

# MUN 3493: New Music Ensemble

School of Performing Arts | College of Arts & Humanities  
University of Central Florida

## COURSE SYLLABUS

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<b>Instructor:</b>	Dr. Thad Anderson	<b>Term:</b>	Spring 2018
<b>Office:</b>	Music Building, M104	<b>Class Meeting Days:</b>	Monday + Wednesday
<b>Phone:</b>	(407) 823-2221	<b>Class Meeting Hours:</b>	3:30 to 4:20 p.m.
<b>Email:</b>	tra@ucf.edu	<b>Office Hours:</b>	By Appointment

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### Course Description:

The New Music Ensemble is a performance-oriented chamber group focused on diverse repertoire from the 20th and 21st-century. Rehearsals each week will be utilized for instruction in chamber performance skills encompassing the various styles of conventionally notated works but will also introduce other contemporary approaches such as improvisation, electro-acoustic music, and graphic scores. The ensemble will also frequently rehearse and premier newly composed works by resident students, faculty, and visiting guest composers. Participating membership and exact instrumentation will vary according to the specifications of each work studied and the make-up of the ensemble.

The ensemble is open to undergraduate and graduate music students, but consent from the instructor is required. The group will present at least one concert each semester as part of the Collide Contemporary Music Series.

### Course Objectives:

- Create an appreciation for contemporary musical language
- Musically engage students in a variety of contemporary musical styles
- Experience interdisciplinary art making
- Expand listening skills and experiment with extended techniques
- Develop relationships with emerging and established composers
- Take part in the creative process with readings of new works and collaborating with composers
- Experience the challenges of commissioning new works

### Required Equipment:

- The student is responsible for his or her own musical performance needs regarding instruments, accessories and other appropriate paraphernalia.
- UCF or the director will provide music. All music and its physical condition are the direct personal and financial responsibility of the student.
- Attire for all ensemble performances is: black shoes, black socks, black pants/skirt, black belt, and black button-up collared shirt or equivalent.

**Resources:**

- Recordings and other resources for works being programmed are typically provided by the director and will be included in the ensemble Webcourses page when available.

**Evaluation Procedures:**

In general, subjective assessments will be made by the instructor regarding preparation, performance competency, attitude, and attendance. More specifically, evaluation criteria will be based upon, but not limited to, the following:

Grade Categories	Description of the requirements	Points
Rehearsal Preparation:	<b>Practice individual parts outside of rehearsal.</b> Each work will require concentrated individual preparation. The quality of any performance is only as good as the weakest individual. Contribute towards the scheduling and effectiveness of sectional rehearsals whenever necessary.	100
Rehearsal Set-Up:	Arrive to rehearsal early for set-up and warm-up. The downbeat will take place at the designated rehearsal time. Preparations for rehearsal must be complete at this time. Proper warm-up on all instruments to be played is very important and is considered a responsibility of each member.	50
Performance in Rehearsal:	Ensemble members should always be totally prepared; all instruments present, in working order, and properly tuned. All instruments and paraphernalia are the responsibility of the performer, as are pencils, music markings, auxiliary equipment, tuning equipment, etc... Regarding contributions towards productive and efficient rehearsals, talking during rehearsals should pertain only to immediate ensemble requirements.	100
Concert Performance and Equipment moving:	Arrive at set times to: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Assist with moving and load equipment</li> <li>2. Set-up carefully</li> <li>3. Assist others</li> <li>4. Then warm-up (after everyone is ready)</li> </ol> Active and full participation returning and putting equipment away is required.	150

**Additional Policies:**

- **Attendance and Participation:** Attendance is mandatory. Any unexcused absences from rehearsals will lower your final grade one whole letter. An unexcused absence from a performance will result in a failure of the course.
  - If an absence is necessary, make sure that:
    - You email, message or telephone the director.
    - The folder of music arrives at the rehearsal.
    - A competent substitute replaces the absent player. The substitute player should have all necessary material and knowledgeable of the part prior to rehearsal.
- **Concert Dates:** The fall concerts will be presented on **March 29** as part of the Collide Contemporary Music Series and **April 8** as part of UCF Celebrates the Arts. The group will also perform at the Composition Forum, which is schedule for **April 5**. Several other performances may be planned during the semester. Every attempt will be made to accommodate the schedules of the members of the

ensemble and will be discussed in class or via Webcourses. It is the member's responsibility to make every effort to attend all additional ensemble performances and dress rehearsals.

- **Procedures:** Attend all rehearsals and concerts. Do not accept commitments that conflict with scheduled rehearsals and concerts. New Music Ensemble is chamber music requiring the careful balancing of all parts and an understanding of the moment-by-moment role and function of each individual part. This can only be accomplished by the prepared presence of all ensemble members.
- **Part Assignments:** Every effort will be made to distribute parts fairly with regard to the performance abilities of each member of the ensemble. Part assignments will also be made with recognition of the individuals potential for personal and musical success. Part assignments can and will be reassigned when preparation criteria are not met within a reasonable period of time.

**Grading Scale:**

The following grading scale will be used throughout the semester:

Grading Scale (%)	
94-100	A
90-93	A-
87-89	B+
84-86	B
80-83	B-
77-79	C+
74-76	C
70-73	C-
67-69	D+
64-66	D
60-63	D-
0 - 59	F

**Communication:**

In accordance with university regulations, your Knights email address and the Webcourses “Inbox” feature will be the primary source of communication regarding pertinent details and information for this course. Please plan to check these accounts on a regular basis.

**Academic Integrity:**

UCF is committed to a policy of honesty in academic affairs. Conduct that comprises a breach of this policy may result in academic action and disciplinary action. Academic action affects student assignments, examinations or grades. Disciplinary action affects student enrollment status. Please review the behavior standards at: [http://www.goldenrule.sdes.ucf.edu/11\\_behavior.html](http://www.goldenrule.sdes.ucf.edu/11_behavior.html)

**Plagiarism Statement:**

Work submitted must be your own. The university and the department have a strict policy on cheating and plagiarism. Go to the Golden Rule at <http://www.goldenrule.sdes.ucf.edu> to review these guidelines.

### **Accommodations For the Differently-abled:**

The University of Central Florida is committed to providing reasonable accommodations for all persons with disabilities. This syllabus is available in alternate formats upon request. Students with disabilities who need accommodations in this course must contact the professor at the beginning of the semester to discuss needed accommodations. No accommodations will be provided until the student has met with the professor to request accommodations. Students who need accommodations must be registered with Student Disability Services, Student Resource Center Room 132, phone (407) 823-2371, TTY/TDD only phone (407) 823-2116, before requesting accommodations from the professor.

### **The UCF Creed**

Integrity, scholarship, community, creativity, and excellence are the core values that guide our conduct, performance, and decisions.

- **Integrity:** I will practice and defend academic and personal honesty.
- **Scholarship:** I will cherish and honor learning as a fundamental purpose of my membership in the UCF community.
- **Community:** I will promote an open and supportive campus environment by respecting the rights and contributions of every individual.
- **Creativity:** I will use my talents to enrich the human experience.
- **Excellence:** I will strive toward the highest standards of performance in any endeavor I undertake.

**\*Please note, this syllabus may be modified at the discretion of the instructor. Changes will be discussed in rehearsal or over digital communication.**