

Harp Excerpt Class

MULB 1805-502

1 Credit Hour / Spring 2026

MU274 (Harp Studio)

Instructor	Victoria Gonzalez
E-mail	VictoriaGonzalez@my.unt.edu
E-mail	520-349-0048
Office	Bain Hall 116 / MU274
Office Hours	By appointment

Course Objectives

This course aims to supplement a portion of MULB ensemble work to develop well-rounded knowledge and experience working with orchestral, ballet, and opera excerpts. Performance activities include both recorded and live performances structured similarly to martial arts ranks. Students must demonstrate proficiency in their current level before proceeding to the next.

By the end of the course, students will:

- Have a collection of excerpt recordings to use for auditions and reference
- Develop stronger understandings of common orchestra, ballet, and opera excerpts
- Better understand the process of informed practice and preparation for an audition setting

Co-Requisites

Harpists enrolled in this class must also participate in UNT large ensembles. This course encompasses BOTH regular MULB ensemble work and excerpt class.

Required Materials

- *Principal Harp Book 1: A Guidebook for the Orchestral Harpist, Revised Edition, 2009* by Sarah Bullen
- *Principal Harp Book 2: A Guidebook for the Orchestral Harpist* by Sarah Bullen
- Optional Materials:
 - o *The Orchestral Harpist* by Sarah Bullen
 - o *Nutcracker Ballet Combined Harp Part*, edited by Kathy Bundock Moore

Grading Criteria

For any late work/performances, a 10% deduction will be applied.

Non-Final Recordings will be graded as Complete/Incomplete, and will have multiple reviews/attempts until a pass for final recording occurs.

Final Recordings may only be submitted after approval by the teaching fellow. The non-final recording must be polished and without errors in order to reach the final recording stage.

5%	Semester Plan
10%	Engagement and Participation
25%	Recordings
30%	Final Recordings
30%	Live Performances (at least 2 per semester)

Letter Grades:

A	90-100%
B	80-89%
C	70-79%
D	60-69%
F	Below 60%

Feedback on submitted assignments will be returned in a timely manner (usually within 1-2 weeks). For weeks with harp ensemble performances and similar circumstances, feedback may be delayed.

Attendance Policy

To maximize your learning, come to class and complete assignments on time. This shows respect for your classmates' and professors' time and effort.

If you know you will be late or miss class due to illness or family emergency, please notify the instructor at least 24 hours in advance. Any notifications less than 24 hours in advance will be excused at the instructor's discretion and will otherwise count as an absence/late submission.

Practice Expectations and Participation

It is not easy or helpful to “cram” the night before/day of. Consistent practice is much more effective. Structure practice like you are truly preparing for an audition with recording submissions for the first round.

The more you listen to and study large ensemble pieces featuring harp, the more comfortable and confident you will be with auditions and performances. Come to class knowledgeable about the composer, the piece’s background and significance, the orchestration, and other relevant details. When practicing excerpts and cadenzas, familiarize yourself with performances of the excerpt: what is its context in the piece? What “instrument” does the harp need to sound like (e.g. a pizzicato violin or double bass?)

Practice performances are helpful for any performance. The goal is to have 10 practice performances before your “final” performance!

Recording Expectations

Recordings are less formal recordings (of which there are 3-6, depending on each student and their level) that are individually recorded throughout the semester.

These may be recorded in informal spaces, such as a practice room **BUT** still need clear visibility of hands, etc. You do not need strict professional dress for these; however, avoiding casual clothes is encouraged. Although these are not as formal, a high level of artistry, professionalism, and performance is still expected and factored into the grade.

These recordings may have multiple attempts, but the TF determines when an excerpt is ready for a final recording submission. DO NOT move on to a final recording submission without clearance from the TF!

Final Recordings (of which there are 3) are individually recorded throughout the semester with professional equipment with the intent of being usable for audition submissions. These recordings **must be recorded either in the UNT recording studio or with microphones. Professional dress code will be enforced for these recordings, and hands, faces, and feet must be visible in the recording.** Recording in a hall/formal space is required. If you face difficulty finding a space, please reach out to the TF. Students must use a space other than the practice room for official recordings. The goal of these recordings is to provide students with material to submit for festivals and auditions if needed, to provide a reference for future work with the excerpts, and to familiarize students with the recording process.

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.

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.

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. 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.

LINK: 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.

LINK: 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: Registration Information Link:

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

Academic Calendar, Spring 2026

See: Spring 2026 Registration Information Link:

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

Final Exam Schedule, Spring 2026

See above

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 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.

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.

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.

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

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:

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

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/fall-academic-calendar.html>

Student Resources

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

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.

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