

## **DUKE UNIVERSITY CHINESE MUSIC ENSEMBLE Fall 2026**

**COURSE:** MUSIC 210-6/AMES-145: CHINESE MUSIC ENSEMBLE

**WEBSITE:** <https://music.duke.edu/ensembles/chinese-music-ensemble>

**CREDIT:** 0.50 per semester; Registering for credit is expected of students

**GRADE:** Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory for undergraduate students  
Credit/No Credit for graduate students

**INSTRUCTOR:** Jennifer Chang

Email: [jennifer.chang946@duke](mailto:jennifer.chang946@duke)

**OFFICE HOURS:** Wed 1:00-4:00pm in Mary Duke Biddle Music Building

(Please text message me before if you would like to have OH with me)

**REHEARSALS:** Friday 4pm-8pm in **Mary Duke Biddle Music Building Studio A**

### **COURSE OVERVIEW**

The Duke Chinese Music Ensemble, directed by Jennifer Chang, is a vibrant community of Duke students who seek to challenge themselves musically while enjoying the experience of playing and performing together. The ensemble is open to all members of the University community who are interested in performing traditional Chinese music on both Eastern and Western instruments.

We especially welcome violin, viola, cello, double bass, oboe, and bassoon players, as well as percussionists, to join the group. While the ensemble is composed largely of non-majors, it is committed to achieving a high level of artistry in performance.

The DCME presents a formal concert at the end of each semester, featuring a diverse range of Chinese musical genres, including

classical, folk, and orchestral works, performed on a unique combination of Eastern and Western instruments. Previous guest artists have included Xiaofeng Min, Yazhi Guo, Qi Li, Yuan Ni, and many others.

**LEARNING OUTCOME:**

- Improve individual and ensemble musicianship skills
- Increase knowledge and awareness of Chinese music and culture

**ATTENDANCE (ABSENCES AND TARDIES):**

- Rehearsals begin exactly at 4pm. Students must be seated with all necessary materials/instruments by the start time. Please come earlier to set up, if needed.
- Arriving late to class is not acceptable. 3 unexcused tardies will count the same as 1 unexcused absence. If there is a class conflict or bus issue, please speak to the director.
- Students will be allotted 2 absences during the semester. Please inform the instructor if you are planning on missing a rehearsal. Additional absences will impact the grade.
- Failure to provide timely notification will result in the absence being considered unexcused.
- An absence from a performance or dress rehearsal will result in a grade of “U”.
- If you encounter a medical issue, please complete the Incapacitation Form or email the director directly:  
<https://trinity.duke.edu/undergraduate/academic-policies/illness>.
- Absences such as religious observances, auditions, or professional engagements will count toward the 2 excused absences. It is the student’s responsibility to communicate with the conductors concerning these absences in advance. Please view the Duke’s policy

for religious observance & holidays:

<https://trinity.duke.edu/undergraduate/academic-policies/religious-holidays>

- Students may be granted an additional excused absence for emergencies. Students should contact the instructor as soon as possible, preferably prior to rehearsal. Documentation may be required to grant the additional excused absence.
- Excused absences will normally not be approved during the week of a performance or concert, although exceptions may be granted by the instructor.
- If there is an attendance issue beyond the stated policy rehearsals, please arrange to speak with the instructor.

### **PROFESSIONAL CONDUCT:**

- Please listen while the conductors are talking.
- Be attentive in rehearsals. Rehearsals move fast. You can learn a lot from listening while other sections rehearse. Apply musical ideas and concepts in your playing.
- Set all your electronic devices to “DO NOT DISTURB”. Use of smartphones on your stands is NOT permitted during rehearsal. You may use an electronic device to read music, but all notifications must be silenced. Don’t be tempted to play games, send messages, or make calls during rehearsal. If you are using a tuner on your phone, please use it for the initial tuning but then put your phone away completely and trust your ears.
- Do not treat “switching to another piece” as a break; please be sure to switch chairs with minimal talking so transitions happen quickly and quietly.
- Please don’t wear hats, chew gum, or wear strong cologne or perfume. (Members may be **allergic to colognes and perfumes**; please refrain from wearing strong colognes or perfumes during performances/rehearsals).

### **BALDWIN AUDITORIUM:**

Food and Drinks other than water are not permitted inside Baldwin Auditorium. The only access to the lobby and audience is by taking the backstage stairs. It is not permitted to jump on or off the stage. The DUWS privilege to use the facility will be revoked if members are found out of compliance with these policies.

### **PERSONAL PREPARATION:**

We can make a lot of progress quickly if you already know your part. Rehearsal is not only for learning your part; it's for learning everyone else's as well. Preparation will be observed and assessed regularly. If a lack of preparation is observed, students will receive direct communication from the instructor. The students' grade may be lowered if frequent reminders are necessary.

### **FALL 2026 Schedel**

Aug. 28<sup>th</sup>- First class Studio A, Biddle Music Building

Sep. 4<sup>th</sup> - Rehearsal Studio A

Sep.11<sup>th</sup> -Rehearsal Studio A

Sep.18<sup>th</sup>. - Rehearsal Studio A

Sep. 25<sup>th</sup>. - Rehearsal Studio A

Oct. 2nd -Rehearsal

**October 9<sup>th</sup> - Fall Break No Class**

Oct. 16<sup>th</sup> - Rehearsal

Oct. 23<sup>rd</sup> - Full Group Rehearsal (with community musicians)

Oct. 30<sup>th</sup> - Full Group Rehearsal

Nov. 6<sup>th</sup> - Full Group Rehearsal

**November 7th, Saturday - CONCERT DAY @Baldwin Auditorium**

**CONCERT DAY DETAILS:**

12pm-1:00pm stage setting up

1:00pm – 2:30pm Individual Pieces Stage Rehearsal

2:30 – 4:00pm Full Orchestra Stage Rehearsal (Followed with group photo)

4:00pm – 4:45pm Break

4:45pm Call Time (Everyone back to stage)

5:00pm-6:00pm DCME Fall 2026 Concert