MUSIC 135/235/335/435 Section 1 – Woodwind Chamber Ensembles

Instructor: Professor Stacey Berk

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Course Goals: Chamber music is an ideal activity for enhancing musicians' abilities in all aspects of performance, including technical facility, sight reading, intonation, expression, and listening. Participants may expect to improve their skills in these areas. To play in a chamber music ensemble effectively takes both individual and group practice time. It is necessary not only to have your part prepared, but also to listen carefully to the other parts and react to them.

Students will practice preparing music for exacting performance without the leadership of a conductor. This involves working out the mechanical aspects of staying together and executing musical gestures, learning how to collectively develop an interpretation of the work being studied, and acquiring the interpersonal skills necessary for a musician to function in a small group.

Students will acquire knowledge of chamber music repertoire for the particular instrumentation of the group, through preparing and reading chamber music of different styles, historical periods, and composers.

Performance Activities: Ensembles will perform at least twice in the course of the semester. These performances will take place on student Colloquia or other comparable venues such as other on-campus recitals. Additionally, students may perform off-campus as opportunities arise. Quality of performances is very important! All members must commit to thorough preparation for performances.

Printed Music: Music will be provided from the library or from Prof. Berk's personal library. It is your responsibility to care for this music and return all music entrusted to you. If you own some music that you would like the group to consider for performance, please bring it to my attention. If it seems feasible, we will try it. If you lose music that belongs to the library, Prof. Berk or a member of the studio, expect to pay for replacement. To the extent possible, literature selected will represent a variety of time periods and composers of diverse backgrounds.

Attendance: Presence of all members at rehearsals is vital. If you must be absent, please notify me as far in advance as possible. Your grade will be lowered if you have more than two unexcused absences. Be sure to check your e-mail regularly for announcements.

Grades: Your grade will be determined by your performance on concerts (as compared to your potential for performance), your attendance at rehearsals, and your effort during and between rehearsals. Being prepared will produce a positive result in your grade.

Evaluation Criteria:

Attendance and punctuality: 30%

Preparedness: 30%

Participation/Cooperation in Rehearsal: 20% Performance in Concerts/Recitals: 20%

Academic Misconduct:

UW-Stevens Point values a safe, honest, respectful, and inviting learning environment. In order to ensure that each student has the opportunity to succeed, we have developed a set of expectations for all students and instructors. This set of expectations is known as the Community Rights and Responsibilities document, and it is intended to help establish a positive living and learning environment at UWSP. Click here for more information: http://www.uwsp.edu/dos/Pages/Academic-Misconduct.aspx

Academic integrity is central to the mission of higher education in general and UWSP in particular. Academic dishonesty (cheating, plagiarism, etc.) is taken very seriously. Don't do it! The minimum penalty for a violation of academic integrity is a failure (zero) for the assignment. For more information, see the Student Academic Standards and Disciplinary Procedures section of the Community Rights and Responsibilities document, UWSP Chapter 14. This can be accessed by viewing page 11 of the document at: http://www.uwsp.edu/dos/Documents/CommunityRights.pdf#page=11.

Americans with Disabilities Act:

UWSP is committed to providing reasonable and appropriate accommodations to students with disabilities and temporary impairments. If you have a disability or acquire a condition during the semester where you need assistance, please contact the Disability and Assistive Technology Center on the 6th floor of Albertson Hall (library) as soon as possible. DATC can be reached at 715-346-3365 or DATC@uwsp.edu. You can also find more information here: http://www.uwsp.edu/disability/Pages/default.aspx