

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

**Instructor:** Jeffrey J. Meyer, D.M.A.  
**Office:** FAB 103      **Office Hours:** TBA  
**Phone:** office: 432-837-8018      cell: 785-840-6077 (text only in emergency situations, please)  
**Email:** jeffrey.meyer@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, etudes, and excerpts 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 and orchestra/band excerpts will be studied based on students' pre-existing knowledge.

### **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.

### **ADA Needs**

Sul Ross State University is committed to equal access in compliance with the Americans With Disabilities Act of 1973. It is the student's responsibility to initiate a request for accessibility services. Students seeking accessibility services must contact Mary Schwartz, M. Ed., L.P.C., in Counseling and Accessibility Services, Ferguson Hall, Room 112. The mailing address is P.O. Box C-122 Sul Ross State University, Alpine, TX 79832. Telephone: 432-837-8203. E-mail: [mschwartz@sulross.edu](mailto:mschwartz@sulross.edu).

### **Lesson Policies**

1. Students are expected to practice everyday.
  - a. Music majors are required to practice a minimum of 90 minutes per day.
  - b. Non-music majors are required to practice a minimum of 60 minutes per day.
  - c. Performance majors are required to practice a minimum of 3 hours per day.Each student will keep a daily practice journal, to be submitted to the instructor that will include all music practiced, rehearsed, and performed during the week.
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:

- 1<sup>st</sup> Absence: Warning
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Absence: Lowering of earned grade by one full letter
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Absence: Lowering of earned grade by two full letters
- 4<sup>th</sup> Absence: Lowering of earned grade to an F
- 5<sup>th</sup> 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. Please use text messaging only as a last resort. I reserve the right to not respond to text messages in non-emergency situations. 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

*Practice Journals* – 20 pts per lesson

*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	Inconsistent	Many incorrect	Minimal

		rhythms correct	rhythmic accuracy	rhythms	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)

Daily Activities will include at least 3 of the following:

- Study of daily routines and warm-ups
- Scales and technical exercises
- Intonation studies and melodious etudes
- Solo literature
- Orchestral and Band excerpts
- Study of chamber and ensemble music
- Improvisation
- Sight-reading

<u>Date/Time</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Location</u>
Monday, August 24	Classes begin	Sul Ross U.
<b>Wednesday, August 26, 5:30 pm</b>	<b>Music Major Meeting</b>	<b>FAB 200</b>
Saturday, September 5, 6:00 pm	Home Football Game	Jackson Field
<b>Thursday, September 17, 7:30 pm</b>	<b>Faculty Sampler Recital</b>	<b>Studio Theater</b>
<b>Wednesday, September 23, 5:30 pm</b>	<b>Studio Class</b>	<b>FAB 200</b>
Monday, September 28, All day	Marching Invitational	Jackson Field
<b>Thursday, October 15, 7:30 pm</b>	<b>Wind Ensemble/Concert Choir</b>	<b>Marshall</b>
Saturday, October 17, 6:00 pm	Home Football Game	Jackson Field
<b>Sunday, October 18, 3:00 pm</b>	<b>Alpine Community Band</b>	<b>Marshall</b>
<b>Wednesday, October 21, 5:30 pm</b>	<b>Studio Class</b>	<b>FAB 200</b>
Saturday, October 24, 6:00 pm	Home Football Game	Jackson Field
Saturday, October 31, TBA	Homecoming Parade	Downtown
Saturday, October 31, 1:00 pm	Home Football Game	Jackson Field
<b>Monday, November 16, 7:30 p.m.</b>	<b>Mariachi and Jazz Ensemble</b>	<b>Espino Center</b>
<b>Wednesday, November 18, 5:30 pm</b>	<b>Studio Class: RECITAL HEARING</b>	<b>FAB 200</b>
Friday, November 20, 6:00 pm	Mariachi/Jazz at Artwalk	TBA
Saturday, November 21, TBA	Artwalk Parade	Downtown
<b>Thursday, December 3, 7:30 pm</b>	<b>Wind Ensemble/Concert Choir</b>	<b>Marshall</b>
<b>Friday, December 4, noon</b>	<b>Student Recital Rehearsal</b>	<b>Studio Theater</b>

**Sunday, December 7, 3:00 pm**  
**Sunday, December 7, 7:30 pm**  
**Wednesday, December 10, TBA**

**Alpine Community Band**  
**Student Recital**  
**Music Juries**

**Marshall**  
**Studio Theater**  
**Studio Theater**

TBA – dress/call times and early Saturday rehearsals for Marching Band, times to move equipment to-and-from Marshall for concerts