

Applied Music Performance & Collaboration

Course Number: MUS 231 / MUS 331 *

** MUS 331 requires additional research and class presentation.*

Credits: 3 US Semester Credits

COREQUISITE:

Students will participate in the Burgos Music Festival while enrolled in this course.

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

A comprehensive performance-based music course offered in conjunction with the Burgos Music Festival (Spain). This course will provide a variety of opportunities to engage musicians individually and collaboratively in the development and presentation of performances to be showcased at the festival. Performance activities include rehearsals, master classes, and concerts. Faculty and guest lecture-discussions as well as self-reflective journaling will also be a part of this course.

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES:

By actively engaging in musical rehearsals, performance, observation, and lecture-discussion activities, students will continue development in:

- Improving knowledge, discipline and intentionality through careful preparation for performances
- Using research techniques to acquire appropriate performance practice based on piece and style period
- Gaining performance experience in a variety of settings with a range of repertoire
- Expanding familiarity with musical repertoire
- Learning to engage comfortably in constructive peer- and self-evaluation
- Strengthening professional skills such as self-discipline, self-efficacy, goal setting, collaboration, and communication
- Apply business and marketing practice to generate interest in a particular performance

COURSE TOPICS:

- Strategies in planning and preparation for a public performance (both as a soloist and an ensemble member)
- The role of musical research as a performance practice
- The significance of self-reflection in performance practice
- The role of social and creative leadership, as well as the importance of intra- and inter-personal awareness in musical collaboration
- Extra-musical considerations in performance practice
- Musician as performance facilitator (e.g., promotion/marketing, venue logistics)

REQUIRED RESOURCES:

- Computer or tablet with WiFi capability, earphones, and document-writing capability
- At least two printed copies of all music literature as assigned or selected
- A black three-ring binder for musical scores, research documents and other materials.
- At least one pencil and eraser brought to every rehearsal
- Digital audio/video recorder/phone

BREAKDOWN OF COURSE COMPONENTS

The lecture-discussions on special topics will take place primarily during the first two weeks of the program.

Lessons, coachings, ensemble rehearsals and performances will take place during the second two weeks, simultaneously with the music festival.

Because this is an applied course, there is an expectation that students will actively engage in all required components.

Repertoire

Proposed solo repertoire is selected in conjunction with your private instructor at your home institution and submitted to KEI (to be shared with Festival directors prior to arriving in Burgos). Ensemble repertoire is assigned by the Festival directors based on the student's video submission, which is a component of the Burgos Music Festival application process. Students will be notified of their designated performance repertoire prior to the start of the program.

Participants will be expected to prepare repertoire thoroughly prior to arrival in Burgos. Practice spaces will be available throughout the duration of the program. However, time for practice may be limited due to classes and field trips. If you have any concerns about your ability to prepare the repertoire that has been selected for you (i.e., too difficult, too many selections), please speak with the professor of this course and the Festival directors as soon as possible.

Lessons, Coachings and Rehearsals

The Burgos Music Festival brings a highly-respected faculty of music professionals from the United States, Europe, Asia, and the Middle East. Private instructors and coaches will arrive just prior to the start of the music festival. The professor of this course will be available for some assistance with musical preparation concerns or questions until their arrival.

Each student will have four private lessons and four coachings over the two weeks of the Burgos Music Festival. Students will also have scheduled ensemble rehearsals as required for assigned repertoire. Vocalists may be required to rehearse with pianist.

Students are expected to be on time and well-prepared for all lessons, coachings and rehearsals. In the case of unexpected illness, you must contact the instructor as soon as possible. Lessons missed by the student may or may not be made up, as determined by the instructor. Lessons missed by the instructor will be made up as quickly as possible at a mutually convenient time.

All students are expected to make recordings of their participation in rehearsals, studio classes and master classes. The recordings will serve as an important resource for the reflective process to discover problems, highlight strengths, and focus practice time towards improved skills and

meaningful music-making. They will also serve as valuable reference material when writing the daily reflective journal entries.

Master Classes

Master classes are open working sessions between aspiring and established professionals. They give students the opportunity to perform new repertoire or try new performance techniques in front of peers and faculty before sharing in a public performance. Participants will have the opportunity to engage in reflection and discussion with both the music faculty and peers. It is a supportive, collaborative setting, which encourages risk-taking, critical analysis and creative thinking.

All students will have opportunity to both observe and participate in master classes during the festival. Students must attend all master classes regardless of instrument-focus.

Lecture-Discussions on Special Topics

Students will attend lecture-discussions on a variety of performance practice-related topics.

Topics may include, but are not limited to:

- *Choking on Butterflies: Strategies for Managing Performance Anxiety*
- *Social Leadership Skills in Musical Collaboration*
- *The Role of Research in Music Performance Preparation*
- *Negotiating the Performance Space*
- *Finding Freedom in High Expectations: Perfectionism vs. Excellence*

Performances

Performances and rehearsals will be held in a variety of performance spaces in Burgos. The concert performance schedule and participants for each concert will be posted at the start of the music festival. In addition to chamber music performances, there will also be a solo gala and a festival-sponsored music competition.

Students will be expected to perform to the highest level possible and will be expected to perform, as scheduled, during the music festival. The directors reserve the right to disallow students to perform if they are not regularly attending rehearsals, or are not able to perform the music that is selected at a satisfactory level. If a student is not allowed to perform, it may adversely affect the grade for this course.

Assistance with Festival Logistics

Young professional musicians often need to create their own opportunities for performance – and having some skills in organization, planning, marketing, etc. can be extremely useful. Students will receive an inside view of the logistics and operations of a music festival. Students will engage with the program directors and assist with the final preparations of the festival (e.g., location preparation, marketing/promotion, scheduling, participant assistance, stage management)

Field Trips

Live local performances as available - TBA

ASSESSMENT:

Assessment and grading will be based on a student's active engagement in elements of the Burgos Music Festival (e.g., lessons/coachings, rehearsals, master classes, assisting with Festival logistics, lecture-

discussions, and performances) as well as a completing daily entries in self-reflection journal. Details on the requirements for the self-reflection journal will be distributed in class.

Students taking the course as 300 level must research one of the Special Topics and prepare a 10 to 15 minute lecture and discussion for the class.

Attendance

Attendance is mandatory for everything you are scheduled to attend. Exceptions will be made on a case-by-case basis with the authorization of the professor. If students feel they must miss class due to illness or injury, students must contact the instructor prior to the missed class.

Grading (231 Level)

Reflection essays, discussions and mini-projects:	30%
Daily entries in the self-reflection journal	30%
Active participation in lecture-discussions and excursions/activities	40%

Grading (331 Level)

Daily entries in the self-reflection journal	20%
Active participation in lecture-discussions and excursions/activities	20%
Reflection essays, discussions and mini-projects:	30%
Special Topic Presentation	30%