Instructor: Dr. Fagner M. Rocha
Office: Room #293
Office Phone: (325) 486-6014
e-mail: frocha3@angelo.edu
Office hours: by appointment

Course Description:
Performance experience in a large ensemble. Students selected by audition or at the discretion of the instructor. This course fulfills the large ensemble requirement for music majors. Course may be repeated for credit.

Course Content:
Students will be exposed to orchestral literature from a variety of styles and periods. Students will perform one or two concerts each semester. Students will learn a variety of rehearsal techniques and procedures leading to a successful performance.

Course Objectives:
- Acquire skills in working with others as a member of a team
- Develop creative and critical thinking
- Concert performance of prepared music
- Learn rehearsal and concert protocols used by professional groups in the field

ATTENDANCE POLICY:
In order to nurture professional responsibility and expectations and to maintain quality standards with the ASU Symphony Orchestra, attendance and punctuality are required at all scheduled rehearsals and performances. Attendance will be taken at each rehearsal.

The musicians are asked to notify Dr. Rocha by email if an absence is the result of sickness, an unavoidable professional engagement conflict, or any emergency. Woodwinds, brass, and percussion are asked to try and find a substitute to cover the absence when possible. Within 48 hours of an absence for illness or a personal emergency, the musician must email an explanation stating the date of the absence and the circumstances in order for Dr. Rocha to consider an excused absence. He will notify the student in writing if the absence is not excused. Do not approach Dr. Rocha right before a rehearsal or a performance with a personal conflict. For
professional or personal unavoidable conflicts, please set up an appointment with Dr. Rocha at least two weeks in advance to discuss the conflict and receive approval. With the exception of unavoidable emergency situations, there will be no excused absences during the week of a concert. Do not put yourself in an uncomfortable position by accepting an engagement before acknowledging your responsibility to the ASU Symphony Orchestra.

Each unexcused absence will lower the semester grade by a full letter.

Unexcused absence of a dress rehearsal or performance will result in failure of the course.

For an excused absence for a religious holiday or an approved University trip, please discuss the absence with Dr. Rocha in advance.

Orchestra rehearsals are scheduled classes; please plan ahead and discuss conflicts with your professors and colleagues.

***Please check the official ASU Symphony schedule with your personal and professional calendar. If you have any unavoidable conflicts (academic, personal, or professional), please make an appointment to discuss the situation with Dr. Rocha as soon as possible in order to find a just compromise that will satisfy your performance responsibility and protect the integrity of the ASU Symphony Orchestra. As long as Dr. Rocha is aware of the problem, he will do everything possible to find a workable solution.

Tardy: You are considered tardy if you are not in your seat and prepared to rehearse by the tuning note. The musicians should be on stage a minimum of ten minutes before the tuning note at a performance. Unexcused tardiness to three rehearsals per semester will count as one unexcused absence. Please email Dr. Rocha with an explanation if the tardiness is to be considered excused.

With respect for the ASU Symphony, the music, and your colleagues, the use of cell phones or any electronic devices will not be allowed during rehearsals. Such unprofessional behavior will result in the lowering of the semester grade.

Orchestra Music: All musicians are expected to return music in a similar condition that it was distributed. Damaged or missing music is subject to replacement costs by the musician(s). Semester grade for the student will not be submitted until all music is returned to the ASU Symphony librarian.

COURSE EXPECTATIONS:

A. Individual technical and artistic preparation of the scheduled ASU Symphony repertoire, and appropriate improvement demonstrated throughout the term. The conductor reserves the right to request a "private hearing" of any student throughout the term in order to evaluate the student's appropriate preparation of the repertoire being studied and performed.
B. Demonstration of professional attitude, cooperation, effort, support, and productive involvement in the Orchestra program. Any orchestra is only as good as EACH musician in the ensemble!

**GRADES:**

Semester Grades will be determined by a qualitative assessment of the student’s performance progress, effort, attitude, and attendance throughout the semester. Students will be evaluated weekly in their rehearsals, sectionals, performances, and possible "private hearing" evaluation session. Students may certainly sign up for an appointment with Dr. Rocha at their convenience to discuss what kind of grade their current work merits.

**PERFORMANCE DRESS CODE:**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Men</th>
<th>Women</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tuxedo or dark suit.</td>
<td>Long (below knees) black concert dress or</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>White shirt and black bow tie</td>
<td>Blacks slacks with black blouse.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Black socks and dress shoes</td>
<td>Black formal shoes and solid black/brown</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>socks or stockings if worn.</td>
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**ORCHESTRAL SEATING:**

Participation in the ASU Symphony requires a Fall audition and possibly in the Spring for new members. Acceptance is based on the level of technical and artistic proficiency and the overall potential demonstrated in the audition.

For educational reasons, the ASU will use rotating seating for all sections throughout the year. The concertmaster, assistant, and associate principal string players will rotate within the front one or two stands. The conductor in collaboration with the applied faculty will assign individual parts for the woodwinds and brass, and the seating rotation for the strings. A principal player will be appointed in each section of the orchestra. Even though the principal player will not always be playing first chair, the responsibility of this position is one of leadership and organization within the section and communication between the conductor and the section members. Special auditions may be called for major solos in some repertoire. These auditions will be open to all members of the ASU Symphony.

**Academic Honesty:**

Angelo State University expects its students to maintain complete honesty and integrity in their academic pursuits. Students are responsible for understanding the Academic Honor Code, which is contained in both print and web versions of the Student Handbook. In essence, the willingness to cheat undermines our purpose at the university.

Plagiarism is, quite simply, turning in someone else’s language, paragraphs, ideas, or writing for
credit without adequately documenting your sources. Plagiarism includes letting your parents write your essay (even small portions) or turning in an essay from high school for credit in this class. To read more, check out the Center for Academic Integrity.

**University Course Withdrawal Policy:**

The last day to drop or totally withdraw from regular session courses and the University is **Wednesday, November 2, 2016.** Withdrawal grades will be indicated with W.

**Students with Disabilities:**

Angelo State University is committed to the principle that no qualified individual with a disability shall, on the basis of disability, be excluded from participation in or be denied the benefits of the services, programs, or activities of the university, or be subjected to discrimination by the university, as provided by the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA), the Americans with Disabilities Act Amendments Act of 2008 (ADAAA), and subsequent legislation. The Student Life Office is the designated campus department charged with the responsibility of reviewing and authorizing requests for reasonable accommodations based on a disability, and it is the student’s responsibility to initiate such a request by contacting the Student Life Office, Room 112 University Center, at (325) 942-2191 or (325) 942-2126 (TDD/FAX) or by e-mail at Student.Life@angelo.edu to begin the process.

**Official ASU Policy on Religious Holiday absence exemptions:**

1. “Religious holy day” means a holy day observed by a religion whose places of worship are exempt from property taxation under Texas Tax Code §11.20.

2. A student who intends to observe a religious holy day should make that intention known **in writing to the instructor prior to the absence.** A student who is absent from classes for the observance of a religious holy day shall be allowed to take an examination or complete an assignment scheduled for that day within a reasonable time after the absence.

3. A student who is excused under section 2 may not be penalized for the absence; however, the instructor may respond appropriately if the student fails to complete the assignment satisfactorily.
IMPORTANT DATES

**CONCERT 1** - Tuesday February 26 7:30 PM C. J. Davidson

* REPERTOIRE: Movie Music

**TRIP:** VDS Festival | April 12-13 Fredericksburg

*REPERTOIRE TBA

**CONCERT 2** - Saturday, April 27 San Angelo Performing Arts Center

*REPERTOIRE: Requiem for the Living by Dan Forrest

*Repertoire subject to change