Syllabus
MUSI 3080

Percussion Techniques

Instructor:
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Required Materials:
Text – The Complete Percussionist (second edition), Robert Breithaupt
Snare drum sticks – Vic Firth SD1 General
Practice pad – Remo Practice Pad – 10” tunable or Vic Firth Single Sided Practice Pad – 12” (pad12)

**all materials are available for purchase through Steve Weiss Music: http://www.steveweissmusic.com/catalog/index.php

Course Overview and Objective:
We will cover material on playing and teaching techniques for orchestral, jazz, and marching percussion, equipment purchasing and maintenance, solo and ensemble literature, teaching philosophies, and other topics relevant to percussion education. The primary goal of this course is to provide you as future music educators with the knowledge and resources to administer a successful percussion program within the boundaries of a Jr. High/High School music department.

Grades:
Grades will be determined by the following:
- Quizzes/Written assignments ......................30%
- Final Project ........................................35%
- Playing proficiency ..............................20%
- Class Participation ..............................15%

Class Participation:
Your participation in daily discussions are greatly encouraged. Keeping up with all assigned readings will allow you to participate fully in class discussions. Be inquisitive, and be willing discuss your ideas and views with the class.

*Students who need special accommodations in class, as provided for by the Americans with Disabilities Act, should make an individual appointment with me as soon as possible.
**Attendance:**
While formal attendance will not be kept, regular attendance is required to receive all of the information for quizzes, assignments, and for your participation grade. Students missing class for medical reasons should present the instructor with a doctor’s excuse during the next class period following the absence. Quizzes and tests missed without a written medical or university excuse will not be made up.

**Playing Proficiencies:**
At the end of the semester you will demonstrate your playing proficiency on a prepared snare drum piece as well as demonstrating correct playing techniques on keyboard, timpani, bass drum, crash cymbals, suspended cymbal, triangle, and tambourine. The proper techniques for playing all these instruments as well as the snare drum piece will be covered thoroughly in class. These demonstrations are important; they comprise 20% of your final grade.

**Final Project:**
This course will generate a final project. The project will be the assembly of all information covered (as well as some research done on your own) into a comprehensive percussion resource. You will assimilate all materials into a notebook that is well organized, easy to read, and contains all class notes, assignments, handouts, corrected quizzes, and any additional materials that you deem appropriate. The goal is to leave the course with a resource that will allow you to answer virtually any question about percussion that may arise when teaching in a public school setting.