

Applied Trombone
MUSIC-126/326 Syllabus
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Course Description

Offers individualized instruction to those intending to pursue a career in music with the instrumental focus trombone. This performative seminar provides the dedicated student with the necessary technical and expressive tools for well-rounded professional success. Students will develop a colorful personal sound, a soloistic range, orchestral dynamics, flexible articulation, an effective approach to breathing, comfortability in performing, and best practices in ensemble collaboration. Further, students will acquire knowledge of pedagogical theories and methods so that they may effectively communicate their knowledge to others. A vast range of repertoire will be evaluated as will contemporary and historical performance practices. Focus is put upon the research of expressivity and individual interpretation.

Studio Policies

Common sense applies here. Act, at all times, in a professional and respectful manner. Keep a datebook with accurate and up-to-date information. Take responsibility for your schedule and the unique requirements it demands. Work with your colleagues in a kind and supportive fashion. Accept criticism gracefully and with the knowledge that it is offered to assist an individual reach his or her professional aims. Regardless of struggle, attempt to remain positive, motivated, and curious at all times. Strive, relentlessly, for success.

Studio Environment

All members of the studio have ownership in establishing a safe and supportive environment in which an individual is encouraged learn and work. For its members to achieve artistic and professional success, the climate of the studio should be understanding and mature. The environment should welcome creativity, experimentation, and the sharing of ideas. All parties should interact with one another in a thoughtful and an encouraging manner. Intolerance, prejudice, or harassment is not tolerated.

Attendance

Arrive to lessons early, warmed-up, and prepared to perform. It is unacceptable to miss lessons—or rehearsals or other classes for the matter. If a student arrives late to a lesson, the lesson will not be extended past the scheduled end-time. If a student is more than 10 minutes tardy to a

lesson, the lesson is cancelled. If an illness or injury occurs, make contact with those affected as soon as possible to limit any inconvenience to others. Two excused absences may be obtained per semester. An excused absence is an absence approved of by the studio teacher more than 24 hours in advance of private instruction. Excused absences will be rescheduled at a mutually agreeable time. One unexcused absence is permitted per semester. This lesson will be rescheduled at the convenience of the other parties involved. If more than one lesson is missed, without excuse, the missed lesson will not be rescheduled and the semester grade will be lowered by one letter grade. Students are expected to attend all brass area recitals offered by both faculty and students.

Required Materials

Instruments: Students are required to own an instrument appropriate to their level of study and maintain its condition.

Mutes: Students are required to own a full compliment of mutes. This includes, at minimum, a straight, cup, wa-wa, and plunger. In addition, it is strongly encouraged that multiple versions of the aforementioned mutes are owned. Obtaining a variety of mutes promotes proper blend with other instrumentalists and offers the ability to perform in styles uniquely required by differing genres of music, composers, and performative aesthetics.

Sheet Music: It will be requested that specific solos, etude and technical study books, and the like, be obtained during a student's academic tenure. It is a requirement that the student purchase the music he or she performs and practices. It is against the law to duplicate any material that is currently under copyright protection. It is strongly encouraged that all young artists not steal from their future colleagues. This notice on theft also applies to compact discs and various other forms of media that can be transferred electronically.

Other Requirements: Students are required to purchase a metronome, tuner, and have access to some form of recording device—the importance of the latter should not be underestimated. The metronome should not be limited to fixed tempo positions. The tuner should be able to sound several octaves of sustained tones. The recording device may take on a myriad of forms. Simply put, it should capture an honest representation of sounded material, have the ability to realize recorded material back, and duplicate or transfer recorded material to digital components.

Course of Study: A repertoire list is available that details etude and technical books by purpose of study as well as solo works organized by level of technical proficiency.

Juries

End of term juried examinations are required for all music majors and minors. If special circumstances warrant a postponement of this assessment, an Incomplete will be applied to the students academic record until the requirement is fulfilled. Appropriate repertoire should be

selected that best challenges and represents the current level of technical ability and artistic advancement. If the repertoire selected involves a pianist, or other form of collaboration, it is a requirement that this consort, in its entirety, be present at the jury. Sign-up information will be available in the weeks prior to the day of juried evaluations—this day is the last Saturday of the semester. It is recommended that students sign-up as soon as the sign-up sheet is posted, after confirming the availability of any involved collaborators.

Juries are an important academic event that offer the entire brass faculty the opportunity to evaluate and discuss a student's musical development and that student's further participation in a specific degree program.

Recitals

Performance Majors: One full solo recital and one half solo recital is required for graduation. These performances should take place during the final two years of instruction.

Music Education Majors: One full solo recital is required for graduation. This performance should take place during the final year of instruction.

Other Music Majors and Music Minors: One half recital is required for graduation. It is encouraged that this recital be shared with a colleague. This partial, preferably joint, recital should take place during the final year of instruction.

Studio Recitals: All students registered for private instruction are required to participate in any offered studio recital.

Repertoire selected for performance should represent the current level of technical and artistic proficiency. The repertoire chosen should be drawn from a range of styles and time periods. Program notes, either printed or recited, are a highly encouraged component of all recitals.

Studio Class

All students enrolled in private instruction are required to attend the related weekly studio seminar. Studio Class meets on Wednesdays from 12:40-1:40 P.M. The course description is as follows:

Provides an introduction to and analysis of the trombone fundamentals required to realize a professional level of musicianship. This performance based seminar is a natural extension of private lessons and encourages best practices in technique, ensemble participation, listening, injury prevention, overcoming performance anxiety, music scholarship and research, and other vital areas of performance. Additionally, creative interpretation through an investigation of style and historical periods, professional performance etiquette and protocol, pedagogical concepts and methods, and artistic

aesthetics are encouraged. This course is designed for the musician looking to pursue a career in music as artist, teacher, or scholar.

Practice

Individual practice is perhaps the most important component to any musical education. Success will be awarded if enough diligent and intelligent practice is performed. One must be self-motivated, organized, and focused in the practice room. Daily improvement should be a steady aim. It is recommended that, at minimum, performance majors undertake three hours of daily practice, while all other majors practice daily for a minimum of two hours. The use of a practice journal is encouraged.

Listening

An individual cannot reach a high level of artistry without having a professional sound concept habituated to one's ear. Listen to fine recordings as often as possible. Scrutinize them. Listen to them with a score. Research multiple recordings of the same work and compare interpretations, styles, and techniques. Listen to and discuss them with your colleagues. Listen to a vast range of musical styles and genres from differing time periods. Do not only listen to music that features your or like instruments.

Evaluation

Lesson grades are the result of lesson performance and preparedness; technical and artistic growth; effort put forth in the practice room, in lessons, and in rehearsal; end of term juried examination; and attendance.

Brass Pedagogy

All B.M. in Performance majors must complete a comprehensive unit in Brass Pedagogy under the supervision of their primary applied studio instructor in his/her final year of study. This study will be an adjunct to the primary applied lessons at the upper level and will include the following:

1. Observation of lessons in all of the brass division studios, including that in which the student is enrolled;
2. Observation of Brass Techniques class (73-176);
3. Perusal of the major pedagogical materials (books, journal articles, etudes, and technical studies) in the student's primary area and a survey of that available for the other brass instruments;
4. Presentation of the student's findings to the brass faculty and students in a seminar.

Expectations

All studio participants achieve the ability to become a well-rounded, complete musician. All students, regardless of major, are expected to gain knowledge of trombone specific solo, chamber, and orchestra repertoire. Knowledge of this repertoire is gathered through rehearsal and performance, listening, score study, and attending live concert events. Entering into such endeavors, it is expected that students will improve technical instrumental proficiency, gain advanced musical aesthetics, understand and be able to produce varying styles of music, gather knowledge of esteemed performers and educators, refine critical thinking skills, and develop organized and diligent practice methods and routines. Lastly, upon completing this course, it is expected that the successful student will have garnered the necessary skills to teach learned concepts to others.

Lesson Fees

For those students enrolled in applied study but NOT registered for a large ensemble (orchestra, band, or choir), an applied music instruction fee of 100 dollars per credit hour is charged. Do note that the applied music instruction fee is not assessed at the time of enrollment but appears on the second billing statement after the fourth week of the term.