REQUEST FOR A COURSE CHANGE  
University of Central Oklahoma

Course Subject (Prefix), Number, and Title:

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<th>Existing</th>
<th>Proposed</th>
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<td>MPER 2391 Orchestra</td>
<td>MPER 2xx0 Symphony Orchestra</td>
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Proposed Title: (full course title if longer than 30 characters)

Course description:

As it appears in the current catalog. (required)

The UCO Symphony Orchestra offers a well-rounded orchestral experience through performing four to eight concerts each school year, embodying compositions in a variety of styles from various musical periods.

As it will appear in the next catalog or indicate no change. (Please use standard American English including full sentences.)

Course descriptions only. Do not include prerequisites or enrollment restrictions, these should be added under questions 9-15.

Approved by:

Dr. Sandra D. Thompson 9/29/20
College Dean

Effective Term (assigned by AA)
1. Does this course have an undergraduate/graduate counterpart?
   - Yes: 
   - No: 
   MPER 5161

2. Is this proposal part of a larger submission package including a program change?
   - Yes: 
   - No: 
   BM - Instrumental Performance
   BME - Music Education
   BM - Jazz Performance
   BA - Music

3. Does this course affect a teacher preparation program? (All courses required for any teacher preparation program must have approval from the Council on Teacher Education (CTE) before approval from AACC or Graduate Council.)
   - Yes: If yes, send copy of proposal to the Education Curriculum Committee Chair, Dr. Darla Fent
   - No: CTE Approval (Stamp or initial)

4. Is this course currently listed in the University Core?
   - Yes: If you wish this course be listed in the University Core, submit University Core course proposal.
   - No: 

5. Is this course a prerequisite for any other course(s)?
   - Yes: 
   - No: If this change affects the prerequisite, complete course change proposal to delete or change prerequisite.

6. Is this course a requirement in any major or minor?
   - Yes: If this change impacts the requirement of any major or minor, complete program change proposal.
   - No: 

7. Does this course affect majors or minors outside the department?
   - Yes: If yes, provide name(s) of department chair(s) contacted, the dates, and the results of the discussion.
   - No: n/a

8. List all majors or minors which include this changed course as a requirement or elective.
   - BM-Instrumental Performance, BM-Jazz Performance, BME-Music Education, BA-Music

9. Prerequisite courses:
   Will the prerequisite courses change?
   - Yes: 
   - No: If yes, fill out below, if no leave blank.

   NOTE: Adding a "new course" as a prerequisite to an existing course will likely cause enrollment problems.
   As listed at the end of the course description in the current catalog. (Required)

   Existing:

   Proposed:
   Example 1: MATH 1213 and (MATH 2165 or MATH 2185) and CHEM 1213
   Example 2: (ACCT 2113 and 2213) and (MGMT 3013 or 3613)
   Example 3: 8 hours of biology including BIO 1404

10. Co-requisite(s): Prerequisite courses that may be taken in the same semester.
    Will the co-requisite(s) change?
    - Yes: 
    - No: If yes, fill out below, if no leave blank.

    Existing:

    Proposed:

11. Concurrent enrollment: Courses that must be taken the same semester. Example: lab courses.
    Will the concurrent enrollment change?
    - Yes: 
    - No: If yes, fill out below, if no leave blank.

    Existing:

    n/a
12. Does this course currently have enrollment restrictions?  
Yes ✔ No  
If adding or changing enrollment restrictions answer questions 13-15. If not changing or add enrollment restrictions leave questions 13-15 blank.

13. Specify which major(s) may or may not take this course.  
Will the major(s) restriction change? Yes ✔ No  
Specifying a major, excludes all other majors from enrolling.  
Existing (as appears in current catalog)  
Check one: May ✔ May not  
Major Code:  
Proposed (if changing)  
Check one: May ✔ May not  
Major Code:

14. Which of the following student classification(s) may enroll in this course?  
Will the classification restriction change? Yes ✔ No  
Existing (as appears in current catalog)  
Graduate ✔ Graduate  
Graduate ✔ Graduate  
Post ✔ Baccalaureate  
Senior ✔ Baccalaureate  
Senior ✔ Baccalaureate  
Junior ✔  
Junior ✔  
Sophomore ✔  
Sophomore ✔  
Freshman ✔  
Freshman ✔  
Proposed (if changing)  
Graduate ✔ Graduate  
Graduate ✔ Graduate  
Post ✔ Baccalaureate  
Senior ✔  
Senior ✔  
Junior ✔  
Junior ✔  
Sophomore ✔  
Sophomore ✔  
Freshman ✔  
Freshman ✔  
Check all that apply:

15. Specify other restrictions for this course, if any.  
Will other restrictions change? Yes ✔ No  
Existing (as appears in current catalog)  
Admission to Graduate Programs ✔  
Admission to Nursing Program ✔  
Admission to Teacher Education ✔  
Other:  
Proposed (if changing)  
Admission to Graduate Programs ✔  
Admission to Nursing Program ✔  
Admission to Teacher Education ✔  
Other:  

16. Course objectives for this course: (Please refer to instructional objectives documents at:  
https://spaces.uco.edu/display/aaceproposals/UCO-AACC-main+page#UCOAACC-mainpage-faq-helpful-hints.)  
If previously approved objectives will be used without any changes, check here ✔  
As they appear in the course syllabus.  
Existing:  
Proposed:  
As they will appear in the updated syllabus.
17. Please provide a concise, yet comprehensive, statement that explains the specific reasons for requesting the change(s). Include any documentation or assessment information available supporting this specific request.

We request a switch from fixed credit to variable credit with students being able to take this class as a 0 credit or 1 credit course. This change will: 1) create more successful outcomes for music majors as requested for our specialized accreditation; 2) increase retention for non-music majors; 3) maintain current credit-hour production of this course; 4) reduce reliance on tuition waivers; and 5) raise the profile of UCO by increasing overall excellence in the group.

This switch from fixed credit to variable credit will create more successful outcomes and support the student learning outcomes for BME - Music Education, BM - Instrumental Performance, BM - Jazz Performance, and BA - Music programs. All three programs list "performing with others in an ensemble setting" as an important outcome. In addition, accreditation standards set forth by the National Association of Schools of Music (NASM) emphasize the importance of students performing with ensembles.

The limitation of number of credits in a 4-year degree often restricts the number of semesters which a student in one of these programs participates in ensembles. While 8 credits of ensembles works out to one ensemble course per semester of a 4-year degree, students often complete their ensemble credits by their sophomore or junior year by taking more than one ensemble per semester, meaning that the seniors (usually the most experienced students) are not required to play in an ensemble unless they receive tuition waiver money to offset this credit. Thus, there is no way to ensure that students play in an ensemble every semester in which they attend UCO without paying tuition waiver money to incentivize it.

We also request this switch to support an additional student learning outcome for BME - Music Education and BM - Jazz Performance. A major part of each of these degree programs involves learning and performing on musical instruments outside of their primary instrument. BME- Music Education students take courses to learn these other instruments as a requirement of their program while often BM - Jazz Performance students take applied lessons to reach this outcome. However, because of the credit limitation, these students do not have the opportunity to play these secondary instruments in ensembles without paying for extra non-required credit hours which limits their overall achievement in this area. Symphony Orchestra provides an excellent lab to develop more advanced skills in secondary instruments.

This switch will increase retention for non-music majors by creating a link for those students to a UCO group of like-minded students. Talented students who major in programs other than music often play in Symphony Orchestra for a semester or two and then stop taking the course after their core credits are satisfied. Since participation is limited to those who pay for credit, these students lose a valuable link to a community which acts an aid in student retention and graduation as well as transformative learning experiences through participating in this creative activity.

Allowing a 0-credit option for Symphony Orchestra would allow UCO to require majors in music degree programs to participate in ensembles every year they are enrolled without creating a hidden credit requirement. It would support the ensemble playing SLOs established for the degree programs as well as support NASM accreditation standards. It would reduce the amount of tuition waiver money needed to ensure the most talented students stay in ensembles beyond their required number of credits.

It would increase the level of achievement for Music Education and Jazz Performance students in SLOs related to performing on secondary instruments by allowing them to play in additional ensembles beyond their required number of credits in their degree.
It would vastly increase the participation in this ensemble by talented non-music majors and help increase retention in the university as a whole by engaging non-majors in the community aspect of musical ensembles – in essence bringing them into a supportive environment in which they can take pride and increase their transformative learning experiences at UCO.

Most importantly - it would not reduce the net credit hour production of these courses because majors would still be required to take this course for credit the same number of times to fulfill their degree programs and non-majors would still take the course to satisfy university core requirements. Additionally, tuition waiver awards would be reduced because students would no longer need to be incentivized by tuition waiver awards to be a part of the ensemble after their credits are complete. Symphony Orchestra is particularly reliant on tuition waiver awards due to the limited number of high school string players in the state, especially when many of those players do not go on to become music majors at a university.

Finally, the end result of this switch will be a stronger and larger Symphony Orchestra with more advanced participants. A stronger orchestra raises the profile of UCO by receiving more accolades and honors due to its higher level of skill and increases recruitment options for non-music major students who played in their high school orchestras by providing an option for them to play their instrument at the university.

We also request a name change to “Symphony Orchestra” which more accurately describes this ensemble and differentiates it more clearly from MPER 3181 Chamber Orchestra.

18. Clearly explain how the characteristics of this course meet or exceed those outlined in Course Level Characteristics. Complete this question only if requesting a course level change. (Copy and paste table from “Course Level Characteristics” document for the appropriate course level of proposed course. Document may be found on: https://spaces.uco.edu/display/aaccproposals/UCO+AACC-main+page#UCOAACC-mainpage-faq-helpful-hints)