



COLLEGE OF FINE ARTS  
Fred Fox School of Music

Arizona Symphony Orchestra

UA Philharmonic Orchestra

Thomas Cockrell, Director of Orchestral Activities

## UA PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA

Music 200-O / 400-O / 500-O, Section 2

Syllabus Fall 2016

Dr. Thomas Cockrell, Director of Orchestral Activities

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Office hours: Monday 12:30-1:30 and by appointment

### Riddle Endowment Graduate Assistants

András Derecskei Conductor, manager/librarian

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Juan Montoya Conductor, manager/librarian

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Office hours by appointment

The UA Philharmonic Orchestra is a laboratory course designed for the development of performers, educators and those non majors and community members seeking to nurture their musical performance at the collegiate level. Admission to the course and ensemble is by audition; only musicians who are prepared to commit practice time, energy, and focus to the ensemble will be admitted. Through this course the student will experience new repertoire, improve musicianship, and learn ensemble discipline in a collaborative setting. The goal of this organization, in rehearsal and performance, is to achieve the highest degree possible of learning and performance. It is the responsibility of the conductor and the performers to be prepared for each rehearsal. It is only through careful preparation that the goals of this organization can be accomplished. This course partially fulfills the ensemble requirement for degree programs within the Fred Fox School of Music.

Course objectives and expected learning outcomes, fully achieved over several semesters of enrollment:

1. The student will have mastered a variety of ensemble techniques leading to an ability to perform at a collegiate level in the orchestral setting.
2. The student will learn how 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.
3. The student will have gained insight into the physical and mental technique and discipline necessarily to continue improving musical technique and expression over time.
4. The student will have gained knowledge of the orchestral repertoire regularly performed in this ensemble and should have experienced a balanced cross section of that repertoire.
5. The student will have gained experience, musical maturity and comfort in a live performance setting.

Methods for assessing the expected outcomes

1. Evaluation of preparation and mastery of materials and methods in full rehearsals, sectional rehearsals and performances.
2. Self reflective tools and assignments.

Fall 2016 Performances 7:30 PM in Crowder Hall unless noted. Call time is 15 minutes before the concert. At his discretion the conductor may call a warm-up rehearsal no earlier than one hour before the performance.

Friday, October 7	András Dercsikei, conductor	Works of Schubert, Dvořák, Stravinsky
Friday, December 2	Juan Montoya, conductor	Works TBA

Rehearsals Tuesday and Thursday evenings, 7:30 sharp - 9:30 PM. Location: Room 232, School of Music. Dress rehearsals are the rehearsals previous to the concert. Required warm ups start at 6:00 before a concert. Often sectional rehearsals will be in other rooms in the FFSOM.

Master schedule

Please refer to the master calendar for 2016-17 which is posted on the UA Orchestras bulletin board and reflects the most up-to-date semester schedule which is subject to minor changes.

Concert dress

Women: floor-length dresses, black skirts or black pants, long-sleeved black blouses, black hose, black shoes. No décolletage, bare midriff, bare shoulders or low neck lines, distracting jewelry, flip-flops, etc.

Men: Black tuxedo (not tails or suit), white shirt, black bow tie, black socks and polished black shoes.

### Seating

Seating and part assignments are made on a concert-by-concert basis and are at the discretion of Dr. Cockrell and the conductors, sometimes in consultation with the studio faculty.

### Assessment and grading

The final semester grade is determined by several factors: **attendance, preparation, contribution, concentration and care for the orchestral materials.** All students begin the semester with an “A.” Each unexcused absence from a rehearsal will lower your grade by one letter. Two tardies are considered equal to one unexcused absence. Four unexcused absences may cause dismissal with an F. Missing a dress rehearsal will likely exclude the musician from being able to participate in the concert, at the discretion of the conductor and Dr. Cockrell. A missed concert will result in a failing grade for orchestra. Therefore, missing a dress rehearsal might also constitute a failing grade.

### Absence policy

The UA Philharmonic is a class-participation, performance-oriented course. It is expected that each member will attend all rehearsals and performances and master his/her individual parts.

Courtesy requires that the conductor/s for each concert be notified of all absences in advance. Only in this manner can an absence be considered excused. Last minute absences should be communicated in an email to the conductor before the rehearsal begins. Students who miss class due to illness or emergency are required to bring documentation from their healthcare provider or other relevant, professional third parties. Failure to submit third-party documentation will result in unexcused absences. Absence from dress rehearsals and concerts will result in a failing grade. Absences for reasons other than the above and frequent lateness will lower your grade.

If a student has a playing injury requiring rest from that day’s rehearsal, or if a student has an illness that will make playing impossible but does not require bed rest or absence from classes generally, the student is required to attend rehearsal as usual. In such circumstances the student may sit either in the orchestra or to the side having their part (or a practice part) in their hands, following rehearsal carefully and marking all issues discussed during rehearsal as usual. In this circumstance, no other work is to be done during this time, and the electronic device policy (below) still fully applies.

Additional absences will be approved in advanced only by Dr. Cockrell for significant family, educational and professional development opportunities (workshops, professional and graduate school auditions, etc.). Such events can be approved on occasion, with plenty of advance notice. Any of these events should be approved before the beginning of the semester. If you request an excused absence only a few days before the event takes place, it may not be possible to be excused at that time. A gig will never qualify for an excused absence.

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### Extracurricular commitments

Students are highly recommended not undertake contracts with outside performing organizations, gigs or other school, or commitments to fraternal or private activities which might conflict with UA Philharmonic obligations as determined at the beginning of the school year and each semester.

### Lateness policy

The professional habit of arriving early for rehearsal is expected of every musician. Lateness, absence and less than collegial demeanor are detrimental to the *esprit de corps* and the making of music together. Being late will have a negative effect on your grade. Attendance is taken at 7:30 PM (conductor's cell phone time). All musicians should be in their places and warmed up at least five minutes before the start of each rehearsal and after break which lasts only five minutes. Late arrival of more than fifteen (15) minutes will be considered an absence. If circumstances prevent you from honoring this policy fully, please let Dr. Cockrell and the conductor/s know your problem. If an unexpected tardy or absence occurs, it is your responsibility to see the conductor or otherwise your tardiness or absence will be considered unexcused.

### Documenting absence and lateness

It is the student's responsibility to request excuses, and document absences/lateness. Requests for excused absences must be made online using the **online absence request** form only:

[http://www.cfa.arizona.edu/symphony/Philharmonic/phil\\_absenceform.php](http://www.cfa.arizona.edu/symphony/Philharmonic/phil_absenceform.php)

You should make your request a minimum of one week ahead of time to request absence or lateness. Only the conductor can approve an excuse or an absence, and the likelihood of approval goes up considerably the earlier the request is made. If at all possible, please try to request absences occurring on a given concert cycle during the cycle previous.

### Musical preparation and professionalism

In order for the orchestra to function at its optimal level and maximize each student's experience, significant amounts of practice outside of rehearsal are necessary. Failure to prepare your music discourages other members of the ensemble. The conductor reserves the right to check on a one-to-one basis with any player whenever necessary, and/or to elect to replace an unprepared player before the scheduled performance. Such replacement/reseating will affect the replaced player's grade. It is expected that students arrive at rehearsals well prepared. Those obviously not prepared should not expect nor will receive the optimum grade and will be asked to play for the conductor or Dr. Cockrell privately in order to catch up.

If you appear to be unprepared for rehearsal, or appear to be in need of additional help, the conductor may ask you for a private hearing. The conductor reserves the right to schedule hearing times outside of rehearsal for all or some orchestra members or ask individual stands to play a given passage during rehearsals at any point during the semester.

Sectional rehearsals are scheduled to assist your assimilation of the music and its challenges. In order to assist some students to focus further their attention on specific difficulties in the repertoire, assignments with performance exams may be made at the conductor's discretion. After initial marking by the orchestral assistants and principals, the timely copying of bowings and changes are the responsibility of the players and section leaders. Students will be held to high standards of preparation, commitment and demeanor.

#### UA orchestral library and rental materials

Each member is assigned music and a folder or envelope. To preserve the orchestral library and expensive rental parts, **all music must be kept in this folder/envelope.** Members are responsible for all music until it is collected *in the folder* at the final performance of each program. Charges for missing or damaged parts and folders will be the responsibility of the player. You will be assessed the full amount, plus postage & handling fee for each piece of music that is damaged or lost from your folder. Rental music parts could be as high as \$100.00 a part. Should the folder or envelope itself be lost or damaged, you will be assessed a \$15.00 fee. Fees will be assessed for music that is lost or damaged due to excessive marking or mishandling. Please respect and care for these expensive orchestral materials.

#### Concentration, participation and distractions

The use of cell phones, laptops, tablets, etc. during rehearsal is a distraction to you, the conductor and your colleagues. They are to be turned off (not just silenced) and stowed away. There is a zero tolerance policy on the use of devices during any rehearsal, at any time, for any reason unless sanctioned by the conductor (e.g., following PDF score on a tablet, etc.). Likewise, newspapers and other reading materials may not be used during rehearsals. Some of the most important learning that can take place during these rehearsals is concentrating when you are not playing.

*Information contained in the course syllabus, other than the grade and absence policy, may be subject to change with advance notice, as deemed appropriate by the instructor.*

#### University of Arizona policies

- The UA policy concerning Class Attendance, Participation, and Administrative Drops is available at: <http://catalog.arizona.edu/2015-16/policies/classatten.htm>
- The UA policy regarding absences for any sincerely held religious belief, observance or practice will be accommodated where reasonable, <http://policy.arizona.edu/human-resources/religious-accommodation-policy>.
- Absences pre-approved by the UA Dean of Students (or Dean Designee) will be honored. See: <http://uhap.web.arizona.edu/policy/appointed-personnel/7.04.02>
- Students observed engaging in disruptive activity will be asked to cease this behavior. Those who continue to disrupt the class will be asked to leave lecture or discussion and may be reported to the Dean of Students.

- Threatening Behavior Policy The UA Threatening Behavior by Students Policy prohibits threats of physical harm to any member of the University community, including to one's self. See: <http://policy.arizona.edu/education-and-student-affairs/threatening-behavior-students>.
- Accessibility and Accommodations Our goal in this classroom is that learning experiences be as accessible as possible. If you anticipate or experience physical or academic barriers based on disability, please let me know immediately so that we can discuss options. You are also welcome to contact Disability Resources (520-621-3268) to establish reasonable accommodations. For additional information on Disability Resources and reasonable accommodations, please visit <http://drc.arizona.edu/>.
- Code of Academic Integrity Students are encouraged to share intellectual views and discuss freely the principles and applications of course materials. However, graded work/exercises must be the product of independent effort unless otherwise instructed. Students are expected to adhere to the UA Code of Academic Integrity as described in the UA General Catalog. See: <http://deanofstudents.arizona.edu/academic-integrity/students/academic-integrity>.
- UA Nondiscrimination and Anti-harassment Policy The University is committed to creating and maintaining an environment free of discrimination, <http://policy.arizona.edu/human-resources/nondiscrimination-and-anti-harassment-policy>.