



IMPERIAL VALLEY COLLEGE

**Note to Instructor: Replace the placeholder text beneath the headings with the appropriate information for your course. Please note that all sections, with the exception of "Other Course Information," are required elements.**

### Basic Course Information

Semester:	<b>Fall 2025</b>	Instructor Name:	<b>Hope Davis, PhD, DMA</b>
Course Title & #:	<b>MUS 185, Mariachi Ensemble</b>	Email:	<b>Hope.davis@imperial.edu</b>
CRN #:	<b>11094</b>	Webpage (optional):	
Classroom:	<b>Room #305</b>	Office #:	<b>305A and Online</b>
Class Dates:	<b>08/11/2025 to 12/06/2025</b>	Office Hours:	<b>MW 2:30 to 4:00pm; TR 6:00 to 6:30pm</b>
Class Days:	<b>Mondays and Wednesdays</b>	Office Phone #:	<b>NA</b>
Class Times:	<b>11:20am to 12:45pm</b>	Emergency Contact:	<b>Use EMAIL</b>
Units:	<b>1</b>	Class Format/Modality:	<b>Face-to-Face</b>

### Course Description

[Paste in the course description from the Course Outline of Record (COR), located at <https://imperial.curricunet.com/Search>]

This course provides opportunities to learn and perform beginning through advanced Mariachi music in an ensemble setting, as well as to learn to play Mariachi instruments from beginning levels through proficient levels. The Mariachi instruments to be studied/played include violin, viola, cello, guitarron, guitar, vihuela, trumpet, small harp, accordion, voice, etc. Students will study musical note reading, proper performance stylistic practices of Mariachi music, memorization techniques, as well as ideal ensemble performance practices. Maximum credit four units.(C-ID: MUS 185) (CSU/UC)

### Course Prerequisite(s) and/or Corequisite(s)

[Paste in the course prerequisite(s) and/or corequisite(s) from the COR, located at <https://imperial.curricunet.com/Search>]  
No Experience Necessary. Audition helpful for determining level (Beginning or Experienced)

### Student Learning Outcomes

[Paste in the course student learning outcomes from the COR, located at <https://imperial.curricunet.com/Search>]

Upon satisfactory completion of the course, students will be able to:

1. Demonstrate the appropriate techniques of playing their instrument while performing beginning through advanced Mariachi music.
2. Demonstrate appropriate vocal techniques and performance practices, while performing beginning through advanced Mariachi music.
3. Rehearse and perform beginning through advanced Mariachi music in various sub-genres, with appropriate performance practices.

4. Identify, describe and analyze important Mariachi historical trends in musical styles and performance practices; as well as demonstrate knowledge of prominent Mariachi musicians and Mariachi Ensembles.
5. Demonstrate acquisition of beginning through advanced memorization techniques/abilities, through their increasing musicianship, aural abilities, and technical abilities.

## Course Objectives

*[Paste in the course objectives from the COR, located at <https://imperial.curricunet.com/Search>]*

## Lab Outline

1. Correct performance of assigned parts from a varied literature for mariachi band in concert.
2. Correct performance of assigned parts from a varied literature for mariachi band in rehearsal.
3. Demonstration of proper instrumental techniques appropriate to the style of the composition being performed.
4. Correct interpretation of music notation symbols of pitch, dynamics and expression.
5. The recalling of details about the style, period and performance practices of the composers and compositions studied in class.
6. Isolation of technical performance problems in rehearsal, and systematically apply standard rehearsal techniques to them.
7. Development of performance skills necessary for improvising a melody over rhythm section harmonic sequences.

## Textbooks & Other Resources or Links

*[Describe which textbooks and/or other resources are required for the course. Be sure to include ISBN.]*

Jeff Nevin. 2016. *Mariachi Mastery*. Neil A. Kjos Music Company. ISBN: 978-0849734588.

ANOTHER TEXTBOOK we will be using, by the same author:- "Mariachi Mastery Songbook", by Jeff Nevin, 2017, Neil J. Kjos Music Press, San Diego, CA, ISBN: 978-0-8497-3549-3 This book contains Mariachi arrangements of 36 songs, adding to the repertoire of Mariachi Mastery (by the same author). Thus, it provides more selections for the developing Mariachi musician.

## Course Requirements and Instructional Methods

*[Describe course activities, assignments, tests, homework, etc.]*

### Audio Visual

The instructor will provide guided instructions as to which YouTube videos are appropriate to watch to enhance the class learning experience. The instructor will often give a guided annotative commentary of the various Mariachi sub-genres video performances.

### Community Service

Our Mariachi Ensemble(s) will present performances in the community to enrich their musical cultural experiences.



#### Demonstration

The instructor will demonstrate proper Mariachi performance practices on various instruments (and voice) in each of the sub-genres.

#### Field Trips

The Mariachi Class may embark on field trips to Mariachi Festivals, both local and out-of-town. Eventually, our Mariachi Ensemble may travel to other states and out-of-country for performances, festivals and competitions

#### Group Activity

This is an ensemble class, so students will mainly be performing in groups.

#### Individual Assistance

Students will be given individual assistance on their instruments as appropriate to master various techniques and skills

#### Lecture

Lectures will be presented (incorporated into the lab activity, as appropriate) on Mariachi History, Famous Musicians, Famous Composers, and Famous Mariachi Ensembles

#### Lab Activity

The Lab Activity will be the instrumental and vocal training from beginning level through advanced level

#### Distance Learning

This course should also be set up to be offered in the Distance Education Modality, such as via ZOOM/Jamulus, and HyFlex (a F2F/Distance Education Modality). Indeed, HyFlex is BEST for all F2F modalities, because it will ensure student retention when life's vicissitudes set-in.

#### Out-of-class

Students will be expected to diligently practice their Mariachi instruments outside of class time to gain and solidify increasing proficiency and mastery of techniques, styles, performance practices, and confidence in performance. Furthermore, students will be expected to memorize their music for public performances.

#### Reading and Writing

Students will be assigned small research-reporting projects, where they will search for information about Mariachi composers, performers and ensembles, and report their findings (in presentation format) to their class. They will be "graded" on these activities, which may be done individually, or in small groups.

### Course Grading Based on Course Objectives

*[Provide detailed information related to grading practices and grading scale, including values and totals. Consider adding final grade calculation, rubrics, late assignment policy, and other grading practices.]*

#### COURSE GRADING:

Mariachi Ensemble Participation, Progress and Class Attendance.....	50%
Mariachi Ensemble Concert Performances.....	50%
TOTAL.....	100%



## Academic Honesty (Artificial Intelligence -AI)

IVC values critical thinking and communication skills and considers academic integrity essential to learning. Using AI tools as a replacement for your own thinking, writing, or quantitative reasoning goes against both our mission and academic honesty policy and will be considered academic dishonesty, or plagiarism unless you have been instructed to do so by your instructor. In case of any uncertainty regarding the ethical use of AI tools, students are encouraged to reach out to their instructors for clarification.

## Course Policies

*[Describe other policies such as attendance, academic honesty, netiquette, expected classroom behavior, etc.]*

- A student who fails to attend the first meeting of a class or does not complete the first mandatory activity of an online class will be dropped by the instructor as of the first official meeting of that class. Should readmission be desired, the student's status will be the same as that of any other student who desires to add a class. It is the student's responsibility to drop or officially withdraw from the class. See [General Catalog](#) for details.
- Regular attendance in all classes is expected of all students. A student whose continuous, unexcused absences exceed the number of hours the class is scheduled to meet per week may be dropped. For online courses, students who fail to complete required activities for two consecutive weeks may be considered to have excessive absences and may be dropped.
- Absences attributed to the representation of the college at officially approved events (conferences, contests, and field trips) will be counted as 'excused' absences.
- What is netiquette? Netiquette is internet manners, online etiquette, and digital etiquette all rolled into one word. Basically, netiquette is a set of rules for behaving properly online.
- Students are to comply with the following rules of netiquette: (1) identify yourself, (2) include a subject line, (3) avoid sarcasm, (4) respect others' opinions and privacy, (5) acknowledge and return messages promptly, (6) copy with caution, (7) do not spam or junk mail, (8) be concise, (9) use appropriate language, (10) use appropriate emoticons (emotional icons) to help convey meaning, and (11) use appropriate intensifiers to help convey meaning [do not use ALL CAPS or multiple exclamation marks (!!!!)].

## Other Course Information

*[Optionally, include other necessary information.]*

## IVC Student Resources

IVC wants you to be successful in all aspects of your education. For help, resources, services, and an explanation of policies, visit <http://www.imperial.edu/studentresources> or click the heart icon in Canvas.



## Anticipated Class Schedule/Calendar

*[Provide a tentative overview of the readings, assignments, tests, and/or other activities for the duration of the course. A table format as in the example below may be used for this purpose.]*

<b>Date or Week</b>	<b>Activity, Assignment, and/or Topic</b>	<b>Pages/ Due Dates/Tests</b>
August 11 <sup>th</sup> to September 29 <sup>th</sup> , 2025	Attendance and rehearsal of Musical repertoire, and Solos (as deemed necessary)	Quality Repertoire chosen by Instructor and students
September 29 <sup>th</sup> to October 6 <sup>th</sup> , 2025	Prepare for and Present Mid-Semester Concert on October 6 <sup>th</sup> , 2025, during Class time OR 7:00pm via F2F and Livestreaming. PARTICIPANTS must be IN-PERSON.	Present Musical Ensemble(s) and Solos Mid-Semester Concert via In-Person and Livestreaming Modalities during Class time OR 7:00pm on Monday October 6 <sup>th</sup> , 2025
October 7 <sup>th</sup> to November 16 <sup>th</sup> , 2025	Attendance and Rehearsal of Quality Ensemble(s) repertoire and Solos.	Quality Ensemble(s) repertoire and Solos Chosen by Instructor and Students
November 17 <sup>th</sup> , 2025, to November 22 <sup>nd</sup> , 2025	Prepare for and Present Final Concert on Monday November 17 <sup>th</sup> , 2025, during Class time OR at 7:00pm via F2F and Livestreaming. PARTICIPANTS Must be IN-PERSON.	Present Final On-Campus Performance of Musical Ensemble(s) and Solos Concert via F2F and Livestreaming on Monday November 17 <sup>th</sup> , 2025, during Class time, OR at 7:00pm
<b>Sunday November 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2025</b>	<b>FREE COMMUNITY Fall and Holiday Concert Performance at Saints Peter and Paul Episcopal Church in El Centro, CA at 3:00pm on SUNDAY November 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2025</b>	

**\*\*\*Subject to change without prior notice\*\*\***