

SYLLABUS

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Guidelines and Expectations

Study of your major instrument is a vital component of your overall development as a musician. Regular practice of your instrument should remain central to the pursuit of your degree.

Developing skill and musicianship on any instrument requires a methodic approach. Daily practice is essential to build embouchure strength and endurance, reinforce the concept of quality tone, and most importantly to ready the mind and intellect for a career in music.

I strongly encourage you to be creative in your musical endeavors within this course. The best students come to their lessons prepared with an agenda; they are eager to play and to display what they have accomplished during the preceding week. You are welcome to seek out solo (and chamber) literature that interests you, and you need not consider your assignments exclusive.

Materials

Obtain the Tuba/Euphonium Studio PA Pack from the Union Bookstore. This is a new collection of materials that will help you with your daily practice. I hope that it will help you with practice efficiency, and it might save you some money.

Have a small notebook for your lessons. It must come with you every week. I will write your assignments in it. Small really is better, because you have to carry it! You will lose a letter from your lesson grade if you don't bring your notebook.

You must own a metronome and a tuner.

Be prepared to purchase etude books and solos as needed. You should budget \$50-100 each semester for buying music. It is very important not to photocopy copyrighted materials. Do not use photocopies in your lessons *unless you have ordered and are waiting for your own original copy.*

I strongly encourage you to utilize the library to study and explore various music and recordings. Interlibrary loan is also available to you at no cost (your tuition pays for it-take advantage!).

Your Grades

The purpose of a grade is to certify that you have completed the expectations of the course to the standards of the institution that will issue your degree. It is much easier, healthier, and more effective to focus your efforts on meeting those *expectations* instead of worrying about grades. Understand *why* you are required to do certain things and work hard towards your goals with those reasons in mind. It is all too easy to become embittered with “required” work because of the pervasive threat of poor grades. Remember that you are here because you enrolled in the program and you must have done that for a good reason. You want to have a career in music, and you certainly want to be good at what you do.

2/3 of final grade: weekly lesson grades

1/3 of final grade: end of semester jury

Lesson Grades:

I will assign you a grade for each lesson as follows:

A+, 100%	You have gone above and beyond, showing hard work, organization, and improvement
A, 95%	Very good preparation
B, 85%	Mediocre preparation, or evidence of limited practice
C, 75%	Very limited improvement, lack of preparation, or missing materials
D, 65%	You show up, but haven't practiced at all
F, 0%	Missed, unexcused lesson

Required Concerts:

A large part of learning music is listening, and attending live performances is central to a good overall musical experience. You should go to all sorts of concerts. Listen to and support your friends and colleagues. Go to guest artist concerts, even if the artists are guitarists or percussionists. (Or flutists, or violinists, etc.)

Your attendance at the following concerts is required. Absence will result in a 2% deduction in the lesson portion of your final grade. You might occasionally have to miss a required concert for something that I will not excuse. As long as you are doing well otherwise, that 2% should not reduce the ultimate letter grade. If you are on the border between two letters, then it could.

Event	Date	Location	Time
Benjamin Pierce, faculty recital	10/16/07	SBSCH	7:30pm
Fac. Brass Quintet	11/13/07	SBSCH	7:30pm

Department Recital Attendance

The department requires attendance at eight concerts per semester. That averages out to about one concert every two weeks. The required concerts listed above DO count.

Wednesday Recital Hour

Go. It's easy. Go and relax and listen to your colleagues. I will get an attendance report each week. If it lists you as absent, I will confirm this with you and it will result in a deduction from your *jury* grade (this is specified by the department), at approximately 3% of the jury grade per missed WRH.

Note: If you have completed eight semesters of WRH then you can be excused, but you must fill out the exemption form found in the music office. Graduate students are not required to attend WRH but are encouraged to do so, especially when members of our studio are performing.

Excused Absences

You might be excused from a lesson or required concert for the following reasons: family emergency, your illness, or other reasonable and inevitable conflict. To clarify, here are some conflicts for which I will *not* excuse you: "alarm didn't go off" (that gosh darned thing), forgetfulness, an optional athletic event, or work. (Kudos to you for working, but keep a detailed calendar and make sure you clear the dates necessary to take care of all of your school obligations.) Please let me know ahead of time if you will not be able to attend a lesson or required event, and I am much more likely to be accommodating.

Inclement Weather

I will notify you by e-mail the day before your scheduled lesson if I need to cancel due to weather. If you are unable to come to school due to hazardous conditions, you must e-mail me. Please do not assume that your lesson is canceled unless 1) you hear from me, or 2) The University is closed, in which case all classes are canceled. (This sometimes happens, even though the official policy states otherwise).