



## COURSE OUTLINE

**MUS170, MUS171, MUS270, MUS271**

**Course Number**

**Chamber Ensemble I, II, III, IV**

**Course title**

1

**Credits**

1 lecture/2 lab

**Hours**

**Catalog description:**

Opportunity to explore, through rehearsal and performance, traditional chamber music repertoire drawn from a variety of historical periods. The student is trained in the proper phrasing, articulation, and dynamics specific to each style. Open to players of all appropriate instruments.

MUS 171, 270, and 271 consist of the continuation of instrumental playing activities started in MUS 170.

**Prerequisites:** Previous instrumental playing experience.

**Corequisites:** None

**Required texts/other materials:**

None

**Last revised:** Fall 2019

**Course coordinator:** Scott Hornick, Assistant Professor of Music – CM 149;  
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A. GENERAL OBJECTIVES

1. To train students in the art of Chamber Ensemble performance. *(MCCC Core Skills Goal F and G)*
2. To perform pieces of music from the various periods of music history that is conducive to the Chamber Ensemble medium. *(MCCC Core Skills Goal F and G)*

B. SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES

1. The Chamber Ensemble gives every student, regardless of ability, the opportunity to improve his playing by performing various pieces of music. *(MCCC Core Skills Goal F and G)*
2. Specific areas of student performance that will be worked are: tone quality intonation, articulation, phrasing, rhythm reading and interpretation. *(MCCC Core Skills Goal B, F and G)*
3. Emphasis will be given to sectional performance as well as total ensemble performance. *(MCCC Core Skills Goal F)*
4. Solo performance will be offered for students who have attained the advanced skill level. *(MCCC Core Skills Goal B and F)*
5. Students will demonstrate their skills in performances given for the college and community. *(MCCC Core Skills Goal F and G)*
6. Students will acquire an understanding of the principles and concepts of chamber ensemble performances. They will also acquire basic conducting skills that are applicable for both the ensemble conductor and player-conductor. *(MCCC Core Skills Goal A, B, F and G)*

Course-specific General Education Knowledge Goals and Core Skills

MCCC Core Skills

**Goal A. Written and Oral Communication in English.** Students will communicate effectively in speech and writing, and demonstrate proficiency in reading.

**Goal B. Critical Thinking and Problem-solving.** Students will use critical thinking and problem solving skills in analyzing information.

**Goal F. Collaboration and Cooperation.** Students will develop the interpersonal skills required for effective performance in group situations.

**Goal G. Intra-Cultural and Inter-Cultural Responsibility.** Students will demonstrate an awareness of the responsibilities of intelligent citizenship in a diverse and pluralistic society, and will demonstrate cultural, global, and environmental awareness.

C. GOALS

1. To provide students the opportunity to experience the chamber music repertoire by participating together in duets, trios, and larger ensembles appropriate for their level of ability.
2. To provide students with a "Master Class" setting in which they can critique themselves and each other in a positive, constructive manner so as to objectively evaluate their performances.
3. To provide students who have achieved a solo playing level the opportunity to work with an accompanist or accompanying group.
4. To provide students with factual knowledge of the chamber music repertoire including the composers and performance practices so they may better understand the performance and interpretive criteria.

D. REQUIREMENTS

1. Students will be asked to study and prepare at least 6 ensemble works each, and be tested on them at various times during the semester.
2. Students will be expected to practice their repertoire alone and with their respective groups both outside of class and during designated class times.
3. Students will be encouraged to attend at least one chamber ensemble concert and submit a report.

E. MATERIAL COVERED

1. At the beginning of each semester the instructor evaluates the group in terms of tone, technique, attack, phrasing, and intonation. Each semester the student is faced with different levels of skills depending on the personnel of the ensemble, and along with instructor input the student selects the pieces of literature which correspond to displaying the attributes and strengthening the weak areas. Work throughout the semester is based on improving the overall performance ability of the ensemble. Sectional rehearsals will take place at the discretion of the instructor. Here is where skill germane to either the vocal, brass, woodwind, or percussion sections is discussed and practiced.

## F. TESTING AND MEASURING

Evaluation of the progress of the ensemble and of the individual is done frequently by the instructor. Students are assigned home practicing and are checked when appropriate. Attendance is an integral part of each student's evaluation. Performances by the group are considered major tests and constitute a large percentage of the final grade. Those students who use college-owned instruments and practice room facilities need to give special consideration for clearing their schedules to participate in these performances. This may involve adjusting work hours, re-arranging family activities, etc.

### **Academic Integrity Policy**

As stated in the student handbook, "A student will be guilty of violating academic integrity if he/she (a) knowingly represents the work of others as his/her own, (b) uses or obtains unauthorized assistance in the execution of academic work, or (c) gives fraudulent assistance to another student." Students should read the Academic Integrity policy in the MCCC Rights and Responsibilities Handbook.

**Academic Dishonesty will result in failure of this course.**

### **Accommodations**

Mercer County Community College is committed to ensuring the full participation of all students in its programs. If you have a documented differing ability or think that you may have a differing ability that is protected under the ADA or Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act, please contact Arlene Stinson in LB 216 {stinsona@mccc.edu} for information regarding support services.

### **Financial Aid Application Statement**

It is recommended that student complete an application for financial aid to determine eligibility for financial assistance. The application is **FREE** and available for completion beginning **October 1, 2016** for the 2017- 18 academic year. Visit [www.fafsa.edu.gov](http://www.fafsa.edu.gov) to complete your application. Applications should be completed **before** December 1, 2016. Students who are interested in MCCC Foundation scholarships are expected to complete an application as well.