

ARIZONA WESTERN COLLEGE  
SYLLABUS

## MUS 107 STRING ENSEMBLE

Credit Hours: 2 Lec 1 Lab 2

PREREQUISITE: Audition required. Students must be able to read music and understand string finger patterns in the keys of C major, G major, and D major.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Beginning level of string ensemble.

1. COURSE GOALS

- 1.1 Play string orchestra literature at a wide variety of levels of difficulty
- 1.2 Play string chamber music and develop the ability to work together in a small group
- 1.3 Understand compositions in depth and their relationships to history, style, and form
- 1.4 Read musical scores, conduct, and interpret music
- 1.5 Apply basic conducting patterns and gestures
- 1.6 Work together in a group and apply all rehearsal tools to make music

2. OUTCOMES

Upon satisfactory completion of this course, students will be able to:

- 2.1 perform chamber music and make musical decisions as a group at a beginning level.
- 2.2 read and interpret a musical score at a beginning level.
- 2.3 describe the musical styles of the compositions played in class at a beginning level.
- 2.4 demonstrate readiness to play chamber music for weddings, reunions, receptions, etc. at a beginning level.
- 2.5 identify and demonstrate knowledge of the characteristics of Baroque, Classical, Romantic, and contemporary music at a beginning level.
- 2.6 conduct a selection of orchestral music at a beginning level.

3. METHODS OF INSTRUCTION

- 3.1 Student demonstration
- 3.2 Teacher modeling
- 3.3 Group discussions
- 3.4 Rehearsal strategies
- 3.5 Group practice

4. LEARNING ACTIVITIES

- 4.1 Group discussions
- 4.2 Comparisons of musical styles
- 4.3 Classroom demonstrations

- 4.4 Conducting by students
- 4.5 Performances of chamber music
- 4.6 Practice of musical gestures
- 4.7 Analysis of scores
- 4.8 Study of bowing styles

## 5. EVALUATION

- 5.1 Assessment of each student's performance
- 5.2 Attendance
- 5.3 Class participation
- 5.4 Semester project
  1. Compare and analyze music played in class to other performances of the same music (e.g., recordings, *YouTube* postings)
  2. Share the analysis results with the class

## 6. STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES

- 6.1 Under AWC Policy, students are expected to attend every session of class in which they are enrolled.
- 6.2 If a student is unable to attend the course or must drop the course for any reason, it will be the responsibility of the student to withdraw from the course. Students who are not attending as of the 45th day of the course will be withdrawn by the instructor. If the student does not withdraw from the course and fails to complete the requirements of the course, the student will receive a failing grade.
- 6.3 Americans with Disabilities Act Accommodations: Arizona Western College provides academic accommodations to students with disabilities through AccessABILITY Resource Services (ARS). ARS provides reasonable and appropriate accommodations to students who have documented disabilities. It is the responsibility of the student to make the ARS Coordinator aware of the need for accommodations in the classroom prior to the beginning of the semester. Students should follow up with their instructors once the semester begins. To make an appointment call the ARS front desk at (928) 344-7674 or ARS Coordinator at (928) 344-7629, in the College Community Center (3C) building, next to Advising.
- 6.4 Academic Integrity: any student participating in acts of academic dishonesty including, but not limited to, copying the work of other students, using unauthorized "crib notes," plagiarism, stealing tests, or forging an instructor's signature will be subject to the procedures and consequences outlined in AWC's Student Code of Conduct.
- 6.5 Texts and Notebooks: Students are required to obtain the class materials for the course.
- 6.6 Arizona Western College students are expected to attend every class session in which they are enrolled. To comply with Federal Financial Aid regulations (34 CFR 668.21), Arizona Western College (AWC) has established an Attendance Verification process for "No Show" reporting during the first 10 days of each semester.  
Students who have enrolled but have never attended class may be issued a "No Show" (NS) grade by the professor or instructor and receive a final grade of "NS" on their official academic record. An NS grade may result in a student losing their federal financial aid.  
For online classes, *student attendance in an online class is defined as the following* (FSA Handbook, 2012, 5-90):
  - Submitting an academic assignment
  - Taking an exam, an interactive tutorial or computer-assisted instruction
  - Attending a study group that is assigned by the school
  - Participating in an online discussion about academic matters
  - Initiating contact with a faculty member to ask a question about the academic subject studied in the course