



THE CONTEMPORARY MUSIC CENTER

a program of the Council For Christian Colleges & Universities

SYLLABUS PERFORMANCE

Instructor: Rick Elias
rick@cmcnashville.com

COURSE HOURS: M/T/W 10:30 a.m. - Noon

CREDIT: 3 semester credits

These recommended credits will be granted by your home institution. They will not be considered for transfer credits.

COURSE EQUIVALENCY:

This course may meet the requirements of an upper-level class in Music Practicum, Major/Minor Ensemble or Theatre.

OFFICE HOURS:

Our “physical and virtual doors are always open.” If you have a question please don’t hesitate to ask. If you would like to set up an appointment, we can do that too. As a courtesy, try not to call after 11PM or before 9AM, unless there is an emergency.

CATALOGUE DESCRIPTION:

The semester begins with a series of showcases held during the first two nights of the first full week. Each student is required to perform two songs, solo. Pre-recorded tracks or other student players are allowed to assist those students who do not play an instrument. As each student defines their musical style and public persona, additional concert appearances are required, which include the CMC Live concert series, scheduled each Thursday night. As the semester progresses, each student is effectively auditioning for the Road Tour which happens towards the end of the semester.

OBJECTIVES:

- To provide students with “stage time” so that they can explore various musical styles that represent their musical interests and fashion a public persona that plays to the strengths of their individual personalities.
- To create 8, 12 and 30 minute “musical sets” for various public appearances.
- For artists to effectively rehearse a band and produce a show with the help of their manager.
- To develop the ability to connect musically and personally with an audience.



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METHODOLOGY:

The goal of the performance course is to prepare each student to perform a well rehearsed 20-minute set with full band. During the first week, two nights of showcases allow the faculty to assess each artist's abilities. For the remainder of the semester, students will perform every other week on a Thursday night during CMC Live. Every two weeks the length of the showcase increases allowing students to perform longer sets.

Preparing a full band, anticipating production needs and executing a show are requirements of the course. Artists work with other students to arrange rehearsals with other players, pre-produce the technical requirements of the show including sound, lights and staging. Then, before mounting a full show, each band participates in an 'open-rehearsal' called "hammer-time". Faculty and the other students listen to the set and offer suggestions for improvement. After some tweaking, the artist will meet with faculty one more time on Wednesday to review the changes and then perform on Thursday night.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS:

- Students are required to attend all classes. Habitual tardiness or absence, defined as 5 or more tardies/absences, will result in the reduction of one full letter grade.
- Preparation: Students are expected to come to rehearsals fully prepared to play and sing their parts.
- Assignments: All songs must be learned BEFORE coming to rehearsal unless the artist intends to flesh out parts with the help of other musicians.

GRADING:

It is important to note that grades are not an assessment of your soul, your potential, or even hard work. They are an assessment of the quality of your work in this class. We also place great value on your attitude and demonstration of improvement.

The following is the CCCU Student Programs grading policy. This policy is administered by all CCCU Student Programs worldwide. The CCCU prides itself on the competitive nature of its admissions and its courses. Please note that a "B" is a good grade that represents "competent and complete" work. "A" grades are earned only by "superior" work. By that definition, "A" grades are a minority of grades earned by students. It is not impossible to earn an "A," but it is difficult.

A = Excellent creative and integrative work, revealing superior analysis and content.

B = Good work, competent and complete

C = Adequate work

D = Less than adequate work

F = Completely fails to meet expectations

We are always open to discussing any concerns over grading. If you have any questions or concerns, please come see me.



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FINAL GRADE BREAKDOWN

- 25% Attendance, preparation and participation in class
- 60% Accuracy, creativity and professionalism both in rehearsals and on-stage
- 15% Faculty review

GRADE PERCENTAGE VALUES

Letter grades have the following percentage values:

- A 93-100
- A- 90-92
- B+ 87-89
- B 83-86
- B- 80-82

(same pattern continues for other letter grades)

REPORTING GRADES

Students will receive weekly feedback on their performances. Final grades for the course will be mailed to students and their home institution after the completion of the semester.

ACADEMIC DISHONESTY

In the event of plagiarism, no credit will be granted for the assignment. Other disciplinary action may follow.



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COURSE SCHEDULE

Week 1:	Day 1	Introductory Showcase
	Day 2	Introductory Showcase
Week 2:		CMC Live (2-song set)
Week 3:		CMC Live (2-song set)
Week 4:		CMC Live (2-song set)
Week 5:		CMC Live (3-song set)
Week 6:		CMC Live (3-song set)
Week 7:	Day 1	Church Showcase Review
	Day 2	Singer/Songwriter Showcase Review
	Day 3	Rock Showcase Review
	Day 4	CMC Live
Week 8:		CMC Live (3-song set)
Week 9:		CMC Live - TOUR PREPARATION
Week 10:		CMC Live - TOUR PREPARATION
Week 11:		ROAD TOUR
Week 12:		CMC Live
Week 13:		CMC Live
Week 14:	Day 1	DUE: Final Exam
	Day 2	DUE: EOS