



Chamber Orchestra Syllabus - 2026-2027

Instructor: Ms. Liz Massad, massadliz1323@gmail.com

Rehearsal Schedule and Location: See calendar posted at www.tlucma.org

Course Description:

Continued instruction in Orchestral musicianship skills and instrumental technique.

Preparation and performance of selections from the standard orchestral repertoire.

Membership is determined by audition, requiring fluency in music reading, various rhythms, bowings, and articulations, and ability to play in C, G, D, and A major.

Text:

Music will be assigned and provided for ensemble performances. All music must be returned in a timely manner following a final performance, or a fee may be assessed. If damaged or lost, you will be responsible for the cost of replacement music.

Required Materials: Instruments, folders for music, and a pencil.

Course Objectives:

- 1) To provide students with a depth of knowledge in a single discipline sufficient to understand its methods, language, content, history, and value. Within the context of this class, this will be covered in the form of String Ensemble literature, history, performance, and rehearsal techniques. (TLU IGG-Knowing)
- 2) To provide students with tools for analyzing music and performances critically and reflectively, and for communicating amongst the group and to an audience. (TLU IGG-Doing)
- 3) To encourage students to recognize ways in which music can be offered as a service to the community, to enrich their lives, and to motivate them to use music to cultivate personal well-being and continued growth. (TLU IGG-Becoming)
- 4) To encourage the continuing music education of school-age string students through the School of Music at Texas Lutheran University upon graduation from High School.

The course objectives will lead to the following student goals:

- Maintenance of all previously acquired skills, with continued attention to balanced and relaxed posture/instrument hold, desirable tone, intonation, and expressive skills
- Note reading in first position for keys up to 3 sharps and 3 flats
- Rhythm reading to include triplets, sixteenth notes, and all dotted rhythms
- Continued experience with a variety of hooked and slurred bow patterns and bow circles
- Introduction to shifting (3rd position)
- Introduction to vibrato
- Beginning understanding of music history as it relates to the literature studied

Attendance Policy:

- Students are expected to arrive at each rehearsal 10-15 minutes early in order to be ready to play at the beginning of class.
- All members are expected to attend all rehearsals and performances. Any conflicts with scheduled rehearsals, concerts and dress rehearsals must be brought to the instructor's attention immediately. Students missing more than 3 rehearsals may be requested not to participate in the final performance.

Required Performance Dates:

December 8, 2026 - Lindenbaum Outreach Program and Youth Orchestra Recital

TLU Jackson Auditorium, 7:00 p.m.

May 4, 2027 - Lindenbaum Outreach Program and Youth Orchestra Recital

TLU Jackson Auditorium, 7:00 p.m.