MUE 2460 Brass Skills 1
University of Florida
College of Fine Arts - School of Music
MUB 121
Monday/Wednesday 7:25 - 8:15 AM

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Office hours: by appointment

Required Textbooks & Materials

2. Additional materials provided by instructor, the School of Music, and through the library.

Course Objectives

Students will develop:
- a practical pedagogy of brass instruments, with an emphasis for instruction of middle and high school students.
- relevant historical knowledge of the brass family.
- best practices in brass performance.
- essential preventative maintenance for brass instruments.

Non-brass majors will strive to:
1. Demonstrate characteristic tone quality on each instrument.
2. Perform three major scales selected from keys: B-flat, E-flat and F, and a one-octave chromatic scale (B-flat to B-flat) on each instrument assigned with a steady pulse.
3. Perform a short excerpt from the textbook on every instrument assigned.

Brass majors will strive to:
1. Demonstrate characteristic tone quality on each instrument.
2. Perform three major scales selected from keys: E-flat, B-flat, F, C, G, D, A and a two octave chromatic scale (F to F) on each instrument assigned with a steady pulse.
3. Perform a selected solo from the method book.

eLearning & University E-Mail

MUE 2460 is a web-enhanced course that will utilize eLearning as a supplement to in-class content. Per university policy, you are responsible for checking eLearning daily as communication and materials may be distributed through this system. Additionally, it is imperative for students to check university e-mail daily for class related communication.

Grading Policy and Percentage Distribution

90–100% = A | 80-89% = B | 70-79% = C | 60-69% = D | 59% and below = F

15% - Participation (Daily & Online) 
20% - Written Exams 
15% - Playing Exams 
25% - Transposition Projects/Tests 
10% - Brass Binder 
15% - Lesson Attendance & Synopsis

"Don't encourage mediocrity. Play at your best and don't be second class in the head."

Arnold Jacobs
Assignments

Participation (Daily & Online)
The skills you develop in this course will directly affect your day-to-day responsibilities as a professional educator. Full participation in this course is required for you to achieve the desired goals set forth for you as music educators.

A working instrument, the correct mouthpiece, textbook, and note taking supplies are required for each student at every class meeting. Failure to have all of these materials forfeits 75% of the student's daily participation grade. Wednesday, August 26 is the deadline to have all of the above materials.

Written Exams

There will be two (2) written exams in this class.

Playing Exams

There will be one (1) playing exam in this class for each instrument assigned.

Transposition Projects/Tests
For each instrument assigned, there will be 2 transposition projects/tests.

Brass Binder
The brass binder that you will build over the course of the two semesters is perhaps the most valuable tool that you will take away from this course. The goal of this binder is to be a reference tool that you can refer to during any number of situations that you will encounter as a music educator.

The general sections of the binder that are required are:
  I. Beginning Brass Instrument Techniques
  II. Common Problems & Troubleshooting
  III. Equipment
  IV. Repair Materials
  V. Reference Materials (Article, Instrument, and Mouthpiece Reviews & Documentation)
  VI. Original Class Notes

Lesson Attendance & Synopsis
You must attend 2 lessons given by a UF School of Music faculty member on each instrument you are assigned and provide a 1 page (standard university guidelines of Times New Roman, 12 pt font, double-spaced, in typed black ink) synopsis of that lesson. The goal of this exercise is for you to see real-world application of brass pedagogy in a private one-on-one setting. You are required to set up times with the instructor and it is strongly recommended that you view a lesson of a younger student. You may not view the same student twice.

Your synopsis is to focus on:
  • the breadth of the lesson, recalling the chronological structure of the lesson
  • any significant moments that the student, the teacher, or you, the viewer experience during the lesson
  • Documenting the literature and/or method books used in the lesson
Tests, quizzes, exams, and assignments must be completed at the time they are scheduled for full grade consideration. Points will be deducted for work that is not timely at the rate of 10% off the earned grade each day that it is late.

**Attendance Policy**
Attendance is required and essential for your success in this course. After 2 unexcused absences, you will lose five points per absence from your overall semester point total. Please be on time so not to interrupt any student learning. Be aware that 2 Tardies = 1 Absence.

Successful attendance is when the student is fully ready to participate in class activities at the start of class time.

**Academic Honor Policy**
It is expected that you will exhibit ethical behavior concerning your work in this class. Students are expected to do their own work, use their own words in papers, and to reference outside sources appropriately. Failure to uphold the standards of academic honesty will result in the appropriate disciplinary action.

As a result of completing the registration form at the University of Florida, every student has signed the following statement:

"I understand that the University of Florida expects its students to be honest in all their academic work. I agree to adhere to this commitment to academic honesty and understand that my failure to comply with this commitment may result in disciplinary action up to and including expulsion from the University."

We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honesty and integrity.

Furthermore, on work submitted for credit by UF students, the following pledge is either required or implied:

"On my honor, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid in doing this assignment."

**Students Requesting Accommodations due to Disabilities**
To request classroom accommodations, contact Assistant Dean of Students/Director of the Disability Resources Program P202 Peabody Hall or call 392-1261 (V), 392-3008 (TDD)

That is the office that will provide documentation to the student who must then provide these materials to the Instructor when requesting accommodation.

**Caveat**
This syllabus is subject to change.