

## Music 316.12 • Ensemble Masterclass

Providence College

Mondays 7:00-9:00, one Wednesday & two Thursdays! 1 Credit hour Fall 2010

Instructor: Dr. Karen Sunabacka & Dr. Henry Schellenberg

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Office Hours: Mon. 8:30-9:45 & 2-3:15, Tues.  
8:30-11:05, Thurs. 9:50-11:05.

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## Syllabus

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### A. Course Description

The Ensemble Masterclass is a chance for students to perform the music that they are preparing in their ensembles. It is a practical class intended to improve your performance skills regardless of ensemble type or musical genre. The class times will consist of discussions relating to performance practice along with performances by different ensembles represented by the students in the class. Topics of discussion will include; the different “unspoken” rules relating to performance, the different performance practices of different musical genres (for example the different between performances of jazz bands, worship bands, and classical ensembles), and ways to deal with nervousness when performing.

### B. Course Objectives

During the course, the students will perform at least once during class time. After this performance they will receive comments from other students and the instructor. They will learn to perform in different settings and to thoughtfully present their music to others.

### C. Course Materials

Paper and pencil(s)

Yourself, your instrument and your ensemble (when you are performing)

### D. Grading Summary

Attendance	55%
Preparation	25%
Recital perf. (Soundbites)	10 %
Concert perf. (Manytones)	10 %

### Numerical Grade Equivalents

A+= 97-100	B+= 87-89	C+= 77-79	D+= 65-69	F = 0-54
A = 93-96	B = 83-86	C = 73-76	D = 60-64	
A- = 90-92	B-= 80-82	C- = 70-72	D- = 55-59	

## **E. Course Requirements**

### **Attendance**

This is a practical course and so it requires your attendance. A group can not perform properly when someone is missing. A group can not perform properly when there is no audience. Attendance is worth 55% of your grade. Respect your fellow students and be at class even when you are not performing.

### **Preparation**

I expect everyone to be prepared for their performance. It should be like a “real” performance and it will feel like one. We all come with different musical abilities and in order to improve, we all need to work on our own parts.

### **Recital & Concert Performance**

Each group will be expected to perform in at least two Providence Music Department performances – one during a *Soundbites* recital and the other during a *Manytones* concert. Each one of these (open to the public!) performance experiences are worth 10% of your grade. It is the perfect way to learn about your performance abilities. We will record these performances and discuss them in the following class. Each student will be given a chance to discuss these performances in class. See below for information about Performance opportunities at Providence.

## **F. Course Policies**

### **Class participation and Attendance**

I expect each student to be prepared to participate in each and every class. This means that all practicing should be completed BEFORE class begins. This is a performance class as well as a class where performance will be discussed. You need to be present to perform and to discuss performance issues! Attendance is worth 55% of your grade. If you miss more than **three** classes or even one of your performances, your grade WILL be affected.

If you are ill, please inform Karen Sunabacka (via email or phone) of your absence **BEFORE** the class begins. Please identify yourself (name and class) when doing so.

### **Performance Dates:**

*Soundbites:* These recitals occur on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 2:45-3:15 (after chapel) in the Recital Hall. If a Tuesday or Thursday is available it can be booked (talk to Dr. Sunabacka). The following are dates that are available for sign-up Oct. 19, 26 & 28, Nov. 2, 4, 9, 16, 18, 25 & 30, Dec. 2, 7 & 9.

*Manytones:* These concerts occur in the evening from 7:00-9:00 in the College Chapel or Student Life Centre. These are publicized in advance and cannot be changed. The Fall 2010 Manytones ensemble concert is on Wednesday November 24<sup>th</sup>.

**PLEASE NOTE:** The Voluntary Withdrawal date is **NOVEMBER 12<sup>th</sup>, 2010**. (This is the last day to withdraw from the course without academic penalty.)

## Weekly Ensemble Masterclass Schedule

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Week 1 - Monday Sept. 13

Introductions, Syllabus & Organization

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Week 2 - Monday Sept. 20

What are good practicing habits?

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Week 3 - Monday Sept. 27

Practice in Chapel with Bösendorfer - Group: \_\_\_\_\_

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Week 4 - Monday Oct. 4 - Solo Masterclass

Students of Darryl Friesen must perform

Others?: \_\_\_\_\_

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Week 5 - Monday Oct. 11

**NO Class - Thanksgiving Break**

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Week 7 - Monday Oct. 18

Ensemble Performances - Group(s): \_\_\_\_\_

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Week 6 - Monday Oct. 25

Video class - watch performances from Oct. 4<sup>th</sup>, 18<sup>th</sup> and other Videos!

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Week 8 - Monday Nov. 1 - Solo Masterclass

Students of Darryl Friesen must perform

Others?: \_\_\_\_\_

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Week 9 - Monday Nov. 8

Ensemble Performances - Group(s): \_\_\_\_\_

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**Week 10 - Thursday Nov. 18**

FINAL Masterclass Performance - Jazz Band

Once Lost & Aslan's Child

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Week 11 - Monday Nov. 22

7:00-8:30 - Instrumentalists rehearse with choir for Festival of Christmas Praise.

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**Week 11 - Wednesday Nov. 24**

**7:00 CONCERT - Manytones - ALL small groups Perform**

Invite Friends and Family!

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**Week 11 - Thursday Nov. 25**

**7:30 CONCERT - Manytones - Visiting Group *The Land***

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Week 12 - Monday Nov. 29

7:00-8:30 Instrumentalists rehearsal with choir for Festival of Christmas Praise

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Week 13 - Monday Dec. 6 - Solo Masterclass - All play solo jury program

Final meeting with performances, Videos, discussion and evaluations.

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