

MUEN 2621/5621.504 Chinese Ensemble at UNT - Course Syllabus

DESCRIPTION, EXPECTATIONS & REQUIRED MATERIALS: Spring 2026

Course Code: MUEN 2621/5621.504

Instructor: Dr. Yuxin Mei

Email: yuxin.mei@unt.edu

Office: TBD

Office Hour: By Appointment

Course Description

This Course is an applied study of the Chinese music tradition principally through performance with some additional supplementary lecture material.

Course Expectations

It is the expectation that at the end of this course, each student will:

- Understand basic concepts framing Chinese cultural expressions
- Gain experience performing Chinese music from an informed social-cultural perspective
- Possess a basic knowledge of Chinese performance practice both as an individual instrumentalist and as part of an ensemble
- Possess a basic technical knowledge of your instrument
- Possess a basic knowledge of performance techniques for Chinese traditional ensembles: *Jiang Nan Si Zhu*, *Cantonese Ensemble*, and Contemporary Chinese Ensemble Styles
- Develop a facility with learning and playing music by ear and the use of Chinese notation systems
- Perform all music repertoire for the semester

Disclaimer: The instructor reserves the right to make changes to the class schedule. Any alterations will be announced in class, in Canvas, or via email by the instructor. Students who do not check Canvas or their email assume full responsibility for missing alterations to the course.

Performance Technique Training and 2026 Spring–10th Anniversary– Concert Program (Tentative)

1. Golden Snake
2. Dance of the *Yao* People
3. Sheng solo (Tajik or new piece)
4. Rolling Walnuts
5. White Snow and Sunny Spring/Deep Dark Night
6. Hong Yan & Sai Ma
7. Galloping Horses
8. Flaying Dragon, Leaping Tiger

This concert program is crafted to:

- Refine and elevate performance techniques,
- Explore the musical styles and nuanced performances characteristic of the *Jiangnan Si Zhu* ensemble and Cantonese Ensemble traditions,
- Deepen the understanding of the aesthetic principles regarding imagery and the artistic depiction of nature inherent in traditional Chinese culture.

STUDENT EVALUATION

Each student will be evaluated on the following criteria:

Class Attendance	60 points (5 points per class meeting, ×12 total) Two unexcused absences will result in automatic withdrawal from the course.
Off-Campus Events	15 points (5 points per event, x 3 total)
Final Evaluation	15 points
Ensemble Participation	10 points (Instructor discretion based on demonstrated commitment to rehearsals and performances)

100 points Total Possible (100-90=A, 89-80=B, 79-70=C, 69-60=D, 59-Below=F)

Grading: University criteria is as follows:

A = Excellent work B = Good Work C = Fair Work D = Passing Work F = Failure

Attendance

Each student begins with 60 points at the start of the semester. For every absence from class, 5 points will be deducted. Tardiness to class beyond 15 minutes will constitute an

absence. Arriving more than 15 minutes late to class is considered an absence. An absence may be excused for the following reasons:

- University Sanction Event (i.e., concert recital, class activity, etc.) Prior
- Notice via email (must receive an email stating your absence)
- Illness with prior notice (again via email)
- Discretion of instructor
- ❖ **Statement that students should not schedule their end-of-semester jury against a regularly scheduled class**

Additional Performance

UNT Chinese Ensemble performs for various events on and off campus throughout the semester. Each member of the ensemble is obligated to attend all performances. This includes making attempts to accommodate your schedule when a performance arises. If you have a scheduling conflict, then it is your obligation to work with the instructor to find a way for you to attend the performance. Otherwise, it will impact your grade or cause you to drop this class.

UNT Chinese Ensemble 2026 Spring Performance Schedule

Date	Time	Venue	Performance Type
2/14	4-8 pm	McKinney High School	Chinese New Year Celebration, Dallas Henan People Association (Trot, Flying Dragon)
2/25	9:35-9:55 am	St. Marks School	Chinese New Year Celebration
5/9	TBD	Dallas	Dallas City Hall, 20 minutes performance

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. 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/

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. (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

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 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/>

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>