Large Ensembles Fall 2020  
Wind Symphony, Symphonic Band, and Orchestra Winds, Brass, Percussion  
Fall 2020

Students who participate in large ensembles expect to rehearse and perform with other musicians. Covid-19 has created challenges including restrictions on public gatherings, the need for social distancing, use of face masks, sanitation of surfaces, and limiting the time of potential exposure to the virus. Nonetheless, we accept the responsibility to do our best to provide you with a valuable large ensemble experience while also maintaining as safe an environment as possible.

Normally, large ensemble curriculum and instruction is centered around repertoire chosen for public performance. In the current environment, public performances and large gatherings may not be allowable and we must employ a flexible curriculum that can rapidly adapt to changing circumstances.

The planned structure will be a hybrid of face to face rehearsals/performances, remote scheduled meetings on a variety of valuable topics related to music performance, remote guest artist appearances, arranged scheduled instruction, and individual practice with recordings.

The proportion of these modalities will be dictated by ongoing circumstances and students and professors must be able to quickly and seamlessly shift between modalities. The goal will be to provide a meaningful musical experience regardless of modality.

*Students who have underlying health conditions or concerns about physical safety may opt out of face to face instruction. Students exhibiting Covid-19 symptoms or who believe they may have been exposed MUST NOT participate in face to face instruction until cleared by a health professional to be free of the virus.

**General Parameters**

1. All students will audition remotely using repertoire selected by the studio professor prior to the beginning of the semester.
2. For fall semester, orchestra will be reserved for string students only. Winds, brass, and percussion students who desire or are required to participate in orchestra will have their needs met in the Wind Symphony section of large ensembles, pending a successful audition.
3. Based on audition results students will be placed into one of three groups: Combined Wind Symphony/Orchestra, Wind Symphony only, and Symphonic Band. Music studied will vary depending upon the group to which you are assigned.
4. Some music will include works in the public domain so that students can access parts through IMSLP or be sent music electronically without violating copyright in the event that classes must meet only remotely at any point in the semester.
5. Music for remote instruction will be a combination of large instrumentation works involving most students and smaller instrumentation works which will involve some students.
6. Music selected for face to face instruction (rehearsal/performance) will use smaller instrumentation to reduce social contact. As many students as possible will be included in
this mode of instruction but it is likely not all students will be assigned parts equally for face to face instruction.

7. Full ensemble and area of interest remote meetings will be scheduled periodically during the scheduled class time.

8. Personal practice, performing alone with recordings, rehearsals and performances when allowed, participation in remote meetings, and submission of recorded excerpts will form the content of this course.

9. To participate in ensembles students must have access to reliable Internet, an active email address that is checked DAILY, and a device capable of accessing sheet music, playing recordings using earbuds or headphones, attending remote meetings, and recording and submitting excerpts.

Please be flexible! This mode of instruction will be challenging for conductors and students and setbacks and mistakes are possible. Though this is not the type of large ensemble experience we are accustomed to, we can use this as an opportunity to learn in new ways about performing music.