

Sul Ross State University
Applied Brass Instruction: Trumpet, Horn, Baritone, Trombone, Tuba
MUS-1111/1211/3111/3211
Sections: 008/009/010/011/012

Instructor: Chris Dobbins
Office: FAB 103
Office Hours: TBA
Phone: 432-837-8018
Email: cdobbins@sulross.edu

Course Description

An intensive study of brass playing in the areas of fundamentals, lyrical and technical etudes, standards solos and orchestral excerpts from all periods, mariachi playing, and basic jazz techniques. Students will further develop musicality and expression on their instrument. May be repeated for credit.

Textbook and Materials

Solo literature and etudes will be different for each student based on level and need. Students will be informed in a timely manner as to what materials they need to purchase. Students will be assigned 1-2 etudes per week, and are expected to learn 2-3 standard solos per semester. Scales will be studied based on students' pre-existing knowledge.

Students that are music majors will be assigned one book per semester that they will read and write a 2-3 page report/reaction paper on. The paper is due by the end of music juries each semester. The assigned books are as follows:

- 1st Semester – *The Inner Game of Music* by Barry Green and W. Timothy Gallwey
- 2nd Semester – *The Perfect Wrong Note* by William Westney
- 3rd Semester – *Effortless Mastery* by Kenny Werner
- 4th Semester – *Song and Wind* by Arnold Jacobs
- 5th Semester – *A Soprano on Her Head* by Eloise Ristad
- 6th Semester – *The Art of Brass Playing* by Philip Farkas
- 7th Semester – *What Every Musician Needs to Know About the Body* by Barbara Conable
- 8th Semester – *The Musicians Way* by Gerald Klickstein

Student Learning Outcomes

Upon completion of this course, students will be able to:

1. Demonstrate improved proficiency, both technical and musical, in solo literature, studies, etudes, scales and ensemble literature, appropriate to individual skill level.
2. Demonstrate improved ability in sight-reading appropriate to individual skill level.
3. Demonstrate knowledge of historical style, appropriate to literature assigned.

Music Program Learning Objectives

This course is a required course for a major in instrumental music. As such, it helps the student to meet one or more of the program learning outcomes for the major. These learning outcomes include:

The graduating student will demonstrate:

1. the ability to integrate appropriate musical expression into performance.
2. the ability to prepare appropriate program notes.
3. the ability to evaluate and critique a musical performance.
4. a general knowledge of music history.

ADA Needs

It is Sul Ross University policy to provide reasonable accommodations to students with disabilities. If you would like to request such accommodations because of a physical, mental, or learning disability, please contact the ADA coordinator for Program Accessibility located in BAB 206 or call 837-8203.

Lesson Policies

1. Students are expected to practice everyday. Music majors are required to practice 90 minutes per day. Non-music majors are required to practice 60 minutes per day. Performance majors are required to practice 3 hours per day.
2. Students must bring all materials to their lesson.
3. Lessons can be made up only if the instructor receives an email or voicemail at least 24 hours in advance of the planned lesson time. Extenuating circumstances (sickness, death in the family, etc.) will be discussed if they occur.
4. Brass students are required to attend all concerts, clinics/masterclasses, and recitals given by all music students, teachers, and visiting artists. This includes the Alpine Community Band.

Attendance Policy

Since we have relatively few class meetings, and a great amount of material to cover, attendance is required. Extenuating circumstances should be discussed with the instructor prior to an absence, or as soon as possible following. Work conflicts are treated as unexcused absences and are not tolerated. Unexcused absences will be treated as follows:

- 1st Absence: Warning
- 2nd Absence: Lowering of earned grade by one full letter
- 3rd Absence: Lowering of earned grade by two full letters
- 4th Absence: Lowering of earned grade to an F
- 5th Absence: Expulsion from class

Tardy Policy

Being late to your lesson is disruptive to the learning process. If you enter after the start of your lesson time, you are tardy. Your first tardy is free. After that, every tardy will be counted as one unexcused absence, and will fall under the attendance policy in effecting your grade. If you are tardy for what you believe is an excusable reason, please speak with me in person after class. The teacher reserves the right to cancel your lesson without makeup for excessive lateness.

Professional Communication Policy

All communication with me should be done via email or my office phone number, both of which are listed at the top of the syllabus, or in person. You will be expected to check your email on a regular basis for communications from me. Contact by cell phone is for *emergency* situations only. Facebook is not an acceptable form of professional communication.

Grading

Grades are not given, they are EARNED. Students will be given the opportunity to earn points in several areas. Graded areas and points possible are:

Individual Lesson Grade - 40 pts per lesson– rubric below

Book Report/Reaction – 100 points

Attendance at Studio Class – 25 pts per class

Performance in Studio Class – 80 pts – Same criteria as rubric with 10 points possible in each category

Audition for Student Recital – 80 pts – Same criteria as rubric with 10 points possible in each category

Jury - 160 pts – same criteria as rubric, with 20 points being possible for each category.

At the end of each lesson, students will be given their rubric along with notes for the lesson and assignments for the next lesson. If you are unprepared, you may earn zero points for that lesson. To figure out your most current average, add points earned and divide by points possible. Letter grades will be based on the following percentages:

90-100 = A = Excellent

80-89 = B = Good

70-79 = C = Average

60-69 = D = Poor

Below 60 = F = Failure

I = Incomplete

	Outstanding	Excellent	Average	Poor	Ineffective
Tone	5	4	3	2	1
	Focused, resonant in all ranges and dynamics	Focus & resonance are affected by range and dynamics	Focus & resonance are inconsistent	Seldom focused & resonant	Not focused & resonant
Intonation	5	4	3	2	1
	Well centered, adjustments made quickly	Minor problems in certain ranges, dynamics	Some adjustments being made	Numerous problems with little adjustment	No adjustments being made
Technique	5	4	3	2	1
	Accurate articulations and technical facility	Minor defects in articulations and facility	Inconsistent articulations and facility	Lack of uniform articulations and facility	Minimal articulations and facility
Note accuracy	5	4	3	2	1
	All notes correct	Nearly all notes correct	Inconsistent note accuracy	Many incorrect notes	Minimal note accuracy
Rhythm	5	4	3	2	1
	Rhythms correct	Nearly all rhythms correct	Inconsistent rhythmic accuracy	Many incorrect rhythms	Minimal rhythmic accuracy
Expression	5	4	3	2	1
	Artistic use of style, tempo, phrasing and dynamics	Consistent use of expressive elements	Inconsistent use of expressive elements	Lacking expressive elements most of the time	No use of expressive elements
Preparation	5	4	3	2	1
	Prepared above and beyond level of assignment	Can play entire assignment with few mistakes	Can play entire assignment with average ability	Can play some of assignment	Unable to play assignment
Attitude	5	4	3	2	1
	Exceptional eagerness	Polite, courteous, eager to learn	Few excuses, ready to learn	Frequent negative comments, excuses	Uncooperative, disrespectful, unwilling to learn

Course Schedule

Weeks 1-14: Intensive progressive study of tone production, breathing, fundamentals, technique, etudes, exercises, and solo literature.

Calendar (events in bold signify required attendance)

Aug 25 – First Day of Classes

Aug 27 – Music Major Meeting, 5:30 pm in FAB 200

Sept 10 – Winds/Percussion Studio Class, FAB 100, 5:30 pm

Sept 20 – Home Football game at Jackson Field, 8:00 am call

Sept 24 – Studio Class, FAB 200, 5:30 pm

Sept 27 – Home Football game at Jackson Field, 8:00 am call

Sept 27 – *Tres Vidas* Musical Theater Presentation, Marshall Auditorium, 7:00 pm

Sept 29 – Marching Invitational, All Day, Jackson Field – NO WIND ENSEMBLE REHEARSAL

Sept 1 – Winds/Percussion Studio Class, FAB 100, 5:30 pm

Oct 5 – Move equipment to Marshall Auditorium, Meet in Band Hall, 3:00 pm
Oct 9 – Wind Ensemble/Concert Choir Concert, Marshall Auditorium, 6:00 pm call
Oct 11 - Home Football game at Jackson Field, 8:00 am call
Oct 12 – Alpine Community Band Concert, Marshall Auditorium, 3:00 pm
Oct 15 – Studio Class, FAB 200, 5:30 pm
Oct 29 – Winds/Percussion Studio Class, FAB 100, 5:30 pm
Nov 7 – Guest Recital, Chris and Heather Dobbins, St. James Episcopal, 6:00 pm
Nov 8 - Home Football game at Jackson Field, 8:00 am call
Nov 8 – Guest Recital – Dominic and Nayelli Dousa, 4-hand piano, Studio Theater, 7:30 pm
Nov 9 – Masterclass – Nayelli Dousa, piano, FAB 200, TBA
Nov 15 – Homecoming Parade, TBA, Downtown Alpine
Nov 15 - Homecoming Football game at Jackson Field, 8:00 am call
Nov 17 – Mariachi/Jazz Ensemble concert, Marshall Auditorium, 7:30
Nov 19 – Studio Class RECITAL HEARING, FAB 200, 5:30 pm
Nov 21 – Mariachi/Jazz at Artwalk, Transpecos Bank, 6:00 pm
Nov 22 – Artwalk parade, Location TBA, 10:00 am Call
Nov 30 – Move Equipment to Marshall Auditorium, Meet in Band Hall, 3:00 pm
Dec 2 – Extra Wind Ensemble Rehearsal with Fred Allen, Marshall Auditorium, 4:00 – 5:15 pm
Dec 4 – Wind Ensemble/Concert Choir Concert, Marshall Auditorium, 6:00 pm call
Dec 5 – Guest Recital – Lana Potts, St. James Episcopal, 6:00 pm
Dec 7 – Alpine Community Band Concert, Marshall Auditorium, 3:00 pm
Dec 7 – Student Recital, Studio Theater, 7:30 pm
Dec 10 – Music Juries, TBA