



**KENNESAW STATE**  
UNIVERSITY

SYLLABUS

COLLEGE OF THE ARTS

SCHOOL OF MUSIC

MUSI 1148/01, 3348/01 & 3348/02: SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA  
FALL 2021

## Course Information

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Class Meeting Time: Tuesdays and Thursdays, 2:00-4:30 pm; additional meetings required—see course schedule

Modality and Location: Face-to-Face Instruction; Bailey Performance Center, Room 100

## Instructor Information

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Name: Nathaniel F. Parker, DMA

Email: [nparke22@kennesaw.edu](mailto:nparke22@kennesaw.edu)

Office Location: Music Building, Room 114

Office Phone: (470) 578-4901

Office Hours: Tuesdays and Thursdays, 10:00-11:00 AM, or by appointment

Preferred Method of Communication: Email

## Course Description

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Study, rehearsal, and concert performance of literature for orchestra.

Credit Hours: 1148/01 & 3348/01 = 1; 3348/02 = 0

Class Hours: 0

Lab Hours: 5

Prerequisite: Audition

## Course Materials

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### Required Materials:

Orchestra members are required to have the following at every class meeting:

1. instrument(s)
2. instrument accessories (rosin, mute, etc.)
3. pencil with eraser
4. sheet music and folder (strings: do not assume that your stand partner will bring their folder; always bring your own)

### Technology Requirements:

1. Internet Access;
2. Access to Desire2Learn (D2L), KSU's online learning platform;
3. Software to Open and Read PDF Files (e.g. Adobe Reader).

## Learning Outcomes

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The skills and knowledge gained from this course are manifest in performance. Students actively participating in the Symphony Orchestra will demonstrate the following in performance:

1. technical, musical, and stylistic mastery of their individual part;
2. a holistic understanding of compositions and the role(s) of their individual part within;
3. understanding of the requirements of orchestra's role in variety of performance settings;
4. professional standards of concert etiquette and protocol.

Further, students will demonstrate professional standards of individual preparation throughout the rehearsal and performance process. They will actively engage in and contribute to ensemble preparation (rehearsals). They will apply problem-solving approaches experienced in rehearsals to other rehearsal and performance situations.

## Course Requirements and Assignments

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Appropriate individual practice and active rehearsal engagement in preparation for the following:

1. Concert Performance #1
2. Concert Performance #2
3. Concert Performance #3
4. Concert Performance #4
5. Concert Performance #5
6. Concert Performance #6

Critical listening and effective writing skills to complete:

1. Performance Evaluation Assignment

Please see "Evaluation and Grading Policies" for further explanation of appropriate preparation, as well as attendance policies and assignment descriptions.

## Evaluation and Grading Policies

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A student's final grade for this course will be assigned based on the following scale:

A	≥ 90
B	≥ 80
C	≥ 70
D	≥ 60
F	< 60

A student's final grade for this course will be calculated in the following manner:

44%	Class Participation
44%	Individual Preparation
12%	Performance Evaluation Assignment
100%	FINAL GRADE

## **Class Participation**

All orchestra members are expected to actively participate in and make positive contributions to rehearsals and performances, and to abide by the accepted standards etiquette and protocol in rehearsal and performance. The instructor will observe students during rehearsals and performances throughout the semester; these observations, as well as attendance (see below), will form the basis for evaluating Class Participation.

## **Attendance**

Attendance and punctuality are critical components of membership in an ensemble; as such, they have a significant impact on students' grades. If one is not in attendance, one cannot participate and contribute; further, individual lateness and absence hinder ensemble growth and undermine the shared commitment between all ensemble members. No unexcused absences are permitted in this course. Each unexcused absence from a rehearsal will result in the Class Participation grade being lowered twenty-one (21) percentage points. More than two (2) unexcused rehearsal absences in a semester may result in expulsion from the course and/or a final grade of F for the Class Participation grade. An unexcused absence from a performance will result in a final grade of F for the Class Participation grade.

Any orchestra member not in their seat with their instrument(s) out and prepared to tune when the first tuning note for a given piece is sounded is considered late. Each unexcused lateness from a rehearsal will result in the Class Participation grade being lowered ten (10) percentage points. Repeated instances of unexcused lateness may result in expulsion from the course and/or a final Class Participation grade of F. Arriving more than 10 minutes after the beginning of a rehearsal or a scheduled call time, or leaving early, is considered an absence. An unexcused lateness at a performance will result in a final grade of F for the Class Participation grade.

These policies will be strictly enforced. Failure to demonstrate appropriate, professional standards of attendance and punctuality may also impact student seating and part assignments.

***The instructor retains ultimate authority and discretion as to the determination of a lateness or absence as excused or unexcused.*** The instructor evaluates each request for an excused lateness or absence on a case-by-case basis; while each situation is unique, the following general principles apply.

1. It is the responsibility of the **student** to initiate a request for an excused lateness or absence and to follow up on the request, as appropriate. All lateness and absences are considered unexcused until the student initiates a request for an excused lateness or absence via email and the instructor replies with a final determination via email.
2. The instructor may request additional information or documentation regarding the lateness or absence.
3. Students must request an excused lateness or absence by **emailing** the instructor in advance of the lateness or absence. (Note: An email to [nparke22@kennesaw.edu](mailto:nparke22@kennesaw.edu) is the only form of communication that will be accepted as a request for an excused lateness or absence. Requests submitted by other means will not be considered.)
4. All requests for an excused lateness or absence placed after the lateness or absence occurs will be denied except in the cases of illness or personal emergency.
5. \*\*If a student misses class(es) due to a confirmed diagnosis of COVID-19, university policy requires that they submit a COVID-19 accommodations request form through [Student Disability Services](#) before any accommodations (e.g. make-up work, excused absences) can be made.

Note: Woodwind, brass, percussion, keyboard, and harp instrumentalists are required to find an appropriate substitute to play their part during a missed rehearsal. Instrumentalists should review the part with their substitute in advance so that substitutes are not sight reading during rehearsal. Engagement of an appropriate substitute does not guarantee that an absence will be excused.

The instructor will maintain a current attendance log on D2L. It is the responsibility of the student to review their attendance log for accuracy and follow-up with the instructor, as necessary.

### **Individual Preparation**

In order for the orchestra to achieve its highest potential, each and every member of the ensemble must address all technical challenges presented by the repertoire through individual practice before the first rehearsal of a concert cycle.

Orchestra members can expect:

1. All sheet music will be available at least two weeks before the first rehearsal of a new concert cycle (the only exception being the first cycle of the concert season);
2. Bowed string master parts will be posted on D2L at least two weeks before the first rehearsal of a given cycle (the only exception being the first cycle of the concert season).

The instructor expects orchestra members to demonstrate their individual preparation in part by completing all of the following by the first rehearsal of a concert cycle:

1. Copy all performance tempi and other markings from preparation guide into their own parts;
2. [STRINGS] Copy all bowings and other markings from the string master parts into their own parts;
3. With parts in hand, listen to reference recordings of all pieces (links to recordings available in preparation guide);
4. After listening, scan through all parts and identify all portions that are difficult (You may wish to bracket those parts or put an asterisk in the margin next to the line. Difficulty could be a wide range of things: notes, intonation, special techniques, bowings, etc.; don't overlook difficulties beyond just 'notes.');
5. Establish a plan for mastering difficult portions;
6. Begin implementing practice plan to master difficult portions.

The instructor will observe students during rehearsals and performances throughout the semester; these observations will form the basis for evaluating Individual Preparation.

The instructor reserves the right to require students to demonstrate their preparedness by performing any part of any piece in a given concert cycle—individually or as a section—during any rehearsal and by performing individually in a hearing outside of rehearsal. The instructor also reserves the right to review string players' parts—including inside players—during any rehearsal to ensure appropriate preparedness, as described above. Failure to demonstrate appropriate preparedness in any of these ways will have a negative impact upon a student's Individual Preparation grade.

### **Performance Evaluation Assignment**

The Performance Evaluation Assignment will require listening to performance recordings of two (2) pieces from the current semester and two (2) discussion posts on D2L related to those performance recordings. Additional assignment details and a grading rubric will be posted on D2L well in advance of the due date.

## Course Policies

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**Concert Dress:** The following is the required concert dress for all Symphony performances, unless otherwise announced by the instructor. Absolutely no exceptions are permitted. Orchestra members in noncompliance required concert dress may not be allowed to perform, resulting in an unexcused absence from the performance.

**Ladies:** black top (elbows must be covered, the garment must have a modest neckline); black slacks or floor-length skirt; black socks or hose; black, closed-toe shoes

**Gentlemen:** black tuxedo (no tails); white tuxedo shirt; black bow-tie and cummerbund or vest; black socks; black, dress shoes

**All:** Please keep jewelry to a minimum. Please refrain from using strong-scented personal products including perfume, cologne, lotion, body spray, or aftershave.

**Copyright:** Kennesaw State University and the KSU Symphony Orchestra comply with all national and international copyright laws. Photocopying of music is expressly prohibited unless said photocopying is done within the educational use parameters of copyright law or with the copyright holder's permission. (see also "Copyright Law" below)

**Open-Door Policy:** The instructor maintains an open-door policy. Orchestra members with questions or concerns about anything related to the ensemble are welcome and encouraged to speak with the instructor directly, in private. The contents of any such conversations will not impact members' standing in the orchestra or their grade in any way.

**Personal Electronic Devices:** All personal electronic devices (including cellular phones) must be turned off or set to silent mode and put away during class meetings. Cellular phones may not be on kept on music stands or within in reach during rehearsal. Any student observed with a cellular phone during a rehearsal—regardless of whether they are playing at that moment—will be dismissed from rehearsal and receive an unexcused absence for that rehearsal. (see "Attendance" above for impact of an unexcused absence on grades) The only exception to this policy is for those students who use a tablet for their sheet music; students must notify the instructor in advance if they will be using a tablet for this purpose and the tablet must be put in "Airplane Mode" when in use during rehearsal.

**Photograph, Recording, and Broadcast Release:** The KSU School of Music is committed to broadening access to musical performances by making its concerts available to live Internet audiences. By participating in this course, you hereby acknowledge that the university may photograph, record, and/or broadcast, via live streaming or other means, any public performances, rehearsals, or classes that you participate in, and you give permission for any such use that is consistent with the university's non-profit status.

**Registration:** The KSU Symphony course is offered in one-credit and zero-credit sections. All students participating in the Symphony are required to enroll in a section of the course. Students should consult with their academic advisor to determine the appropriate option for them and their curricular requirements.

**Rehearsal Schedules:** Detailed rehearsal schedules will be posted in advance on D2L. Orchestra members are responsible for checking regularly for rehearsal schedules and updates.

**Sheet Music and Folders:** All folders and sheet music provided to orchestra members for use by the Kennesaw State University Symphony Orchestra remain the property of KSU. Sheet music and folders will be prepared and placed in the Symphony music cabinet in the slot that corresponds to students' assigned folder numbers. Sheet music and folders must be returned to the correct slot in the music cabinet immediately following each performance. Students are expected to care for sheet music and

folders appropriately. Students are expected to reimburse the orchestra for costs incurred due to lost music or folders, and damage to music or folders beyond normal “wear and tear.”

**Student Advisory Council:** The Kennesaw State University Symphony Orchestra Student Advisory Council provides an additional avenue of communication and feedback between the instructor and student orchestra members; this body also reflects an element of shared governance common in most professional orchestra settings. Orchestra members are nominated and elected to the Advisory Council by their peers.

**Student Leaders:** Concertmasters, section principals, and associate principals occupy critical leadership roles within the ensemble. Student leaders should be treated with the appropriate respect and their reasonable requests and instructions should be followed. Should a conflict arise between a leader and section member, this should be brought to the attention of the instructor outside of rehearsal.

## **KSU COVID-19 Policies and Information**

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### **Course Delivery**

KSU may shift the method of course delivery at any time during the semester in compliance with University System of Georgia health and safety guidelines. In this case, alternate teaching modalities that may be adopted include hyflex, hybrid, synchronous online, or asynchronous online instruction.

### **COVID-19 Illness**

If you are feeling ill, please stay home and contact your health professional. In addition, please email your instructor to say you are missing class due to illness. Signs of COVID-19 illness include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Cough
- Fever of 100.4 or higher
- Runny nose or new sinus congestion
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- Chills
- Sore Throat
- New loss of taste and/or smell

COVID-19 vaccines are a critical tool in “Protecting the Nest.” If you have not already, you are strongly encouraged to get vaccinated immediately to advance the health and safety of our campus community. As an enrolled KSU student, you are eligible to receive the vaccine on campus. Please call (470) 578-6644 to schedule your vaccination appointment or you may walk into one of our student health clinics.

For more information regarding COVID-19 (including testing, vaccines, extended illness procedures and accommodations), see KSU’s official [COVID-19 website](#).

### **Masks**

While masks are no longer mandated on campus, you are strongly encouraged to wear a mask when in class if you have not received a COVID-19 vaccination.

## Institutional Policies

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[Federal, BOR, & KSU Course Syllabus Policies](#)

[Academic Integrity Statement](#)

## KSU Student Resources

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[Click here](#) to access information on help and resources available to students.

## Course Schedule

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### Week 1 (August 16)

**Tuesday**: Course Introduction, Rehearsal 1.1

**Thursday**: Rehearsal 1.2

### Week 2 (August 23)

**Tuesday**: Rehearsal 1.3

**Thursday**: Rehearsal 1.4

### Week 3 (August 30)

**Tuesday**: Rehearsal 1.5

**Thursday**: Rehearsal 1.6

### Week 4 (September 6)

**Tuesday**: Rehearsal 1.7

**Thursday**: Rehearsal 1.8

**\*\*Saturday, September 11: Concert Performance #1, 8:00 pm, Bailey Performance Center**

**Week 5 (September 13)**

**Tuesday**: Rehearsal 1.9

**Thursday**: Rehearsal 1.10

**\*\*Saturday, September 18: Concert Performance #2, 8:00 pm, Bailey Performance Center**

**Week 6 (September 20)**

**Tuesday**: Rehearsal 2.1

**Thursday**: Rehearsal 2.2

**Week 7 (September 27)**

**Tuesday**: Rehearsal 2.3

**Thursday**: Rehearsal 2.4

**Week 8 (October 4)**

**Tuesday**: Rehearsal 2.5

**Thursday**: Rehearsal 2.6

**Week 9 (October 11)**

**Tuesday**: Rehearsal 2.7

**Thursday**: Rehearsal 2.8

**Week 10 (October 18)**

**Tuesday**: Rehearsal 2.9

**Thursday**: Rehearsal 2.10

***\*\*Concert Performance #3, 7:30 pm, Bailey Performance Center***



**Week 11 (October 25)**

**Tuesday**: Rehearsal 2.11

**Thursday**: Rehearsal 2.12

**\*\*Friday, October 29**: *Concert Performance #4, 2:45 pm, Bailey Performance Center*

**Week 12 (November 1)**

**Tuesday**: Rehearsal 3.1

**Thursday**: Rehearsal 3.2

**Week 13 (November 8)**

**Tuesday**: Rehearsal 3.3

**Thursday**: Rehearsal 3.4

**Week 14 (November 15)**

**Tuesday**: Rehearsal 3.5

**Thursday**: Rehearsal 3.6

***\*\*Week of November 22: No Class (Thanksgiving Break)***

**Week 15 (November 29)**

**Tuesday**: Rehearsal 3.7

**Thursday**: Rehearsal 3.8

**\*\*Friday, December 3**: *Holiday Concert Dress Rehearsal, 1:00-5:00 pm, Bailey Performance Center*

**\*\*Saturday, December 4**: *Concert Performance #5, 2:00 pm, Bailey Performance Center  
Concert Performance #6, 8:00 pm, Bailey Performance Center*

**Week of December 13**

**\*\*Monday, December 13**: *Performance Evaluation Assignment Due By 11:59 pm*