Casper College Course Syllabus
MUSC 2490-01- Tp: Chamber Music

Spring 2016
MUSC 2490-01 –Tp: Chamber Music

Lecture hours: (Studio) Laboratory hours: 2 Credits: 2

Class Day & Time: TBD Instructor: Dr. Diego Caetano Office: MU 201
Office Phone: 268-2528 E-mail: diego.caetano@caspercollege.edu

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Office Hours:
Contact Info: Please e-mail me or call my office. These two means of communication are my preferred method of contact. If you happen to have other contact information for me, please know that they are not official Casper College lines of communication. I will return your call or email within 24 hours.

Course Description: Designed to provide students with training in the ideal medium of chamber music (small ensembles, such as trio, string quartet, etc.), where they can apply and integrate all elements of their musical knowledge. These include but are not limited to rhythm, intonation, tone-production, blend, musical interpretation, concept of style, etc.

Prerequisite: Permission of instructor.

Goal: to build fundamental chamber music skills. These skills include: individual part preparation, score analysis, listening, balance and blend as well as stylistic and musical elements. You, the students, will best decide what it is your group needs to accomplish together. It is extremely important for you to check your ego at the door and be able to take a lot of instruction from not only your coach but also from your fellow musicians. It is equally important for you to be able to recognize when something is not a proper musical moment and be able to properly articulate the problem.

Outcomes:
The student shall:
• Demonstrate knowledge of diverse cultures and historical perspectives
• Appreciate aesthetic and creative activities
• Solve problem using critical thinking and creativity

Methodology: Regular and consistent weekly group rehearsals at the music building. These rehearsal sessions must be a minimum of 100 minutes. In addition, 100 minutes of weekly individual practice, listening and score preparation is required. The instructor will arrange coaching. You will receive 8-50 minute coachings during the semester. PLEASE do not skip or show up late to rehearsals or coachings; it is incredibly disrespectful to your fellow musicians!! Chamber music can be one of the most rewarding and enjoyable aspects of playing an instrument, so do your part to ensure that the group thrives!

Evaluation Criteria: Grades are based on weekly improvement and preparation, rehearsal and coaching attendance and a final performance. The student is encouraged to ask the instructor at any point during the semester for a verbal assessment of the student’s improvement and preparation.

The semester grade is determined as follows:
• Attendance and punctuality 30%
• Preparedness 30%
• Cooperation and Attitude 10%
• Final Performance 20%

These points will be totaled and the grades will be based on these points, alone.

91-100 = A
81-90 = B
71-80 = C
61-70 = D
60 and below = F

Casper College may collect samples of student work demonstrating achievement of the above outcomes. Any personally identifying information will be removed from student work.

Required Texts, Readings, and Materials: Music will be selected by the instructor. When materials are loaned, the borrower is responsible for the care and return of the materials. The borrower will replace items that are damaged or lost. All borrowed items must be returned by the end of each term or the instructor will hold the final grade.

Outside listening is strongly encouraged. Please consult with the instructor for recommended listening materials.

Other materials that are highly suggested are: metronome, tuner and music dictionary.

Class Policies: Last Date to withdraw with a “W” grade: See College catalog.

Missed Rehearsal/Coaching Policy: The scheduled rehearsal time is arranged at a mutually convenient time for the students and the instructor. Great care is taken when scheduling chamber music. It is essential that the rehearsal and coaching time and day be adhered to. Sessions missed for any reason are forfeited. Coachings missed because of the instructor’s professional absence will be made up whenever possible. Missed coachings, unless pre-arranged with the instructor, will result in a lower final grade.

Performance Preparation:
• Begin to prepare your piece immediately after assigned. Obtain the music, score and at least 3 different recordings of the piece.
• Meet weekly with your chamber ensemble
• Play the prepared piece(s) for the coach at least 7 days before the scheduled performance.

FINAL RECITAL: Wednesday, May 11 7PM in MU 112 OR any Convocation

Student Rights and Responsibilities: Please refer to the Casper College Student Conduct and Judicial Code for information concerning your rights and responsibilities as a Casper College student.

Chain of Command: If you have any problems with this class, you should first contact the instructor to attempt to solve the problem. If you are not satisfied with the solution offered by the instructor, you should then take the matter through the appropriate chain of command starting with the Department Head/Program Director, the Dean, and lastly the Vice President for Academic Affairs.

Academic Dishonesty: (Cheating & Plagiarism) Casper College demands intellectual honesty. Proven plagiarism or any form of dishonesty associated with the academic process can result in the offender failing the course in which the offense was committed or expulsion from school. See the
Casper College Student Code of Conduct for more information on this topic.

**Official Means of Communication:** Casper College faculty and staff will employ the student's assigned Casper College email account as a primary method of communication. Students are responsible to check their account regularly.

**ADA Accommodations Policy:** If you need academic accommodations because of a disability, please inform me as soon as possible. See me privately after class, or during my office hours. To request academic accommodations, students must first consult with the college’s Disability Services Counselor located in the Gateway Building, Room 344, (307) 268-2557, bheuer@caspercollege.edu. The Disability Services Counselor is responsible for reviewing documentation provided by students requesting accommodations, determining eligibility for accommodations, and helping students request and use appropriate accommodations.

**Calendar of course content:** to be determined by the skill of each student. Convocation, a biweekly student recital, is scheduled by the Department during the fall and spring semesters. Students enrolled in MUSC 2490-01 may elect to participate by performing on the recital with instructor permission.