authorized to carry a concealed handgun in the State of Texas are also permitted to do so. Pursuant to Penal Code (PC) 46.035 and East A&M Rule 34.06.02.R1, license holders may not carry a concealed handgun in restricted locations. For a list of locations, please refer to

34.06.02.R1 Carrying Concealed Handguns On Campus

and/or consult your event organizer). Pursuant to PC 46.035, the open carrying of handguns is prohibited on all East Texas A&M campuses. Report violations to the University Police Department at 903-886-5868 or 9-1-1.

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WIND ENSEMBLE CALENDAR SPRING 2026

January 12 (Mon) First Regular Meeting and Rehearsal/Principal Player Meeting
January 19 (Mon) MLK DAY HOLIDAY-NO REHEARSAL
January 26 (Mon) Instrumental Concerto Competition Finals - PM
February 13 (Friday) TMEA-NO REHEARSAL
February 16 (Mon) Music Ed Forum #1 - 6:30pm
February 25 (Wed) Dress Rehearsal (Evening: Time TBA)

February 26 (Thur) CONCERT 7:30 P.M. (CALL TIME TBA)

Program:

1 - **The Planets** **Gustav Holst/Merlin Patterson**

I. Mars

III. Mercury (possible addition)

IV. Jupiter

Garth Gundersen, Conductor

2 - **Second Suite in F (CG)** **Gustav Holst**

Christian Guillen, Conductor

3-Tarot **Lindsey Bronnendant**

I. The Fool

II. The King of Cups

III. The Tower

Garth Gundersen, Conductor

February 27 (Friday) No Rehearsal-CBDNA @ UNT
March 5 (Thur) *Symphonic and Concert Band Concert (7:30 p.m.)-Attendance expected*
March 9-13 SPRING BREAK
March 23 (Mon) Music Ed Forum #2 - 6:30pm
April 15 (Wed) Dress Rehearsal (Evening: Time TBA)

April 16 (Thur) CONCERT 7:30 P.M. (CALL TIME TBA)

Program:

To Be Announced

March 23 (Thur) *Symphonic and Concert Band Concert (7:30 p.m.)-Attendance expected*
April 29 - May 1 Rehearsals TBD - Conducting II finals