

Semester: FALL 2016 (8/22 – 12/7)

Course: Brass Techniques – MUS 1114 (11638)

This course meets MW 9-9:50 a.m. in FAB 100 (Band Hall).

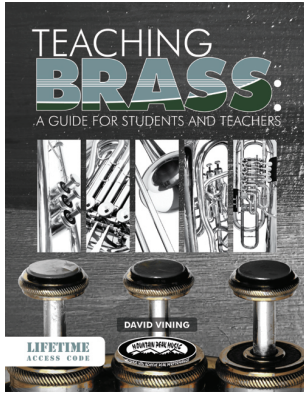
Instructor: Jeffrey J. Meyer, D.M.A.

Office: FAB 103, **E-mail:** jeffrey.meyer@sulross.edu, **Phone** (432) 837-8018

Cellphone (emergencies only) (785) 840-6077

Office Hours: MW 10-10:30am, 5:30-6pm; TTh 10:30-11am, 12:15-12:45pm, and 5:30-6pm

Required Text: Vining, David. Teaching Brass: A Guide for Students and Teachers. Mountain Peak Music: Flagstaff, AZ (2010), with online access.



Although this is not an on-line class, several of the textbook's resources and course requirements and recommendations will necessitate Internet access.

Course Description: This course is designed to give the student basic skills in playing brass instruments and prepare the student to be an effective and knowledgeable teacher of brass instruments. Emphasis will be placed on performance and pedagogy, and will familiarize the student with the resources available to supplement the information that is presented in class.

Student Learning Outcomes for Music Majors:

SLO 1: All students will demonstrate the ability to integrate appropriate musical expression into performance.

SLO 2: All students will demonstrate the ability to research and prepare appropriate program notes.

SLO 3: All students will demonstrate the ability to evaluate and critique a musical performance.

Student Learning Outcomes for the Course (SLOs):

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

1. Recognize a characteristic sound on each of the brass instruments. (*knowledge*)
2. Play each brass instrument at an acceptable level with a characteristic sound. (*skill*)
3. Explain solutions to playing and pedagogical problems as they relate to brass instruments. (*knowledge, skill, and disposition*)
4. Explain basic historical evolutions of brass instruments. (*knowledge*)
5. Seek out resources to answer questions and problems beyond their knowledge. (*skill and disposition*)

Major Assignments with Matched SLOs:

- Written Chapter Tests and Homework with Audio/Video Components – 1., 3., 4., 5.
- In-class Playing Tests – 2., 5.
- Observation Report (Marching Clinic) – 1., 3.
- Resource Notebook of Collected Materials – 3., 4., 5.

ADA (Americans With Disabilities Act):

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 Schwartze, 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, Texas 79832. Telephone: 432-837-8203. E-mail: mschwartz@sulross.edu.

Attendance Policy:

You could not effectively teach a brass instrument to a beginning student who does not show up to their lessons. Absences would highly indicate that the student neither practices nor completes homework assignments. In the same way, you will not learn to be an effective music teacher if you don't attend class.

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

No absence will be excused without written authorization.

Tardy Policy

Being late to class is disruptive to other students, the teacher, and the learning process. If you enter after the start of class, you are tardy. The start of class is defined as the point at which the teacher begins teaching. Your first tardy is free. After that, every two tardy occurrences 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.

Written authorization may be required.

Cell Phone Policy

Class time is limited and use of cell phones causes unneeded distraction to the learning process. Therefore, cell phone use during class is strictly prohibited, and repeated violation of this policy will have an effect on your grade. The following are the grade repercussions for violation of this policy:

1st Offense – Warning

2nd Offense – Lowering of earned grade by one full letter

3rd Offense – Lowering of earned grade by two full letters

4th Offense – Lowering of earned grade to an F

5th Offense – Expulsion from class

Professional Communication Policy

All communication with me should be done via e-mail 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 e-mail on a regular basis for communications from me. Facebook is not an acceptable form of professional communication.

Grading

Grades are not given, they are EARNED.

Since this is a skills course, your grade will primarily be based on your performance in class and on playing quizzes, as well as your knowledge of the historical and pedagogical aspects of each instrument. Students will be given the opportunity to earn points in the following areas:

20% Written Assignments and Homework

20% Playing Assignments and Tests

20% Written Tests

20% Attendance and Participation

20% Final Exam and Resource Notebook

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

Tentative Weekly Course Outline (Subject to change)

Date	Topic	Test/HW Due	Assignment
Mon. 8/22	Intro., Syllabus, Chapter 1 A. How Brass Instruments Work B. Breath Support C. Embouchure	None	Buy book, sign up online, Basics HW
Weds. 8/24	Ch. 1 continued, pass out trumpets D. Holding and Assembling E. First Notes F. Chapter Review	Have book with online access, Basics HW	Breathing and Embouchure HW
Mon. 8/29	Ch. 2, A. Articulation B. Changing Notes "Horizontally" C. Trombone Slide vs. Valves	Breathing and Embouchure HW	Ch 2 HW
Weds. 8/31	Ch. 2 D. Changing Notes "Vertically" E. Tone Quality F. Chapter Review	Ch 2 HW	
Mon. 9/5	LABOR DAY	X	X
Weds. 9/7	Ch. 3 Harmonic Series & 4 Basic Fingerings and Slide Positions		Ch 3-4 HW
Mon. 9/12	Ch. 5 Intonation Problems and	Ch. 3-4 HW	Ch. 5 HW

	Remedies & 6 Trumpet A. Overview B. Equipment C. Tone		
Weds. 9/14	Ch. 6 D. Technique E. Intonation F. History and Discography	Ch. 5 HW	
Mon. 9/19	Ch. 6 G. Repertoire H. Common Mistakes I. Ranges and Fingerings J. Chapter Review		Practice and study
Weds. 9/21	Collect Trumpets, Pass out French Horns, Ch. 7 French Horn A. Overview B. Equipment C. Tone	Ch. 6 Written and Playing Test	
Mon. 9/26	Ch. 7 D. Technique E. Stopped Horn F. Intonation		
Weds. 9/28	Ch. 7 G. History and Discography H. Transposition I. Repertoire J. Common Mistakes		
Sat. 10/1, TBA	MARCHING CLINIC	X	Observation Report
Mon. 10/3	Ch. 7 K. Marching Horn L. Range and Fingerings M. Chapter Review		Practice and study

Weds. 10/5	Collect French Horns, pass out trombones, Ch. 8 Trombone A. Overview B. Equipment C. Tone	Ch. 7 Written and Playing Test	
Mon. 10/10	Ch. 8 D. Technique E. Intonation F. Bass Trombone	Observation Report Due for Marching Clinic	
Weds. 10/12	Ch. 8 G. History and Discography H. Repertoire I. Common Mistakes J. Slide Chart		
Mon. 10/17	Ch. 8 Chapter Review		Practice and study
Weds. 10/19	Collect Trombones, pass out euphoniums, Ch. 9 Euphonium A. Overview B. Equipment C. Tone	Ch. 8 Written and Playing Test	
Mon. 10/24	Ch. 9 D. Technique E. Intonation F. History and Discography		
Weds. 10/26	Ch. 9 G. Repertoire H. Common Mistakes I. Fingering Chart		
Mon. 10/31	Ch. 9 Chapter Review		Practice and study
Weds. 11/2	Collect Euphoniums, pass out tubas, Ch. 10 Tuba A. Overview	Ch. 9 Written and Playing Test	

	B. Equipment C. Tone		
Mon. 11/7	Ch. 10 D. Technique E. Intonation F. History and Discography		
Weds. 11/9	Ch. 10 G. Repertoire H. Common Mistakes		
Mon. 11/14	Ch. 10 Chapter Review		Practice and study
Weds. 11/16	Collect Tubas, Ch. 11 Advanced Techniques	Ch. 10 Written and Playing Test	
Mon. 11/21	Ch. 11 – Advanced Resources, Videos, Recordings, and Techniques		Review for Final
Weds. 11/23	THANKSGIVING	X	X
Mon. 11/28	Ch. 12 Maintenance and Basic Repair		Review for Final
Weds. 11/30	Ch. 13 Director's/Teacher's Resources		Review for Final
TUES 12/6 8- 10am	FINAL EXAM & Resource Notebook Due	FINAL EXAM & Resource Notebook Due	