

# **BURMAN UNIVERSITY**

**DIVISION OF ARTS**

**Department of Music**

**Fall & Winter 2017/2018**

**MUPF 217/317 – Orchestra**

**1.5 Credit/AU**

INSTRUCTOR: Cristian Neacsu  
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OFFICE HOURS: **Mon. & Wed. 2:30-4:00pm**  
**Wed. 5:00-6:00pm**  
**Tue. & Thu. 6:00-7:00pm**

**REHEARSAL HOURS: Tuesdays and Thursdays 7:00-9:00 p.m.**

## **COURSE OUTLINE**

### **COURSE DESCRIPTION**

The Orchestra is a symphonic ensemble of strings, woodwinds, brass and percussion. Members are chosen by audition (minimum Royal Conservatory Grade VII level for violin, Grade V level for lower strings, winds & brass). A total of four hours (**Tuesdays and Thursday 7:00-9:00 p.m.**) is spent focusing on orchestra repertoire.

In addition to symphonic works, the orchestra will also study string repertoire, concertos with a soloist and joint works with the choir. The Orchestra generally performs at the end of each semester either in conjunction with another group, or on its own. A small weekend retreat/tour may be planned for each year and **attendance on all retreats/tours is expected by all members of the orchestra as required.** Through the selection of appropriate literature we will endeavour to provide the students with exposure to various periods and styles of music.

### **STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES**

The student will learn:

1. To match intonation with other musicians
2. To match phrasing, articulations, and bow strokes (if applicable) with other musicians.
3. To identify where in the piece each musician plays melody, counter melody, or accompaniment and continuously adjust his/her dynamic and timbre so that the various lines are properly balanced.
4. Ensemble and sight reading skills - namely the importance of keeping a steady rhythm even if he/she can not play all the notes.

## **COURSE REQUIREMENTS**

1. Students will participate in rehearsals on **Tuesdays and Thursday 7:00-9:00 p.m.**
2. As necessary sectionals will be determined by the director.
3. **Students will be punctual at rehearsals.**
4. **Students will be selected to perform in the new chamber ensemble Burman Virtuosi and are expected to participate.**
5. Students will carry out all announced playing exams and assignments (i.e mark bowings) **and spend time outside of rehearsals, as necessary, to learn their individual parts** so that group rehearsal time can focus on improving the ensemble, rather than on cleaning up individual parts.

## **REQUIRED TEXTBOOK(S)**

There is no required textbook for this course. Generally scores and parts to be used will be purchased and retained by the Music Department.

## **LIST OF TOPICS**

Music ensembles do not require a set list of topics. Rehearsals are tailored to the needs of the collective ensemble as every instrumentalist arrives with a different set of challenges, strengths and completed repertoire. A list of goals for both technique and repertoire are developed in the first few rehearsals and serves as a guide throughout the semester.

## **ASSESSMENT AND GRADING**

Final grade for this course will be based upon:

50% **Attendance and punctuality** in attending all rehearsals, concerts, tours, professional demeanour, considerate interaction with directors, staff, guests and colleagues in rehearsals and concerts (this includes no talking, texting, reading, studying, etc. during rehearsals) as well as responsible treatment of all music and folders and carrying out designated **sectionals** or **bowing projects**. Carrying out of **Logistics Team assignments** and commitment to a team spirit mentality will also be taken into consideration.

50% **Knowledge of you individual part, performance level in rehearsals, performances and any additional performance tests which the instructor may require.**

## **SECTIONALS AND BOWINGS**

Each wind player taking orchestra for credit may be called upon during each semester to coordinate and lead out in a sectional for either woodwinds or brass.

Each string player taking orchestra for credit may be called upon during each semester to coordinate and lead out in a string sectional.

## **ATTENDANCE AND GRADING**

Students are expected to **be at rehearsal at least 10 minutes early** to warm up.  
*Arriving to rehearsal after your section of the orchestra has tuned means you are late.*

*A student who is late to rehearsal three or more times will lose half a letter grade*

*A student who skips a rehearsal twice will lose a full letter grade*

*A student who skips rehearsal more than three times may fail the class and could be asked to drop the class.*

*Missing dress rehearsal or concert may count as 2 unexcused absences.*

No student will receive a grade higher than his/her attendance grade. An 'Incomplete' grade will be reserved only for specific circumstances listed on p. 20, 21 of the Academic Calendar.

Although there is some subjectivity in assigning grades in applied music/performance areas, the following guidelines will apply to evaluating performance levels:

**A grade** represents a rapid rate of progress and a performance level in which the student is consistently well prepared in areas of rhythm, pitch and dynamics. Instructional time is largely spent in polishing and refining the musical lines and the ensemble, rather than correcting wrong notes and rhythms. An A grade also represents consideration and professional interaction, attendance and punctuality and responsible treatment of all music and folders.

**B grade** represents a fairly good rate of progress and a performance level in which the student is fairly well prepared in areas of rhythm, pitch, and dynamics, but a greater degree of instructional time is required to correct errors in those areas before proceeding to balancing and polishing of musical lines.

**C grade** represents a moderate rate of progress and a performance level which requires the instructor to spend a significant amount of time correcting errors in pitch, rhythm, and dynamics, to the extent that little time remains to touch on balance, phrasing, and artistry.

**D grade** represents a poor rate of progress and a performance level which is consistently full of errors in pitch, dynamics, and rhythm.

**F grade** represents an unacceptably poor rate of progress and a performance level which is unacceptably full of errors of all kinds.

#### **Grade assignments:**

A+	98 - 100%	C+	75 - 79
A	94 - 97%	C	65 - 74%
A-	90 - 93%	C-	60 - 64%
B+	87- 89%	D+	57 - 59%
B	84- 86 %	D	50 - 56%
B-	80 - 83%	F	0 - 49%

#### **ACADEMIC DISHONESTY**

Burman University expects integrity, including academic honesty, from all members of the University College community. Therefore, all forms of academic dishonesty are

unacceptable. This includes the use of technology in any form to perform an act of academic dishonesty in or out of the classroom. Instructors reserve the right to forbid any type of electronic device (computers, calculators, cell phones, MP3 players, iPods, PDAs, etc.) to be used in the classroom, especially during examinations. Academic dishonesty includes plagiarism, cheating, and misrepresentation.

*Plagiarism* can be either intentional or unintentional. Intentional plagiarism occurs when people present the words, ideas, or data—including words, ideas, or data from electronic sources—of someone else as their own. Unintentional plagiarism can occur when students present another person's words, ideas, or data—including words, ideas, or data from electronic sources—without proper documentation. Examples of plagiarism include the following:

1. Submitting, for evaluation, an essay written by someone else as if it were one's own work.
2. Submitting, for evaluation, an essay written in part by someone else as if the entire essay were one's own work.
3. Paraphrasing or summarizing words, ideas, or data without properly documenting the source of the information.
4. Buying essays or assignments and submitting them as one's own work.
5. Submitting, for evaluation, the same essay or assignment in more than one course without the permission of both instructors.

*Cheating* occurs when people pretend to have a level of competence they do not possess. Examples of cheating include the following:

1. Copying from another person's work during an examination or while completing an assignment.
2. Using a "cheat sheet" or any other memory or skill aid without permission during an examination or while completing an assignment.
3. Collaborating on an examination or assignment without permission.

*Misrepresentation* occurs when people fabricate a source of information or distort information from sources. Examples of misrepresentation include the following:

1. Documenting or referring to a source that does not exist.
2. Attributing incorrect or non-existent information to an existent source.
3. Misrepresenting source information.

*Academic misconduct* occurs when students commit academically dishonest acts other than plagiarism, cheating, and misrepresentation. Examples of academic misconduct include the following:

1. Being a party to any act of plagiarism, cheating, misrepresentation, or academic misconduct (i.e. selling term papers, permitting someone to copy one's work, writing essays for someone else).
2. Attempting to gain or gaining an unfair advantage over others by offering services or materials in exchange for favorable consideration.
3. Changing or altering grades on essays, examinations, or assignments.

4. Changing or altering grades on official documents, electronic or otherwise.
5. Any act associated with obtaining and sharing examinations or answers to examinations before the examinations are given.
6. Theft or unauthorized use of library materials.
7. Copyright infringement of published materials (print/media/ Internet).

Students who are discovered to have committed academic dishonesty will receive a penalty, or penalties.

Course instructors will identify how they will deal with academic dishonesty in their course outlines. Actions may include the following:

1. Reduced grade on the assignment or examination.
2. Reduced final grade in the course.
3. An F grade on the assignment or examination.
4. An F grade in the course.

In all cases where academic dishonesty is proved, the course instructor will inform the Registrar in writing of both the infraction and action taken. This information will be kept in the student's file and in cases of severe infraction or repeated incidents of academic dishonesty, the name and incident(s) will be reported to the Academic Committee, which may choose to take further action.

This may include the following:

1. Written reprimand.
2. Academic probation.
3. Suspension from the University College.
4. Dismissal from the University College.
5. Suspension of any degree already awarded.
6. Withdrawal of any degree already awarded.

Students who are penalized for academic dishonesty may appeal through the regular academic grievance procedure.

**DELIMITATION:**

This course outline serves only as a guide and as such is subject to change without notice as deemed necessary by the instructor.