



ETAMU
Wind Ensemble
MUS 300W.005
Fall 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) 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:

- 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.

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, a TAMUC 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>

CWID AND PASSWORD

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.

TECHNOLOGY-RELATED ISSUES

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

INTERACTION WITH INSTRUCTOR STATEMENT

If you have any questions or are having difficulties with the course material, please contact your instructor. Correspondence will always be through university email (your “myLeo” mail) and announcements in myLeo online (D2L). You will not RECEIVE email through D2L, so be sure to check your ETAMU email for communication. Students are encouraged to check university email daily.

INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING IN EMAILS WITH INSTRUCTOR:

- Course name and subject in the subject line
- Salutation (Good afternoon, Dr. Jackson)
- Proper email etiquette (no “text” emails – use proper grammar and punctuation)
- Student name and CWID after the body of the email (possibly add to student signature on email)

COURSE AND SCHOOL OF MUSIC PROCEDURES/POLICIES

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.

Attendance, Engagement and Civility Policy

ATTENDANCE

Regular attendance, punctuality, and active participation in all scheduled classes, rehearsals, lessons, and performances are essential to student success and are expected of all students in the School of Music. Absences may result in grade penalties, loss of participation or performance opportunities, dismissal from the course or ensemble, or failure of the course. By enrolling, students agree to uphold these standards of professional responsibility and engagement.

Excused absences include illness with a doctor's note, jury duty, or the death of an immediate family member. If you must miss class for any reason, including not being registered and last-minute issues such as sudden illness or car trouble (for commuters only), you are expected to communicate with the instructor via text or email before class begins.

Absent students will, by default, earn a grade of zero for that day's work until proof of excused absence is provided. Failure to provide a physician's note, jury summons, or other proof confirming the legitimacy of the absence will result in the classification of that absence as unexcused. Students who are absent are expected to carefully review the lecture PowerPoint in D2L so that they do not fall behind. Due to its performance nature, face-to face class attendance cannot be made up.

The instructor reserves the right to drop any student who misses more than 2 in-person, face-to-face classes, regardless of the reason. If absences are accumulated after the drop date, the student will receive a failing grade. This cushion is intended for students who experience a profound hardship. Outside of legitimate excused absences that are communicated with the instructor, all students are expected to attend every class.

Students are expected to remain fully engaged in class activities during class time. Any student who disengages from class (texts, checks social media, works on assignments for other classes) will be asked to leave the classroom and an unexcused absence will be recorded in D2L.

ENGAGEMENT

Students are expected to remain fully engaged in class activities during class time. Any student who disengages from class (texts, checks social media, works on assignments for other classes) will be asked to leave the classroom and an unexcused absence will be recorded in D2L.

CIVILITY

All students are expected to follow the Tenets of Common Decency and acceptable behavior conducive to a positive learning environment. The Code of Student Conduct is described in detail in the Student Guidebook: <https://www.etamu.edu/student-code-of-conduct>. The tenets apply to all communication to the instructor and your classmates.

Demonstrate commitment to your course of study by contributing thoughtfully to class discussions, turning in assignments in a timely manner, being prompt and dependable, supporting your peers and the instructor, and accepting critiques graciously. Be open-minded about other's opinions and thoughts, encouraging them to stretch their boundaries and take risks, and listen attentively to their performances.

Cell phones should be turned off before class begins and concealed from view throughout the duration of the class period. Please take care of any necessities (food, drink, restroom) before coming to class so that we may proceed without interruption. If you need to bring a bottle of water, please take care to keep the cap secured. Dispose of all food and chewing gum before class begins. No food, chewing gum, or drinks other than water are allowed in the classroom.

Please be careful with our classroom materials and use them only when instructed. Failure to bring class materials will result in a loss of 50 points.

Be open-minded about other's opinions and thoughts, encouraging them to stretch their boundaries and take risks, and listen attentively to their performances. Failure to conform to these expectations of behavior will result in a lowered grade. Engagement/Performance grades will be given according to the instructor's discretion:

- An A will be earned by the student who arrives early with all materials, exhibits superior attentiveness, is fully prepared for class, participates with enthusiasm, and is a leader and role model to others.
- A B will be earned by the student who exhibits excellent attentiveness, is prepared for class, participates with enthusiasm, and is a valued asset to others.
- A C will be earned by the student who exhibits average attentiveness, preparation, and class participation.
- A D will be earned by the student who exhibits little attentiveness, preparation, and participation.
- An F will be earned by the student who exhibits no attentiveness, preparation, or participation. This student will be instructed to drop the course.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

Academic integrity is a fundamental expectation of this course and of the School of Music. Students are expected to complete all assignments honestly and to submit work that represents their own knowledge, effort, and creativity. Any form of academic dishonesty undermines the learning process and is inconsistent with the ethical standards expected of university students and future music professionals.

Students found responsible for cheating, plagiarism, or other forms of academic misconduct will receive a grade penalty, which may include a zero on the assignment or examination, a failing grade for the course, or other sanctions at the instructor's discretion, consistent with university policy. Incidents of academic misconduct will be reported to the Dean of Students and may result in additional disciplinary action.

Cheating includes, but is not limited to:

- Using unauthorized materials, devices, or assistance during quizzes, tests, or examinations.
- Receiving unauthorized help on assignments, papers, projects, or other coursework.
- Obtaining or distributing examination materials without permission.
- Submitting the same paper or project for more than one course without the prior approval of all instructors involved.
- Collaborating on work intended to be completed individually.

- Any action intended to gain an unfair academic advantage.

Plagiarism includes, but is not limited to:

- Presenting another person's words, ideas, research, or creative work as your own without proper acknowledgment.
- Using direct quotations or paraphrased material without appropriate citation.
- Submitting work prepared wholly or in part by another individual or commercial service.
- Failing to properly credit sources, whether published, unpublished, or obtained through digital media.

Unless explicitly authorized by the instructor, all submitted work must be created by the student(s) enrolled in the course. Students may not hire another person or company to complete coursework on their behalf.

Students who are uncertain whether a particular resource or type of assistance is permitted should consult the instructor before submitting the assignment.

For more details and the definition of academic dishonesty see the following procedures:

- [Undergraduate Academic Dishonesty University Procedure 13.99.99.R0.03](#)
- [Undergraduate Student Academic Dishonesty Form](#)
- [Graduate Student Academic Dishonesty University Procedure 13.99.99.R0.10](#)
- [Graduate Student Academic Dishonesty Form](#)

USE OF ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

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.

CLASSROOM ATTIRE

As future music professionals, students are encouraged to view their appearance as part of their professional identity. Developing habits of appropriate dress demonstrates respect for classmates, faculty, guest artists, and the profession, and helps prepare students for the expectations they will encounter in educational and professional settings.

Students are expected to dress in a manner that is appropriate for a university learning environment and reflects the professional standards of the School of Music. Clothing should be clean, neat, and suitable for participating in class activities, including movement-based exercises, presentations, and guest lectures.

Because students often work in close proximity during rehearsals, classes, and performances, attention to personal hygiene is an important aspect of professionalism and respect for others.

University and School of Music Information

UNIVERSITY MISSION STATEMENT

East Texas A&M University nurtures and educates for success through access to academic, research, and service programs of high quality.

SCHOOL OF MUSIC MISSION STATEMENT

The East Texas A&M University School of Music 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.

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, please contact:

Student Disability Services
East Texas A&M University
Velma K. Waters Library Rm 162
Phone (903) 886-5150 or (903) 886-5835
Fax (903) 468-8148
Email: studentdisabilityservices@etamu.edu
Website: [Student Disability Services](#)

Please note that faculty members are unable to make accommodations unless they have received a letter from SDRS.

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.

CAMPUS CONCEALED CARRY STATEMENT

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 ETAMU Rule 34.06.02.R1, license holders may not carry a concealed handgun in restricted locations.

For a list of locations, please refer to the [Carrying Concealed Handguns On Campus](#) document and/or consult your event organizer.

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

EAST TEXAS A&M SUPPORTS STUDENTS' MENTAL HEALTH – COUNSELING SERVICES

The Counseling Center at East Texas A&M University, 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/>.

MENTAL HEALTH AND WELL-BEING

The university aims to provide students with essential knowledge and tools to understand and support mental health. As part of our commitment to your well-being, we offer access to Telus Health, a service available 24/7/365 via chat, phone, or webinar. Scan the QR code or go to https://studentsupport.telushealth.com/us/about#download_app to download the app and explore the resources available to you for guidance and support whenever you need it.

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: <https://www.etamu.edu/music/musician-health-and-safety/>

WIND ENSEMBLE CALENDAR FALL 2026

August 21 (Friday)	First Regular Meeting and Rehearsal/Principal Player Meeting
August 31 (Mon)	LABOR DAY HOLIDAY-NO REHEARSAL
September 13 (Sunday)	Wind Ensemble Performance Cheryl Lewis Concert Hall Dedication
	1 - Fanfare for the Common Man (Brass) Aaron Copland
	2 - The Promise of Living Aaron Copland
September 30 (Wed)	Dress Rehearsal (Evening: Time TBA)
October 1 (Thurs)	CONCERT 7:30 P.M. (with Symp Band) (CALL TIME TBA)
	Program:
	1 - Savannah River Holiday Ron Nelson
	Garth Gundersen, Conductor
	2 - Ecstatic Waters Steven Bryant
	Garth Gundersen, Conductor
	3 - The Wave Impressions Keiko Abe
	Mason Rumsey, Soloist
	4 - Niagara Falls Michael Daugherty
	Garth Gundersen, Conductor
October 07 (Wed)	CONCERT (AM) (with Jazz Ens I/Panimation)
	Performance for Greenville ISD (Greenville Municipal Auditorium)
	Program: TBD (from 1st Concert)
November 5 (Thurs)	<i>Symphonic and Concert Band Concert (7:30 p.m.)-Attendance expected</i>
November 18 (Wed)	Dress Rehearsal (Evening: Time TBA)
November 19 (Thur)	CONCERT 7:30 P.M. (with ETMAU Chorale) (CALL TIME TBA)
	Program:
	1 - Fanfare for the Common Man (Brass) Aaron Copland
	Garth Gundersen, Conductor
	2 - American Overture for Band Joseph Wilcox Jenkins
	Garth Gundersen, Conductor
	3 - Armed Forces Salute TBD
	Band & Choir
	4 - America the Beautiful arr. Carmen Dragon
	Band & Choir
	5 - The Promise of Living Aaron Copland
	Band & Choir
November 20 (Friday)	Junior Senior Honor Band Performance
	1 - American Overture for Band Joseph Willcox Jenkins
	2 - Lucid Dreams Adrian B. Sims
	3 - Niagara Falls Michael Daugherty
December 1 (Tues)	Processional Dress Rehearsal for any players involved (6:30-9:00 p.m.)
December 3 (Thur)	Dress Rehearsal for Holiday Concert (Aft/Eve-times TBA)
December 4 (Fri)	HOLIDAY GALA CONCERT NIGHT 1 7:30 P.M.
	(CALL TIME TBA)
December 5 (Sat)	HOLIDAY GALA CONCERT NIGHT 2 7:30 P.M.
	(CALL TIME TBA)