NEW SYLLABUS

MUSI 3040 Brass Instrument Skills – High Brass
M, F 4:00 - 4:50 p.m. – Goodwin Hall, Room 229

Prerequisites: Admission to Teacher Education or departmental approval

Credits: 1  Hours per week: 2

Course Description: Class instruction and practice in the rudiments of music and pedagogy of trumpet and horn.

Goals:
The purpose of High Brass Instrument Skills is to expose the Music Education student to the proper techniques involved in the performance of a Trumpet and Horn, and the pedagogy involved therein. Through performance, weekly mock lessons and lectures, the student will gain a practical knowledge of the trumpet and how to teach it. This course will be divided up over the semester to give equal time on each brass instrument in terms of performance and teaching. Each instrument may result in a 7 week period of instruction. The instruments will be taught in two 7 week sessions with a written midterm/final appropriate to the current instrument.

Texts:
“Standard of Excellence” (Trumpet-Book 1), Comprehensive Band Method, by Bruce Pearson (Kjos Music Company, 1993)
The Art of French Horn Playing by Philip Farkas (Summy-Birchard, 1956)

Additional materials provided by Instructor

Supplemental Texts:

Course Structure:
This course will be divided into 2 seven week sections. The first seven weeks will focus on trumpet, and the second seven weeks will focus on horn.

Grading Policy:
The semester grade will be the average of the grades for the 2 sections.

All grades will be based on a 10 point scale.

\[
A = 90-100 \quad B = 80-89 \quad C = 70-79 \quad D = 60-69 \quad F = \text{below 60}
\]

The grade for the first seven weeks will be determined by the following criteria: Performance Tests/Mock Lessons, Written Tests and the Comprehensive Midterm Exam.

- Playing Tests/mock lessons: 20% (10% of semester grade)
- Written Test: 50% (25% of semester grade)
- Midterm Exam: 30% (15% of semester grade)
The grade for the second seven-weeks will be determined by the following criteria: Performance Tests/Mock Lessons, projects and the Final Exam

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Playing Tests/Mock Lessons (4 @ 10% each)</td>
<td>40% (20% of semester grade)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Written Projects</td>
<td>20% (10% of semester grade)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final Exam</td>
<td>40% (20% of semester grade)</td>
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Withdraw:
Students may withdraw from this course with the grade of “W” if done so by midsemester. The Grade of W will appear on your official transcript from Auburn University.

Email Correspondence:
E-mail has become one of the official forms of correspondence on the Auburn University campus. I will respond to all emails within seven days. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me via email at any point over the course of the semester.

Final Exam:
The final exam will be given in the last scheduled class meeting as allowed by the university for a one credit class.

Students with Disabilities Act:
Students needing accommodations should arrange a meeting the first week of class. Come during office hours or email for an alternate time. Bring the Accommodation Memo and Instructor Verification Form to the meeting. Discuss items needed in this class. If you do not have an Accommodation Memo but need special accommodations, make an appointment with The Program for Students with Disabilities, 1244 Haley Center, 844-2096 (V/TT) or email: haynemd@auburn.edu.

Missed Class Meetings:
Attendance is required. One unexcused absence is allowed. After that all unexcused absences reduce the final average by one point. All existing university policies relating to absences, including those concerned with missed exams apply to this course. Those rules can be found in the Tiger Cub, which is available at http://www.auburn.edu/tigercub/rules/index.php. Make up tests and exams, when appropriate, will be scheduled at the convenience of both the student and the instructor. The student is responsible for contacting the instructor regarding make-up tests and exam no later than one week following the excused absence. The make-up date should occur within two weeks of contacting the instructor. There will be no unannounced quizzes in this class.

Class Schedule:

Trumpet:

Week One: The Trumpet Family
Equipment: mouthpieces, mutes, brands, sizes, etc.

Week Two: Care and Maintenance
Construction of Brass Instruments.
Written Test 1

Week Three: Performance on the trumpet
Hand Positions, Posture, Breathing, Embouchure, Mouthpiece placement.
(Book should arrive by the start of Week Three)
Week Four: Reading Assignment 1
Performance on the trumpet.
Written Test 2

Week Five: Reading Assignment 2
Mock Lesson 1
Performance on the trumpet
Playing Test 1 (Fundamentals, exercises, first pieces)

Week Six: Mock Lesson 2
Performance on the trumpet
Playing Test 2
Written Test 3

Week Seven: Review for Midterm Exam
Midterm Exam

Horn:

Week Eight: Pass out instruments. Basic care and Holding of the horn.
Basic holding position of the instrument, including mouthpiece angle, position
and use of right-hand, and posture.

Week Nine: Basics of brass playing which will include (but not be limited to) breathing and embouchure.
Natural Horn Playing Assignment

Week Ten: Common problems encountered by beginners and strategies to deal with them.
Playing Test 1

Week Eleven: Survey of literature, beginning methods.
Written project 1 (pedagogical resources)
Mock Lesson

Week Twelve: Survey of materials available for teaching the horn, intermediate and advanced.
Playing Test 2 (with valves)

Week Thirteen: The role of the horn in ensembles (physical placement, role in arrangements,
limitations by age group.)
In Class Listening.
Written Project 2 (Solo CD Report)

Week Fourteen: Application of pedagogical techniques
Mock Lesson 2 / Playing Test 3 (combined event)

Week Fifteen: Arranging for High School and Middle School Horn Ensembles.
Written Final

Playing Tests:
The playing exams will help to further your understanding of brass playing. The goal of such an exam is to have you develop some knowledge of the instrument, develop a representative tone, know the mechanics of playing the instrument and how to teach them. Each student will vary in their improvement over the course of the semester, so do not be discouraged if you do not emulate the sound of the professor
or other brass players in the course. This is merely an opportunity to play the trumpet/horn with some frequency.

**Practice:**
Depending on the physical number of instruments we have available to the course, may determine the frequency of your practice regimen. It is expected that you practice the instrument no less than an hour a week. It should become apparent that the improvement on the instrument will only come with continued practice.

**Mock Lessons:**
These will help you the student to teach a lesson/exercise/or topic to the student in a classroom setting. This will give you some experience in the classroom and will hope to provide you with some valuable feedback on how to improve your classroom management skills. Each Mock Lesson will take a total of 5 minutes, two will be asked of you over the course of the semester. You will assume that the student will know the material covered in class at the time of your mock lesson.

**Written Tests:**
Written Tests will be based off of the reading assignments, class discussions or lecture topics presented over the course of the semester.

**Midterm Exam and Final Exam:**
The midterm exam will be comprehensive, meaning that you will be responsible for the material covered so far over the course of the semester. Since this portion of the course will only deal with the trumpet, you will be responsible for the trumpet material only. The final exam will entail all materials based on both instruments. The written final will be held the last day of class in accordance with university policy.