2020 Orchestral Ensembles Code of Conduct

Dear Student,

Thank you for your expression of interest in the University of Melbourne Orchestral Ensembles subject. Should you be successful in gaining a place, this document explains the conditions of acceptance for this position.

The Melbourne Conservatorium of Music (MCM) has four performing groups within the Orchestral Ensemble subject:

- University of Melbourne Symphony Orchestra
- University of Melbourne Wind Symphony
- MCM Philharmonic Orchestra
- MCM Concert Band.

The University of Melbourne Symphony Orchestra and Wind Symphony take priority over all other orchestral ensembles. Students who play an orchestral instrument (wind, strings, brass, percussion) and wish to enrol or participate in any of the four ensembles above are required to audition.

Auditions for all ensembles are usually held in February, after which students will be rostered on merit.

At the completion of the audition process, students will be placed by staff in up to two ensembles. Once rostered there is no flexibility for negotiating a change without the consent of the Head of Instrumental Area and the ensemble conductor. You will be asked to provide your order of ensemble preference (students can offer to play in more than two ensembles and many students do). If a student is asked (or chooses) to play in additional ensembles, it is understood that their combined rehearsal/performance times will not exceed 100 hours, per semester, without that student’s consent.

All Orchestral Ensemble students must comply with the following Code of Conduct:

- Students must commit to attend all projects, including 100% punctual attendance of rehearsals and performances for each program as outlined in the accompanying schedules.

- Students must thoroughly prepare assigned parts prior to all rehearsals. This includes listening to various recordings of each work (where available).

- Adhere to the fundamental tenets of professionalism including, but not limited to, punctuality, respect and camaraderie; as a participating musician who strives towards achieving the highest collective artistic standards possible.

- Strongly restrict personal use of mobile phones and other non-essential equipment that may distract those around you.
• Fully commit to participating in an ensemble, including declining external music engagements or extracurricular activities that may prevent you from honouring this agreement. Examples can include:
  o Leaving the ensemble for professional reasons (i.e work)
  o Unexcused absences.
  o Accepting work outside the MCM that clashes with Orchestral Ensembles rehearsals.

• Respond in a timely manner when contacted and take direction from staff.

• Be prepared to accept any reasonable request made of you during the course of the semester. For example, selected students may be required to participate in an event by another ensemble i.e Symphony Orchestra tour, the Honours Composers reading workshop, wind ensemble concert or any special orchestral projects that may arise.

• If accepted into the subject, you must ensure you are enrolled correctly and comply with all subject requirements as listed in The University of Melbourne Handbook. Please note that, after the audition process, not all applicants will be rostered into an ensemble. This might be because of over-subscription of a particular instrumental section or due to a lower than acceptable standard. In either case, applicants cannot participate in the Orchestral Ensembles subject and must un-enrol (and choose a suitable alternative) otherwise an automatic fail will be issued at the end of semester.

• Comply with the Performances Dress Code.

• Permit your performance to be filmed, recorded and/or photographed, including streaming of performances on the internet or in promotional materials for the University, Faculty or MCM.

• Commit fully to the aforementioned conditions and act responsibly and in accordance with UoM Policies:
  o Student Conduct Policy: https://policy.unimelb.edu.au/MPF1324
  o Assessment and Results Policy: https://policy.unimelb.edu.au/MPF1326
  o Enrolment and Timetabling Policy: https://policy.unimelb.edu.au/MPF1294

**NOT-FOR-CREDIT PARTICIPATION**

Students wishing to participate not-for-credit must understand that the Orchestral Ensembles Code of Conduct - expectations regarding attendance, practice, time commitment and audition procedure - hold the same as if one is enrolled in the subject (including a minimum standard of AMEB grade 8 or very high grade for VCE solo performance). If a student commits to participate in Orchestral Ensembles in a not-for-credit capacity and does not fulfil all expectations as stated in the Orchestral Ensembles Code of Conduct, Rehearsal & Performance Schedules and other provided information, then the student may be subject to loss of scholarship, and/or prevented from auditioning, participating or enrolling in the Orchestral Ensembles subject in the future.
**ABSENCES**

- An Application for *Excused Absences Form* must be submitted for all absence requests no later than close of business **Monday of Week 3** in the semester.
- Except in rare circumstances, absence requests will not be considered if submitted after the Monday of Week 3 in each academic teaching semester.
- Only absences due to high-level artistic (i.e MSO, OV), compassionate or compelling health, family or personal reasons may be considered.
- A medical certificate is required for any absence due to illness.
- In the event of minor injury prohibiting your active participation, you still must attend all rehearsals and performances as an observer.
- If the reason for your attendance waiver is a short to long-term absence relating to health or other extenuating circumstances that will foreseeably effect your assessment of the subject, then you have to submit an application for **Special Consideration**.
- When an absence request is granted, and a deputy is required, all correspondence between the excused player and the deputising player must have Edwina Dethridge, the ensemble conductor and the section leader copied in, so that there is no last-minute confusion within the section.

**ENSEMBLE SUBJECT CODES**

Please be aware of the following subject codes when completing your enrolment.

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<td>Semester 2: MUSI10053/MUSI20074/MUSI30168 Brass Ensemble 2</td>
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ORCHESTRAL ENSEMBLES – KEY STAFF

Assoc. Professor Richard Davis
Head of Orchestral Studies, Conductor of the UoM Symphony and MCM Philharmonic Orchestras
richard.davis@unimelb.edu.au

Assoc. Professor Nicholas Williams
Associate Professor of Music (Conducting, Wind Symphony)
Music Director – UoM Wind Symphony and MCM Concert Band
nicholas.williams@unimelb.edu.au

Edwina Dethridge
Orchestra and Wind Symphony Coordinator
edwina.dethridge@unimelb.edu.au
Ph: 9035 4201 / Mob: 0466 016 107

For all non-academic/operational, personnel and administrative matters

Mandy Lo
Large Ensemble Coordinator (Wind Ensembles)
man.lo@unimelb.edu.au
Mob: 0431 360 786

For logistical matters (production, attendance, parts) relating to UoM Wind Symphony and MCM Concert Band

Paul Doyle
Production Coordinator, Infrastructure & Operations
doylep@unimelb.edu.au

For Symphony Orchestra production matters

Mx Tonié Field
MCM Subject Coordinator of Western Ensembles
tonie.field@unimelb.edu.au

For all academic issues regarding enrolments, special consideration and breadth requirements/issues

Academic Support Office
fineartsmusic-aso@unimelb.edu.au
For general Faculty academic enquires