



## **Sinfonietta Orchestra**

### **MULB 1805.505**

### **Spring Semester, 2026**

Louanne Greer, Music Education Teaching Fellow

[louannegreer@my.unt.edu](mailto:louannegreer@my.unt.edu)

[Louanne.Greer@unt.edu](mailto:Louanne.Greer@unt.edu)

Music Building, room 232

Office Hours: by appointment

#### **Course Content:**

The UNT Sinfonietta Orchestra is a laboratory course designed for the development of student musicians. This course is open to music majors and non-majors who play string instruments (violin, viola, cello, bass, or harp). 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.

#### **Course Purpose:**

This course partially fulfills the ensemble requirement for degree programs within the College of Music. This course may also partially fulfill an elective credit for non-music major degree plans. Please check with your department advisor for more information about your degree requirements.

#### **Course Mission:**

Students will help to develop the mission for this new ensemble during the first class.

#### **Expected Outcomes:**

1. Students will have learn a variety of ensemble techniques leading to an ability to perform at a high level in the orchestral setting.
2. Students will learn how to listen and respond to musical issues such as balance, color, articulation, style, intonation, intensity, etc., in an ensemble setting.
3. Students will gain insight into the physical and mental technique and discipline necessary to continue improving musical technique and expression over time.
4. Students will learn how to have a voice and agency in a musical ensemble environment.
5. Student will improve musical expression, musical maturity, and comfort in a live performance setting.
6. Student will learn about the relationship between the theory and history of music and the performance thereof.
7. Students will make connections between movement, emotions, and musical expression.
8. Students will gain an understanding of the pedagogical process for teaching orchestra in an ensemble setting.

#### **Procedures:**

- Students will set up their own chairs and stands for rehearsal and will stack and rack at the end of class.
- All students are expected to be unpacked, set up, and in their seats by the start of class, on Tuesday, 4:00, on Thursday, 4:30.
- Tuning will begin promptly at the beginning of class.
- The concert master will provide an A.
- We will tune individually and check as a group, as needed. Please do not talk during the tuning process.
- Warm-ups and technical exercises will follow tuning each rehearsal.
- Check the Canvas syllabus tab for weekly rehearsal schedule so that you can attend rehearsal prepared.
- CELL PHONES should be turned off and put away. They are not acceptable in rehearsal.

### Grading Criteria:

\*Attendance      \*Performance      \*Playing tests and Improvement      \*Professionalism

- Attendance: Musicians are expected to attend EVERY rehearsal and EVERY performance. All members of the ensemble are important and valuable. Unexcused absences may result in lowered grades by a letter. Communication is key. Make sure that you are communicating absences ahead of time for approval to avoid reduction of points. (See attendance section below)
- This class is designed to teach you performance skills. The performances are a critical part of the learning, and as such will be a large portion of your grade. There is not an authentic way to make up a performance if you miss it.
- There will be playing tests during the semester. These will be recorded and submitted on Canvas. Please use Canvas's recording studio or upload a link to a YouTube video for me. These are the only acceptable ways to turn in your test. Incremental improvement is expected throughout the semester. If you are practicing regularly, this will happen.
- Professionalism – be on time, keep your phone put away, know your part before rehearsal, listen actively and pay attention to other parts, think about musical expression and phrasing, and be an active member of the process. Be respectful of the group and its members. Rehearsal is where we learn each other's parts and should not be time for sight reading or individual practice. Listen to and learn the music outside of rehearsal.

### Rehearsal Times and Locations:

Tuesday 4:00-5:50 PM Music Building Room 232

Thursday 4:30-6:20 PM Music Building Room 232

### Rehearsal Schedule:

Rehearsal schedules for the week (and sometimes beyond) are posted in Canvas. My goal is to post each Friday for the following week. *It is the responsibility of all students to check this schedule regularly for important information, as well as updates and changes to the schedule.*

**All students are expected to be on time and ready to play at the beginning of class.**

### Music:

You will receive a black folder for keeping music. One copy of the music will be provided, and musicians are expected to keep up with their music. If you lose your music, you are responsible for printing a new copy and making sure it has all the necessary markings from previous rehearsals. ALL musicians are expected to bring their music to EVERY rehearsal. Do not rely on your stand partner to bring music. Extra copies of music will NOT be available during class.

All original music will be collected at the end of the concert cycle. **Fees will be assessed for music that is lost or damaged due to excessive marking or mishandling. A grade of "incomplete" will be registered for any student whose music or folder is damaged or not returned.**

### Concert Dress:

The purpose of a dress code is to provide a professional atmosphere for our orchestra members and to present a professional and respectable image to our faculty, patrons, and community. All musicians are expected to wear CONCERT BLACK. Please see Canvas and page 3 of this document for guidelines on concert black.

### Attendance:

- Attendance at all concerts and rehearsals is required of all designated personnel unless specifically notified otherwise in writing. This includes service project performances.
- All issues regarding absences are to be handled through Ms. Greer, who will decide if the absence is excused or unexcused and how to proceed.
- Absences from **either of the last two rehearsals of any concert cycle (marked as dress rehearsals)** are not permitted under any circumstances. An unexcused absence from such a rehearsal, or a concert, may result in dismissal from the ensemble and/or a failing grade.
- **Any** absence not requested and approved in advance is considered an unexcused absence. Unexcused absences will result in (1) the grade being lowered one letter grade for each unexcused absence and/or (2) potential dismissal from the ensemble and a failing grade.

- Make up or other re-scheduled **applied lessons** scheduled by the instructor and/or student during ensemble rehearsals **will not be excused** either as pre-arranged absence or after the fact. Applied lessons should never be scheduled during ensemble rehearsals.
- Regular attendance is expected at all rehearsals and concerts, **including those that may directly precede a vacation or other school break**. Absence on such dates will **not** be excused.
- **Students are graded not only on attendance, but primarily on preparation of music and improvement as ensemble musicians.**
- **Excused absences.** The schedule for the term is provided on below. Students are responsible for being aware of all dates listed as course responsibilities. Potential conflicts with rehearsals or concert dates should be reported by filling out the Excused Absence Request Form *as soon as they are known*. You can find this form on the Canvas home page or at [ABSENCE FORM](#). **This form should be filled out in its entirety! Ms. Greer will then approve, or not approve, the absence, and the form will be quickly returned to the student via email. Excused absence forms must be filled out for all absence situations.**

## UNT SINFONIETTA ORCHESTRA REHEARSAL SCHEDULE

### SPRING, 2026 Rehearsal & Performance Schedule

[Schedule subject to change] Please check Canvas each week to be sure you know what you are expected to prepare.

|          | TUESDAY - 4:00-5:50 PM |                                 | THURSDAY - 4:30-6:20 PM |                                  |
|----------|------------------------|---------------------------------|-------------------------|----------------------------------|
| January  | 13                     | Syllabus/assign parts/rehearsal | 15                      | Rehearsal                        |
|          | 20                     | Rehearsal                       | 22                      | Rehearsal                        |
|          | 27                     | Rehearsal                       | 29                      | Rehearsal                        |
| February | 3                      | Rehearsal                       | 5                       | Rehearsal                        |
|          | 10                     | Rehearsal                       | 12                      | TMEA (No rehearsal)              |
|          | 17                     | Rehearsal                       | 19                      | Rehearsal                        |
|          | 24                     | Rehearsal                       | 26                      | Rehearsal                        |
| March    | 3                      | Rehearsal/Midsemester check-in  | 5                       | Rehearsal                        |
|          | 10                     | SPRING BREAK                    | 12                      | SPRING BREAK                     |
|          | 17                     | Rehearsal                       | 19                      | Rehearsal                        |
|          | 24                     | Rehearsal                       | 23                      | Rehearsal                        |
| April    | 31                     | Rehearsal                       | APRIL 2                 | Rehearsal                        |
|          | 7                      | Rehearsal                       | 9                       | Rehearsal                        |
|          | 14                     | DRESS REHEARSAL 1               | 16                      | DRESS REHEARSAL 2                |
|          | 21                     | CONCERT                         | 23                      | Reflection/End of year gathering |
|          | 28                     | no rehearsal                    | 30                      | No rehearsal                     |
| May      | 4-8                    | FINAL EXAM WEEK                 |                         |                                  |

### \*April 21 – Concert in Voertman Hall at 8:00\*

Call time is 7:45 – This means tuned and in your seat on stage at 7:45. We will tune at 7:55 for a 8:00 concert start.

## A Guide to “Concert Black”

### What is Concert Black?

Completely black formal/semi-formal attire. The intention is not to remove all individuality, but to avoid anything that will visually detract from the musical performance.

**Audience members see you before they hear you.**

Musicians may choose from the following:

1. Top
  - a. Solid black dress shirt (collar, button-down, long or half sleeves), sweater, or blouse. **Must cover midribs/backs/shoulders and undergarments.**  
**Note: If wearing an undershirt, it must also be black.**
2. Bottom
  - a. Black dress pants or skirt (knee length or longer).
3. One piece
  - a. Dress (knee-length or longer, accompanied with opaque black tights or hose).

- b. Jumpsuit.  
**Note:** If your dress or jumpsuit has short sleeves, pair it with a blazer or sweater.
4. Footwear
  - a. Black dress shoes.  
**Note:** Heels are optional but not *recommended*.
  - b. Black socks or stockings (minimally calf-height).
5. Accessories
  - a. Black belts (not dark brown).
  - b. Small jewelry (that *will not make noise* when moving).  
**Note:** Avoid bright colored pieces or anything that may detract attention.

What is **NOT** Concert Black? Examples and outfit inspiration can be found on Canvas.

- “Mostly” black with white stripes, polka dots, etc.
- Outfits with glitter, sequins, and otherwise shiny material (like leather pants/leggings)
- Faded black (you will be under stage lights - this *will* stand out)
- Jeans, sweats, yoga pants, skirts above the knee, shorts
- Little black dress
- Polos, t-shirts, non-formal tank tops, cold shoulder, off the shoulder, or spaghetti straps
- Flip-flops, sandals, sneakers, or open-toed shoes
- White socks, **ankle socks**, colorful socks, or bare feet

### **University Required Syllabus Statements**

#### **Use of Generative AI (GenAI)**

In this course, I want you to engage deeply with the materials and develop your own critical thinking and writing skills. For this reason, the use of Generative AI (GenAI) tools like [insert tool(s) here, e.g., Claude, ChatGPT, and Gemini] is not permitted. While these tools can be helpful in some contexts, they do not align with our goal of fostering the development of your independent thinking. Using GenAI to complete any part of an assignment, exam, or coursework will be considered a violation of academic integrity, as it prevents the development of your own skills, and will be addressed according to the Student Academic Integrity policy.

#### **DEFIBRILLATORS IN THE COLLEGE OF MUSIC**

- Music Building: Across from the west side of the Music Commons, directly across from the elevator
- Music Building: Third floor hallway, across from the staircase that comes up from the Copy Room. Next to Room 322
- Music Building: Across from the Copy Room next to Room 293
- Music Building: Voertman Lobby by the big double set of doors that lead out to the courtyard
- Music Building: Main Office (247) under the student worker’s desk
- Music Annex: Next to room MA117, near the triple set of doors on the east side of the building
- Music Practice Building North: First floor on the Avenue C side
- Music Practice Building South: First floor on the Avenue C side
- Bain Hall: First floor by the restrooms
- Murchison Performing Arts Center: Located off the main lobby, beyond the grand staircase, across from the single occupancy restroom (next to the public water fountains)

#### **ACADEMIC INTEGRITY**

Students caught cheating or plagiarizing will receive a “0” for that particular assignment or exam [or specify alternative sanction, such as course failure]. Additionally, the incident will be reported to the Dean of Students (Office of Academic Integrity), who may impose further penalty. According to the UNT catalog, the term “cheating” includes, but is not limited to: a. use of any unauthorized assistance in taking quizzes, tests, or examinations; b. dependence upon the aid of sources beyond those authorized by the instructor in writing papers, preparing reports, solving problems, or carrying out other assignments; c. the acquisition, without permission, of tests or other academic material belonging to a faculty or staff member of the university; d. dual submission of a paper or project, or resubmission of a paper or project to a different class without express permission from the instructor(s); or e. any other act designed to give a student an unfair advantage. The term “plagiarism” includes, but is not limited to: a. the knowing or negligent use by paraphrase or direct quotation of the published or unpublished work of another person without full and clear acknowledgment; and b. the knowing or negligent unacknowledged use of materials prepared by another person or agency engaged in the selling of term papers or other academic materials.

See: [Academic Integrity](#)

LINK: <https://policy.unt.edu/policy/06-003>

#### **STUDENT BEHAVIOR**

Student behavior that interferes with an instructor’s ability to conduct a class or other students’ opportunity to learn is unacceptable and disruptive and will not be tolerated in any instructional forum at UNT. Students engaging in unacceptable behavior will be directed to leave the classroom and the instructor may refer the student to the Dean of Students to consider whether the student’s conduct violated the Code of Student Conduct. The university’s expectations for student conduct apply to all instructional forums, including university and electronic classrooms, labs, discussion groups, field trips, etc.

See: [Student Code of Conduct](#)

Link: <https://deanofstudents.unt.edu/conduct>

### **ACCESS TO INFORMATION – EAGLE CONNECT**

Your access point for business and academic services at UNT occurs at [my.unt.edu](http://my.unt.edu). All official communication from the university will be delivered to your Eagle Connect account. For more information, please visit the website that explains Eagle Connect.

See: [Eagle Connect](#)

LINK: [eagleconnect.unt.edu/](http://eagleconnect.unt.edu/)

### **ODA STATEMENT**

The University of North Texas makes reasonable academic accommodation for students with disabilities. Students seeking accommodation must first register with the Office of Disability Access (ODA) to verify their eligibility. If a disability is verified, the ODA will provide you with an accommodation letter. You can now request your Letters of Accommodation ONLINE and ODA will mail your Letters of Accommodation to your instructors. You may wish to begin a private discussion with your professors regarding your specific needs in a course. Note that students must obtain a new letter of accommodation for every semester. For additional information see the Office of Disability Access.

See: [ODA](#)

LINK: [disability.unt.edu](http://disability.unt.edu). (Phone: (940) 565-4323)

### **Health and Safety Information**

Students can access information about health and safety at: <https://music.unt.edu/student-health-and-wellness>

### **Registration Information for Students**

See: [Spring Academic Calendar Information](#)

Link: <https://registrar.unt.edu/registration/spring-academic-calendar.html>

### **Semester Calendar, Spring 2026**

See: [Spring Semester Calendar](#)

Link: <https://registrar.unt.edu/sites/default/files/spring-2026-academic-calendar.pdf>

### **Final Exam Schedule, Spring 2026**

Link: <https://registrar.unt.edu/sites/default/files/final-exam-schedule-spring-2026-main.pdf>

### **Financial Aid and Satisfactory Academic Progress**

#### Undergraduates

A student must maintain Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) to continue to receive financial aid. Students must maintain a minimum 2.0 cumulative GPA in addition to successfully completing a required number of credit hours based on total hours registered. Students cannot exceed attempted credit hours above 150% of their required degree plan. If a student does not maintain the required standards, the student may lose their financial aid eligibility.

Students holding music scholarships must maintain a minimum 2.5 overall cumulative GPA and 3.0 cumulative GPA in music courses.

If at any point you consider dropping this or any other course, please be advised that the decision to do so may have the potential to affect your current and future financial aid eligibility. It is recommended that you to schedule a meeting with an academic advisor in your college or visit the Student Financial Aid and Scholarships office to discuss dropping a course before doing so.

See: [Financial Aid](#)

LINK: <http://financialaid.unt.edu/sap>

#### Graduates

A student must maintain Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) to continue to receive financial aid. Students must maintain a minimum 3.0 cumulative GPA in addition to successfully completing a required number of credit hours based on total registered hours per term. Music scholarships require a 3.5 cumulative GPA. Students cannot exceed maximum timeframes established based on the published length of the graduate program. If a student does not maintain the required standards, the student may lose their financial aid eligibility.

If at any point you consider dropping this or any other course, please be advised that the decision to do so may have the potential to affect your current and future financial aid eligibility. It is recommended you schedule a meeting with an academic advisor in your college, an advisor in UNT-International or visit the Student Financial Aid and Scholarships office to discuss dropping a course.

See: [Financial Aid](#)

LINK: <http://financialaid.unt.edu/sap>

### **RETENTION OF STUDENT RECORDS**

Student records pertaining to this course are maintained in a secure location by the instructor of record. All records such as exams, answer sheets (with keys), and written papers submitted during the duration of the course are kept for at least one calendar year after course completion. Course work completed via the Canvas online system, including grading information and comments, is also stored in a safe electronic environment for one year. You have a right to view your individual record; however, information about your records will not be divulged to other individuals without the proper written consent. You are encouraged to review the Public Information Policy and the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) laws and the university's policy in accordance with those mandates.

See: [FERPA](#)

Link: <http://ferpa.unt.edu/>

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### **COUNSELING AND TESTING**

UNT's Center for Counseling and Testing has an available counselor for students in need. Please visit the Center's website for further information:

See: [Counseling and Testing](#)

Link: <http://studentaffairs.unt.edu/counseling-and-testing-services>.

For more information on mental health resources, please visit:

See: [Mental Health Resources](#)

Link: <https://disparities.unt.edu/mental-health-resources>

### **ADD/DROP POLICY**

Please be reminded that dropping classes or failing to complete and pass registered hours may make you ineligible for financial aid. In addition, if you drop below half-time enrollment, you may be required to begin paying back your student loans. See Academic Calendar (listed above) for additional add/drop Information.

Drop Information: <https://registrar.unt.edu/registration/spring-academic-calendar.html>

### **STUDENT RESOURCES**

The University of North Texas has many resources available to students. For a complete list, go to:

See: [Student Resources](#)

Link: <https://success.unt.edu/aa-sa-resources>

### **CARE TEAM**

The Care Team is a collaborative interdisciplinary committee of university officials that meets regularly to provide a response to student, staff, and faculty whose behavior could be harmful to themselves or others.

See: [Care Team](#)

Link: <https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/care-team>