Course Content:
The UNT Symphony Orchestra is a laboratory course designed for the development of the professional performer and the professional educator. Through this course the student will experience new repertoire, improve musicianship, and learn ensemble discipline in a collaborative setting. The goal of this organization, in rehearsal and performance, is to achieve the highest degree possible of learning and performance. It is the responsibility of the conductor and the performers to be prepared for each rehearsal. It is only through careful preparation that the goals of this organization can be accomplished.

Course Purpose:
This course partially fulfills the ensemble requirement for degree programs within the College of Music.

Expected Outcomes:
1. Student will have mastered a variety of ensemble techniques leading to an ability to perform at a professional level in the orchestral setting.
2. Student will learn how to listen and respond in an ensemble setting with regard to a number of musical issues such as balance, color, articulation, style, intonation, intensity, etc.
3. Student will have gained insight into the physical and mental technique and discipline necessary to continue improving musical technique and expression over time.
4. Student will have gained knowledge of the orchestral repertoire regularly performed in this ensemble and should have experienced a balanced cross section of that repertoire.
5. Student will have gained experience, musical maturity and comfort in a live performance setting.
6. Student should recognize the relationship between the theory and history of music and the performance thereof.

Methods for Assessing the Expected Outcomes:
Grades are assessed as follows: 50% Part preparation tests, 50% instructor’s assessment of overall performance, improvement as ensemble performer, etc.

In addition, one letter grade reduction is applied for each unexcused absence. Arriving at rehearsal late two times (unexcused) equals on unexcused absence and will result in a grade deduction of one letter grade. Missing, or being late to, a performance for any reason other than serious illness (or pre-arranged excused absence) triggers an automatic failing grade in the course. Serious illness (the student) or family emergencies are the only reasons for granting an excused absence from a performance.

Tuning:
• Four A's:
  (1) Brass, (2) Woodwinds, (3) Low Strings, (4) High Strings.
  [Violas, watch principal to see with which group you should tune.]
• Tune only; no scales, arpeggios, excerpts, etc.
• Tune at "piano" to "mezzo-piano".
• Tune only with your group. The 4th A is not a tutti A, it is for high strings only.
  When your group is finished tuning, please do not play again until the downbeat.
• Please do not talk during the tuning process.
• These principles of disciplined tuning apply equally to rehearsals and concerts.
**Course Requirements:**
Student musicians are expected to come to each rehearsal physically prepared to play at the published start of class with their individual music prepared. Students should plan on arriving early in order to facilitate this.

**PREPARATION FOR REHEARSAL.**
An orchestra rehearsal is a period for work on the interpretation of the music and the development of the ensemble. It is not any individual’s personal practice time. Student musicians are expected to arrive at every rehearsal (including sectionals) thoroughly prepared on the repertoire for that rehearsal. Thorough preparation for rehearsal includes the following:

1. **Complete** individual ability to perform every note, dynamic, articulation, (and bowing) at a reasonable performance tempo.
2. General overall knowledge of the sound and content of the work suitable to understand one’s place in the whole. (Those unfamiliar with a particular work will want to consult a score and/or listen to a recording to achieve this.)

These preparation requirements apply to all UNT Symphony rehearsals and performances. This requirement is not limited to symphonic concerts, but also includes opera, gala, choral performances, recordings, and all other UNT Symphony Orchestra projects or assignments, both on and off campus. Sight-reading and/or insufficient preparation for rehearsal are unacceptable and will not be tolerated and are sufficient cause for a reduced grade.

**Rehearsal Times and Locations:**
Monday-Wednesday-Friday 2:15 p.m. – 4:05 p.m. Winspear Hall (unless otherwise posted)

**Music:**
Every musician will be assigned a folder (strings: original “performance” folder outside, practice copies inside) and will be responsible financially for both the folder and its contents. After a folder is distributed it is the sole responsibility of the musician. The librarian will not pick up folders after rehearsal or re-distribute them before rehearsal.

Outside strings that must miss a rehearsal for any reason are responsible to be certain that their folder (performance folder) is at rehearsal for use by their stand partner. Failure by the outside player missing rehearsal (even excused) to have the “performance” folder at rehearsal will result in a lowered grade. When an outside player is missing at rehearsal (for any reason) the Orchestra Studies Artistic Assistant TA [AATA] will check to be certain that the outside folder on the stand. If the inside player has been forced to use the inside part for rehearsal the AATA will so note in the roster, possibly resulting in a lowered grade for the outside player. If the outside player has missed rehearsal for unexpected reasons (sudden illness, etc.), and it has been, therefore, impossible to provide the performance folder for rehearsal, that student should contact the AATA as soon as possible after the incident to explain the details. Even when the two parts are identical (i.e., both are copies), the folder issued to the outside player is the performance folder and is the only one to be used on the stand in rehearsals and performances.

**Fees will be assessed for music that is lost or damaged due to excessive marking or mishandling.** A grade of “incomplete” will be registered for any student whose music or folder is damaged or not returned.

**Concert Dress:**
The purpose of a dress code is to provide a professional atmosphere for our orchestra members and to present a professional and respectable image to our faculty, patrons, and community.

**MEN:**
- Black Tuxedo
- Black Bow Tie
- Black Cummerbund or Tuxedo Vest
- White Tuxedo Shirt
- Black Socks – plain, no patterns
- Black Dress Shoes – polished
Concert Dress (con’t)
WOMEN:  
Long Black
Conservative Sleeves – no shorter than one inch above the elbow
Conservative Neckline – front and back
Long Skirt or dress – no shorter than the lower calf [halfway between knee and floor]
Long Pant – full length with wide leg width
NO TAPERED PANT OR DRESS SHORTS
Black Hose – plain, no patterns
Black Dress Shoes – closed toe and heel, polished

Please Note:
Clothes must be loose fitting – not skintight
Shear fabrics should be lined with a solid black lining
White blouse under black jacket is acceptable

Attendance and Grading Policy:
• Attendance at all concerts and rehearsals is required of all designated personnel unless specifically notified otherwise in writing. This includes, but is not limited to, operas, choral works, opera gala, and other special performances.  [All musicians assigned to opera productions play all rehearsals and performances. There is not a rotation system.]
• All issues regarding absences (excused or not), scheduling, etc., for opera, choral, or any other performances not purely orchestral are to be handled through the Department of Orchestral Studies office in the same manner as at all other times. These subjects are never to be dealt with directly with opera conductor or any other conductor other than the Director of Orchestral Studies, the Assistant Director of Orchestral Studies, or the Personnel Manager TA.
• Absences from from rehearsals or other events marked with ** are not permitted under any circumstances. An unexcused absence from such a rehearsal, or a concert, may result in dismissal from the ensemble and/or a failing grade. These, and all other dates for which excused absences are not permitted, are indicated in the syllabus.
• Any absence not requested and approved in advance (other than illness, etc.) is considered an unexcused absence. Unexcused absences will result in (1) the grade being lowered one letter grade for each unexcused absence and/or (2) dismissal from the ensemble and a failing grade.
• Make up or other re-scheduled applied lessons scheduled by the instructor and/or student during ensemble rehearsals will not be excused either as pre-arranged absence or after the fact. Applied lessons should never be scheduled during ensemble rehearsals.
• Regular attendance is expected at all rehearsals and concerts, including those that may directly precede a vacation or other school break. Absence on such dates will not be excused.
• Students are graded not only on attendance, but primarily on preparation of music and improvement as ensemble musicians. In the absence of part tests, this evaluation is made solely by aural and visual observation and is not subject to later review.
• Excused absences. The schedule for the term is provided on pages below. Students are responsible for being aware of all dates listed as course responsibilities. Potential conflicts with rehearsals should be reported by filling out the Excused Absence Request Form online as soon as they are known. The Absence Request Form can be found on the UNT Orchestral Studies Website (https://orchestra.music.unt.edu) under Student Information. This online form should be filled out in its entirety. The student will receive an email receipt of the form sent to UNT Orchestral Studies faculty. The DOA will then approve, not approve, or request more information about the absence. All decisions and communication about absence requests will be done via email. It is the student’s responsibility to respond to staff emails regarding absence requests in a timely manner. Absence request forms must be filled out for all absence situations; this includes when students are asked to play with outside groups that are conducted by UNT faculty; the policy is no different in that situation.
• While the Orchestral Studies Department recognizes the importance of participation by students in community and regional orchestras, the primary responsibility of the student, while enrolled in the Symphony Orchestra, remains with the College of Music’s Symphony Orchestra. Therefore, any absence because of rehearsal or performance in outside ensembles must be approved by the DOS in order to be excused. An absence request form must be completed and submitted at least two weeks prior to the anticipated absence. Any musician (other than section strings) receiving permission for an excused absence (for any reason) is responsible for securing an appropriate, prepared substitute for the rehearsal. Students should never accept an engagement or make other commitments in conflict with orchestra activities before securing an approved absence in writing. Contracts signed for professional work before the beginning of the academic year do not automatically demand an approved absence and are subject to the same constraints and criteria as any other request.

Continued.....
Attendance and Grading Policy (cont’d)
• Excused absences, even via the proper approval process, are limited in the following ways:
  (1) A maximum of two excused absences per concert cycle are permitted. These two potential excused absences are reduced by any illness or other absences. (e.g., if a student requires one illness absence they may not also take two unexcused absences in that cycle, only one.
  (2) No more than six absences (combination of all factors, excused, illness, recital, etc.) are allowed in any given semester.
• Recitals. Students are free to request an excused absence from rehearsal when their recital occurs after a symphony rehearsal on the same day. However, such requests are subject to the same conditions as other requests: they must be submitted in writing in a timely manner and are subject to the same possibility of denial as all other requests when not presented properly and/or too many other excused absences have already been granted for the same rehearsal.

In order to keep all rehearsals productive for all students, limitations are placed on the number of students that will be allowed excused absences on the same day; this applies to the orchestra overall and to any given section. When the DOS determines that the number of excused absences approved (on any given day) have reached the maximum that still allows for productive rehearsal, then all future requests (regardless of timing or reason, except for emergencies) will be denied, and students submitting such requests will be expected to attend that rehearsal as usual.
• Electronic device policy. Except for emergency situations, NO ELECTRONIC DEVICES such as phones, pagers, etc., are to be TOUCHED, used, or consulted in any way during a rehearsal or performance. Violation of this policy, IN ANY WAY, NO MATTER HOW MINOR, can and WILL result in immediate dismissal from the ensemble and failure of the course.
• The professional habit of arriving early for rehearsal is expected of every musician. At the very minimum, rehearsals must begin on time with everyone present. Attendance will be taken at the beginning of each rehearsal. Anyone not present when attendance is taken will be considered tardy or, depending upon later arrival, absent and unexcused. If a student arrives late it is the responsibility of the student to see the Personnel Manager TA at break or after rehearsal to make certain that the Personnel Manager TA has changed “absent” to “late” when the student arrived. The Personnel Manager TA will make every effort to make such changes if a student arrives late, but it is the student’s responsibility to make certain that their arrival was noted. Changes to the attendance roster cannot be made retroactively during or after the grading process.
• Playing injuries and other illnesses not requiring bed rest. If a student has a playing injury requiring rest from that day’s rehearsal, or if a student has an illness that will make playing impossible but does not require bed rest or absence from classes generally, the student is required to attend rehearsal as usual. In such circumstances the student may sit either in the orchestra or in the first several rows of the “house”, having their part (or a practice part) in their hands, following rehearsal carefully and marking all issues discussed during rehearsal as usual. In this circumstance, no other work is to be done during this time, and the electronic device policy still applies.
• All absences due to illness (not pre-arranged/pre-excused) will require a supporting document in order for that absence to be “excused”. For the absence to be excused, students must submit one of the two following documents to the personnel manager TA at the earliest possible time following the illness. [This document must be turned in not later than the beginning of the next rehearsal attended by that student.] Documents: (1) A signed, dated note from the physician or clinic visited by the student for that illness. (2) A completed and signed “Illness absence” form found on the UNT Orchestral Studies Website (https://orchestra.music.unt.edu) under Student Information. This online form must be completely filled out and signed by the student. The “illness absence” form specifies that the student was too ill or otherwise indisposed to execute his/her regular schedule on that day, and did not attend any classes, rehearsals, lessons, coachings, etc., on that day. Regarding turning in and signing the “illness absence” form, students are advised to read the “Academic Integrity” section below.

These policies apply equally to ALL STUDENTS, including those students participating in major ensembles to satisfy scholarship or other non-curricular requirements.

Part preparation tests:
Part preparation tests due dates can be found on the rehearsal schedule [pages 5-6].
A list of the required excerpts will be posted approximately 72 hours before the due date/time. By no later than the due date/time, selected students must deliver a video recording of their performance of the excerpts to the personnel manager TA, by sending a link to the posted video (see personnel manager’s email address on page 1). This is a required activity, as with a test in any other course, and cannot be turned in late or overlooked. See “Methods for Assessing Outcomes” for more details on the overall grading value of part preparation tests.

Part test videos must be delivered via link to YouTube. No other format is acceptable.
It is the responsibility of the student, not the TA or the professor, to observe (in the syllabus and posted schedules) when part tests occur.
Rehearsal schedules:

Rehearsal schedules for the week (and sometimes beyond) are posted in three locations. **It is the responsibility of all students to check this schedule regularly for important information, as well as updates and changes to the schedule.** Failure to consult the schedule is not an excuse for failing to appear at required rehearsals, etc. **Rehearsal schedules are posted for the convenience of the students. However, students should under no circumstances make commitments during any part of scheduled rehearsals, as schedules are subject to change.**

Rehearsal schedules are posted online at http://music.unt.edu/orchestra/rehearsal.html. Schedules are usually posted in the MPAC and COM no later than Friday afternoon, and never later than 9:00am Monday. The online schedule will usually be available on Friday but will always be posted by Sunday evening at the latest.

**UNT SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA**  
**SPRING 2023 Rehearsal & Performance Schedule**  
*[Schedule subject to change]*  
*[Rehearsal = 2:15-4:05pm rehearsal]*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>January 18</td>
<td>Rehearsal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20</td>
<td>Rehearsal [strings only]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23</td>
<td>Rehearsal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25</td>
<td>Rehearsal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>27</td>
<td>Rehearsal [woodwinds, brass, percussion, harp, &amp; keyboard only]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30</td>
<td>Rehearsal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>February 1</td>
<td>Rehearsal</td>
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<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Rehearsal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Rehearsal**</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Rehearsal** [2:15-5:00]</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>7:30 Concert – Call time 7:00</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Marquez Danzón #2</strong></td>
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<td></td>
<td><strong>Falla Three-cornered Hat Suite #2</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Intermission</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Franck Symphonie in D minor</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Rehearsal [Conducting workshop prep]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11 (Saturday)</td>
<td>10:00am-12:30pm &amp; 2:30-5:00pm – Conducting workshop sessions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12 (Sunday)</td>
<td>1:00-3:30pm – Conducting workshop session</td>
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<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>Day off</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>Day off</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17</td>
<td>Rehearsal [strings only]</td>
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<tr>
<td>20</td>
<td>Rehearsal</td>
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<tr>
<td>22</td>
<td>Rehearsal</td>
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<tr>
<td>24</td>
<td>Rehearsal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>27</td>
<td>Rehearsal**</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 1</td>
<td>Rehearsal** [2:15-4:30]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>7:30 Concert – Call time 7:00</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>J. Strauss Jr. Die Fledermaus Overture</strong></td>
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<td></td>
<td><strong>Brahms Haydn Variations</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Sibelius Finlandia</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Rehearsal [Conducting program audition prep]</td>
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<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Rehearsal [Conducting program auditions]</td>
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<td>8</td>
<td>Day off</td>
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<td>10</td>
<td>Day off</td>
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<td>20</td>
<td>Day off</td>
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<td>22</td>
<td>Day off</td>
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<td>24</td>
<td>Day off</td>
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<td><strong>CONTINUED ➔</strong></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**No excused absences for these rehearsals.**
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>March</td>
<td>PART PREPARATION TEST DUE 11:59pm. TBD.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26 (Sunday)</td>
<td>Rehearsal</td>
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<tr>
<td>27</td>
<td>Rehearsal</td>
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<tr>
<td>29</td>
<td>Rehearsal</td>
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<tr>
<td>31</td>
<td>Rehearsal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April</td>
<td>Rehearsal</td>
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<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Rehearsal</td>
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<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Rehearsal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Day off</td>
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<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Rehearsal</td>
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<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Rehearsal</td>
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<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>TBD</td>
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<tr>
<td>17</td>
<td>Rehearsal</td>
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<tr>
<td>19</td>
<td>Rehearsal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21</td>
<td>Rehearsal **</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23 (Sunday)</td>
<td>7:00-10:00pm Rehearsal w/ Grand Chorus **</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24</td>
<td>Rehearsal TBD **</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25 (Tuesday)</td>
<td>7:00-10:00pm Rehearsal w/ Grand Chorus **</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26</td>
<td>Rehearsal TBD **</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28</td>
<td>Day off</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**No excused absences for these rehearsals.**

**IMPORTANT DATES for 2023-2024**

- **August 15-18**: Second round wind auditions
- **August 18-20**: String auditions
- **August 21**: First day of UNT classes – first rehearsal
- **August 26 (Saturday)**: UNT Symphony rehearsals 10:00am-4:30pm **
- **September 13**: UNT Symphony concert
- **October 4**: UNT Symphony concert
- **November 1**: UNT Symphony (chamber orchestra) concert
- **November 3, 5, 10, & 11**: UNT Symphony opera performances
- **November 29**: UNT Symphony (chamber orchestra) concert
- **January 16**: First day of UNT classes
- **January 20 & 21 (Saturday/Sunday)**: Conducting workshop sessions
- **February 10 (Saturday)**: UNT Symphony rehearsal 2:00-5:00pm (Tosca) **
- **February 12**: UNT Symphony rehearsal 7:00-11:00pm (Tosca) **
- **February 14**: UNT Symphony rehearsal 7:00-11:00pm (Tosca) **
- **February 15**: UNT Symphony rehearsal 7:00-11:00pm (Tosca) **
- **February 16**: UNT Symphony performance (Tosca)
- **March 6**: UNT Symphony concert
- **April 5**: UNT Symphony pops concert in Celina TX
- **April 6**: UNT Symphony pops concert in Celina TX [rain date]
- **April 21 (Sunday)**: UNT Symphony rehearsal w/ grand chorus 7:00pm
- **April 23 (Tuesday)**: UNT Symphony rehearsal w/ grand chorus 7:00pm
- **April 24**: UNT Symphony concert w/ grand chorus
Syllabus Statement: Face Coverings

UNT encourages everyone to wear a face covering when indoors, regardless of vaccination status, to protect yourself and others from COVID infection, as recommended by current CDC guidelines. Face covering guidelines could change based on community health conditions.

Syllabus Statement: Attendance

Students are expected to attend class meetings regularly and to abide by the attendance policy established for the course. It is important that you communicate with the professor and the instructional team prior to being absent, so you, the professor, and the instructional team can discuss and mitigate the impact of the absence on your attainment of course learning goals. Please inform the professor and instructional team if you are unable to attend class meetings because you are ill, in mindfulness of the health and safety of everyone in our community.

If you are experiencing any symptoms of COVID-19 (https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/symptoms-testing/symptoms.html) please seek medical attention from the Student Health and Wellness Center (940-565-2333 or askSHWC@unt.edu) or your health care provider PRIOR to coming to campus. UNT also requires you to contact the UNT COVID Team at COVID@unt.edu for guidance on actions to take due to symptoms, pending or positive test results, or potential exposure.
ACADEMIC INTEGRITY
See: Academic Integrity
LINK: https://policy.unt.edu/sites/default/files/06.003.AcadIntegrity.Final_.pdf

STUDENT BEHAVIOR
See: Student Code of Conduct
Link: https://deanofstudents.unt.edu/conduct

ACCESS TO INFORMATION – EAGLE CONNECT
See: Eagle Connect
LINK: eagleconnect.unt.edu/

ODA STATEMENT
See: ODA
LINK: disability.unt.edu. (Phone: (940) 565-4323)

UNT Policy Statement on Diversity
See: Diversity Statement

Registration Information for Students
See: Registration Information
Academic Calendar at a Glance, 2020-2021
See: Academic Calendar
Link: https://registrar.unt.edu/sites/default/files/Fall_2021_Academic_Calendar.pdf

Final Exam Schedule
See: Fall Final Exam Schedule
https://registrar.unt.edu/exams/final-exam-schedule/fall

Financial Aid and Satisfactory Academic Progress
See: Financial Aid
LINK: http://financialaid.unt.edu/sap

Graduates
See: Financial Aid
LINK: http://financialaid.unt.edu/sap

RETENTION OF STUDENT RECORDS
See: FERPA
Link: http://ferpa.unt.edu/

COUNSELING AND TESTING
See: Counseling and Testing
Link: http://studentaffairs.unt.edu/counseling-and-testing-services.

For more information on mental health issues, please visit:
See: Mental Health Issues
Link: https://speakout.unt.edu.

The counselor for music students is:
Myriam Reynolds
Chestnut Hall, Suite 311
(940) 565-2741
Myriam.reynolds@unt.edu

ADD/DROP POLICY
See: Dropping a Class
Link: https://registrar.unt.edu/registration/dropping-class

STUDENT RESOURCES
The University of North Texas has many resources available to students. For a complete list, go to:
See: Student Resources
Link: https://www.unt.edu/sites/default/files/resource_sheet.pdf