

## COURSE SYLLABUS

### Section 1 – Course Information

MUSC 3860A/5860A - Fall 2013

Orchestra

0-3-1

Pre-requisites: Permission of instructor, by audition only.

Fine Arts 191-C

Department of Music

College of the Arts

Valdosta State University

### Section 2 – Instructor Information

Dr. Howard Hsu, Instructor of Record/VSO Music Director

hphsu@valdosta.edu • 229.333.5841

Office FA268A • Office Hours: T 12:30–2:30 pm; Th 1:30-2:30 pm and by appt.

Charles Jeong, Graduate Assistant • hejeong@valdosta.edu

### Section 3 – Course Description

Course description:

Principal ensemble for orchestral string principals and majors and other principals according to assignment by the VSO Music Director and faculty principal players.

Required Text and Materials:

Orchestral music provided by the department.

Course overview:

This is an ensemble course designed for the development of the professional orchestral performer and the professional music educator. Through this course the student will experience new repertoire, improve musicianship, and learn ensemble discipline in a collaborative setting. MUSC 3860A/5860A fulfills the ensemble credit.

### Section 4 – Standards, Goals, Objectives or Outcomes

Course Objectives:

1. To achieve the highest degree possible of learning and orchestra performance.
2. To develop the ability to successfully prepare music for rehearsals and performances.
3. To understand and accept the responsibility of participation in a professional orchestra.
4. To gain in-depth exposure to a wide variety of orchestral repertoire
5. Use rehearsal and performing experience as preparation for professional auditions and performances

Educational Outcomes: (**VSU General Education Outcomes 3, 4, & 7; Music Department 3; NASM VIII D 3**)

- Students will master a variety of ensemble techniques leading to an ability to perform with competence within a small or large group of others.
- Students will demonstrate the ability to listen and respond in an ensemble setting with regard to a number of musical issues such as balance, color, articulation, style, intonation, intensity, etc.
- Students will acquire insight into the physical and mental technique and discipline necessary to continue improving musicianship and musical expression over time.
- Students will experience and gain knowledge of the orchestral repertoire regularly performed in this ensemble and should have experienced a balanced cross section of that repertoire.
- Student will acquire experience, musical maturity and comfort in a live performance setting.

### Section 5 - Assignments

Assignments:

- Individually prepare music for concert performances
- Attend regular rehearsals and special outside-of-class rehearsals
- Successfully perform in concerts
- Other assignments as needed to accomplish the course objectives

## Section 6 – Assessment

Students will be assessed by faculty principal players as well as the VSO Music Director in the following areas:

- Regular class rehearsals
- Sectional rehearsals
- *Tutti* rehearsals with faculty principals
- Full rehearsals during concert week
- Individual playing assessments/auditions before each concert
- Concert performances

### Grading

- Student attendance at all concerts and rehearsals is required of all personnel.
- Students will be allowed two absences for the semester. Each subsequent absence will result in (1) the final grade being lowered one letter grade for each additional absence and (2) possibly being held out of upcoming concerts and/or (3) dismissal from the ensemble.
- Absence from **faculty rehearsals** and **full rehearsals** during concert week are not permitted under any circumstances. Absence from one of these rehearsals may result in dismissal from the ensemble and a failing grade.
- The schedule for the term will be provided at the first rehearsal of the semester. Potential conflicts with rehearsals or concert dates should be reported in writing to the conductor as soon as they known. The nature and frequency of conflicts will be evaluated to determine the overall quality of participation.
- The professional habit of arriving early for rehearsal is expected of every student. Attendance will be taken at the beginning of each class. Students must be seated, warmed up and ready to tune at the beginning of class, or are otherwise considered late. Each late mark counts as half an absence. Anyone not present five minutes after attendance is taken will be marked as absent.
- Grading will be based upon attendance, punctuality, rehearsal preparation (50%) and concert performances (50%).
- The April 28th concert shall serve as the Final Exam (50% of concert performance grade). If the student fails the playing test and does not play in the concert, grading will be based on playing tests, rehearsal preparation and attendance.
- Students who fail the playing test and do not play in the concert are still required to attend the full VSO rehearsals leading up to the concert (the Thursday and Friday evening rehearsals, and the Saturday morning dress rehearsal). It is critical that students hear the professional musical standards expected of every VSO member. Absence from any of these rehearsals will count as an absence from class mentioned above.

## Section 7 – Schedule of Activities

- The class will meet each Tuesday and Thursday from 3:30 – 5:00 pm in Room 191-C of the Fine Arts Building except on VSU approved holidays.
- The instructor will post a separate rehearsal schedule.
- The scheduled dates for exams are the concert dates for the semester.

## Section 8 – Classroom Policies

### Attendance

The University expects that all students shall regularly attend all scheduled class meetings held for instruction or examination. It is recognized that class attendance is essentially a matter between students and their instructors. Instructors must explain their absence policy in the course syllabus. All students are held responsible for knowing the specific attendance requirements as prescribed by their instructors and for the satisfactory make-up work missed by absences. When students are to be absent from class, they should immediately contact the instructor. A student who misses more than 20% of the scheduled classes of a course will be subject to receive a failing grade in the course.

### Accommodation

Students requesting classroom accommodations or modifications due to a documented disability must contact the Access Office for Students with Disabilities located in Farber Hall. The phone numbers are 245-2498 (V/VP) and 219-1348 (TTY).

### Academic Integrity

Academic integrity is the responsibility of all VSU faculty and students. Faculty members should promote academic integrity by including clear instruction on the components of academic integrity and clearly

defining the penalties for cheating and plagiarism in their course syllabi. Students are responsible for knowing and abiding by the Academic Integrity Policy as set forth in the Student Code of Conduct and the faculty members' syllabi. All students are expected to do their own work and to uphold a high standard of academic ethics. By taking this course, you agree that all required course work may be subject to submission for textual similarity review to SafeAssign, a tool within BlazeVIEW. For more information on the use of SafeAssign at VSU see SafeAssign for Students at <http://www.valdosta.edu/academic/SafeAssignforStudents.shtml> .

#### Classroom Demeanor

Students are required to demonstrate good classroom/recital demeanor during concerts and rehearsals. There must be no use of electronic devices, such as cell phones, and no disruptive talking with classmates. Disruptive students will be dismissed from class.

#### Student evaluations

Student evaluations of this class will occur online later in the semester. Students will be notified when this is available.

#### Section 9 – Additional Information

- All string music majors will take MUSC 3860A/5860A as their principal ensemble. Students will be assessed by individual playing tests before each concert. At the discretion of the VSO Music Director, students who have not sufficiently prepared the music may be held out of the concert. The VSO Music Director and faculty principal players will make their final decision based on auditions, rehearsal assessments, and/or progress during private lessons during the semester.
- Students will be expected to spell and pronounce musical and pedagogical terms and other terminology accurately, with familiarity and ease.
- At the discretion of the VSO Music Director, optional rehearsals may be scheduled outside of class time.
- At the discretion of the VSO Music Director, students who have one or more unexcused absences or miss the dress rehearsal may be held out of the concert.
- Music: Every student will be assigned music and will be responsible financially for its return. Fees will be assessed for music that is lost or damaged due to excessive marking or mishandling. A hold on grade reports will be in effect for any music not returned.
- If chosen, students will be expected to perform in other VSU performances such as the opera.

#### Section 10 – Concert Dress

Concert Dress: MEN: black tuxedo, white shirt, black bow tie, black socks and black dress shoes; WOMEN: concert black dress or skirt/slacks and top, modest heel. Dresses/skirts should be knee-length or below. (*On some occasions concert dress will differ as specified by the instructors.*)

- A performance serves as an event for students to share their music, to hone their performance skills, and to hear peers, music faculty, and guest artists. A performance dress code is implemented so that the enjoyment of the musical experience is not diminished by distractions of inappropriate attire. Students are advised that proper, modest, and dignified attire is required when performing in department of music events, including Wednesday morning student recitals and degree recitals.
- 1) Absolutely NO:
- a) hats
  - b) flip-flops or sneakers
  - c) t-shirts
  - d) jeans or shorts
  - e) skirts above the knee
  - f) strapless or spaghetti-strap tops
  - *Students wearing inappropriate concert dress will be asked to change into clothing as specified above or will be held out of the concert and be marked as absent.*

# The Valdosta Symphony ORCHESTRA

## Fall 2013 Rehearsal/Performance Calendar

After the Tuesday (8/13) placement auditions during class time, the regular class meetings will begin on Thursday, August 15, 2013 at 3:30 p.m. and continue each Tuesday and Thursday through Tuesday November 21, 2013 (if you are not selected for Nutcracker, your final regular class meeting is Thursday, November 14, 2013).  
**Please note the important dates listed below. All dates taking place outside of class time are in bold.**

- There will be no afternoon class on the following VSO rehearsal dates (only evening rehearsals):  
 Thursday, September 12  
 Thursday, October 31
- There will be no class on the following holiday dates:  
 Tuesday, November 26  
 Thursday, November 28

### *APPlause*

<i>VSU Tutti</i> Rehearsal	Tuesday, September 3	3:30 - 5:00 p.m.	WH
<i>VSU Tutti</i> Rehearsal	Thursday, September 5	3:30 - 5:00 p.m.	WH
<i>VSU Tutti</i> Rehearsal	Tuesday, September 10	3:30 - 5:00 p.m.	WH
<b>FULL Rehearsal 1</b>	<b>Thursday, September 12</b>	<b>7:00 - 9:30 p.m.</b>	<b>WH</b>
<b>YOUTH CONCERT</b>	<b>Friday, September 13</b>	<b>10:00 a.m.</b>	<b>WH</b>
<b>FULL Rehearsal 2</b>	<b>Friday, September 13</b>	<b>6:00 - 8:30 p.m.</b>	<b>WH</b>
<b>FULL Rehearsal 3</b>	<b>Saturday, September 14</b>	<b>10:00 a.m. - 12:30 pm</b>	<b>WH</b>
<b>SUB. CONCERT</b>	<b>Saturday, September 14</b>	<b>8:00 p.m.</b>	<b>WH</b>

### *Amadeus*

<i>VSU Tutti</i> Rehearsal	Tuesday, October 22	3:30 - 5:00 p.m.	WH
<i>VSU Tutti</i> Rehearsal	Thursday, October 24	3:30 - 5:00 p.m.	WH
<i>VSU Tutti</i> Rehearsal	Tuesday, October 29	3:30 - 5:00 p.m.	WH
<b>FULL Rehearsal 1</b>	<b>Thursday, October 31</b>	<b>7:00 - 9:30 p.m.</b>	<b>WH</b>
<b>YOUTH CONCERT</b>	<b>Friday, November 1</b>	<b>10:00 a.m.</b>	<b>WH</b>
<b>FULL Rehearsal 2</b>	<b>Friday, November 1</b>	<b>6:00 - 8:30 p.m.</b>	<b>WH</b>
<b>FULL Rehearsal 3</b>	<b>Saturday, November 2</b>	<b>10:00 a.m. - 12:30 pm</b>	<b>WH</b>
<b>SUB. CONCERT</b>	<b>Saturday, November 2</b>	<b>8:00 p.m.</b>	<b>WH</b>
<b>Bus to Bainbridge</b>	<b>Sunday, November 3</b>	<b>10:30 a.m.</b>	<b>VSU</b>
<b>Call/Soundcheck</b>	<b>Sunday, November 3</b>	<b>1:15 p.m.</b>	<b>Bainbridge</b>
<b>RUNOUT CONCERT</b>	<b>Sunday, November 3</b>	<b>3:00 p.m.</b>	<b>Bainbridge</b>

### *Nutcracker*

<b>FULL Rehearsal 1</b>	<b>Tuesday, November 19</b>	<b>3:30 - 5:00 p.m.</b>	<b>WH</b>
<b>FULL Rehearsal 2</b>	<b>Thursday, November 21</b>	<b>3:30 - 5:00 p.m.</b>	<b>WH</b>
<b>FULL Rehearsal 3</b>	<b>Wednesday, December 4</b>	<b>3:30 - 5:00 p.m.</b>	<b>MATHIS</b>
<b>FULL Rehearsal 4</b>	<b>Wednesday, December 4</b>	<b>6:30 - 10:00 p.m.</b>	<b>MATHIS</b>
<b>FULL Rehearsal 5</b>	<b>Thursday, December 5</b>	<b>6:30 - 10:00 p.m.</b>	<b>MATHIS</b>
<b>SPECIAL CONCERT 1</b>	<b>Friday, December 6</b>	<b>7:30 p.m.</b>	<b>MATHIS</b>
<b>SPECIAL CONCERT 2</b>	<b>Saturday, December 7</b>	<b>1:00 p.m.</b>	<b>MATHIS</b>
<b>SPECIAL CONCERT 3</b>	<b>Saturday, December 7</b>	<b>7:30 p.m.</b>	<b>MATHIS</b>
<b>SPECIAL CONCERT 4</b>	<b>Sunday, December 8</b>	<b>2:30 p.m.</b>	<b>MATHIS</b>