



Individual Instruction in Brass and Percussion  
MUS 1111/1211/3111/3211  
Fall 2020

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

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Class Meetings: online only

Office Hours: MTWR 9:00-10:00 or by appointment (*appointments preferred*)

**Description**

The study of an individual brass or percussion instrument(s) and its/their corresponding repertoire, etudes, scales, and tone studies; as well as performance and musicality.

**Student Learning Objectives (SLOs)**

Upon successful completion of this course, the student will be able to:

- develop their highest possible level of instrumental performance and musicianship, both as a soloist and member of an ensemble. (Skills)
- demonstrate through study and performance major works from the repertoire.  
These include concertos, sonatas, solo works, as well as orchestral repertoire and etudes. (Skills)
- prepare a foundation of technique through various studies in tone, articulation, and scale exercises. (Skills)
- reflect on their own progress and performances and then apply those observations to develop new practice techniques and solutions for those issues in the future. (Attitudes or Dispositions)

### **Music Program Student Learning Outcomes (SLOs):**

- SLO 1: All students will demonstrate the ability to integrate appropriate musical expression into performance [or composition].
- 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 [or composition].

This course contributes to addressing these cumulative SLO's.

The music student graduating with a BM in music (instrumental or vocal performance; instrumental or vocal education; or music business) should have the following Marketable Skills:

1. Ability to collaborate and network with others to achieve a shared goal, utilizing problem solving, flexibility and improvisation, and consideration of others' thoughts and creative processes. \*
2. Proficiency in public speaking and writing about music, especially in teaching basic musical concepts to all ages and incorporating technology for presentation and production.
3. Ability to prepare and perform a program of age-appropriate, relevant, and diverse repertoire, as an individual or part of an ensemble, to an audience, advocating for the arts through engaging with and serving the community. \*
4. Experience using problem solving skills and abstract thinking to analyze compositions and examine their aesthetic through musical and extra-musical concepts, such as historical context and text setting. \*
5. Ability to create and disseminate basic marketing and public relations materials, as well as resumes, websites, and digital portfolios.

Marketable Skills specifically addressed by this course indicated with \*

### **About this Course**

- Applied brass/percussion students will have a one-on-one lesson with the instructor for either one hour or one half-hour each week, depending on the registered hours. The lesson will be scheduled during the first week of the semester.
- Students are required to present their work by the end of the semester during a studio class and to attend all studio classes.
- Music majors and minors must perform a juried examination, unless performing a degree recital during the current semester.

- Performers who are able are expected to perform on studio and/or student recitals.
- All brass and percussion students are required to attend all concerts and recitals.

### **Required Materials**

- A well-maintained instrument (yours or loaned from the school)
- Assigned music; scale, etude, and warm-up books
- A metronome and a tuner
- Notebook and pencils

All students must have a notebook or 3-ring binder and are required to bring it to weekly lessons and to studio classes. The instructor will record weekly lesson assignments in this and the student will bring this to studio classes for taking notes and collecting handouts. Also, students may be required to record daily practice sessions (time practiced and material covered) to turn in to the instructor at each lesson.

### **Practice:**

Study of an instrument requires self-discipline and time management. Regular and consistent practice is expected of all students. A minimum of 1 hour per day, consisting of 20 minutes of tone and technique exercises and 40 minutes of work on repertoire should be the minimum for all majors. Music minors and non-majors should practice a minimum of 30 minutes per day, 10 minutes on exercises and 20 on repertoire. The development of positive muscle memory and musicality requires consistent practice and thought over time; there is no way around this and no way to cram just before a performance to make up for the lack of it.

### **Recital Attendance:**

All brass and percussion music majors and minors are expected to attend all other student concerts, recitals, and faculty and guest artist series concerts. A list of these performances and the dates will be distributed at the beginning of the semester. Failure to support your classmates and meet the required recital attendance will result in your grade being lowered by one letter.

If you have a conflict with a required performance that is job related, you must submit the name of your employer with a telephone number to your instructor for verification. For church-related conflicts, submit the name and phone number of your pastor. For illness - a doctor's note.

**Rehearsing with Accompanist:**

Students performing pieces with piano accompaniment will be responsible for scheduling rehearsals with Dr. Ford. To appropriately rehearse the material, students should expect to meet with Dr. Ford at least two or three times before an upcoming performance. At least ONE of those rehearsals should be scheduled so that the instructor can be there as well. You are responsible for coordinating these rehearsals with Dr. Ford and Dr. Meyer.

**Juries:**

All music majors and minors will play a jury examination at the end of each semester until his or her graduation requirements are fulfilled. The repertoire for a jury will be determined with the instructor, based on the works studied throughout the semester, and will include scales and contrasting solo works.

**Class Attendance and Participation**

- Actively working in the course and completing assignments constitutes class participation, as does corresponding with the instructor via e-mail if you have difficulty with an assignment or technical problems.
- Late work will not be accepted unless accompanied by a written excuse such as a doctor's note, military orders, or official University excuse. Unless an emergency, these should be discussed with the instructor before the due date passes. Due to the work-at-your-own-pace nature of this course, you should not need an extension on any work due except for extreme cases, to be discussed with the instructor on a case-by-case basis.

**Grading Procedures**

Your final grade will be determined by the following formula:

50% Participation and completion of weekly assigned work

15% Live Performance Participation

15% Recital/Concert Attendance

20% Juried Exam (or degree recital)

**Grading Scale**

90%-100%      A

80-89%        B

70-79%        C

60-69%        D

59% and lower      F

**Lesson Policies:**

- Notice must be received by phone or email 24 hours in advance of a missed lesson. Lessons missed or cancelled by the student are forfeited regardless of reason and will not be rescheduled EXCEPT FOR extreme illness, a musical performance, or an actual emergency. Any unexcused absence could greatly affect the outcome of your final grade. Please be pro-active and take care of your health and well-being.
- All lessons missed by your instructor will be rescheduled.
- Studio classes in the Music Program will be scheduled and a list of dates handed out at the beginning of the semester. Attendance is required in studio classes for all music majors and minors taking applied brass lessons. Each student is required to perform in at least one of each of these classes during the semester.
- Please knock and enter when it is your lesson time, even if you hear someone playing.
- You are expected to purchase, borrow from the library, or in some way obtain the music assigned by your instructor within ONE WEEK of it being assigned to you, no exceptions!
- Please refer to the University's attendance policy and policy for instructor initiated drops.

**Professionalism:**

- Students found to be using any electronic device while attending any performance will have their grade lowered by one letter.
- Students are expected to conduct themselves in a mature and professional manner and are expected to fully support and respect each member of the studio. Remember that you are representing Sul Ross State University, the Music Program, and yourself always. All your actions define your professionalism and have an impact on how you are perceived by your colleagues and professors now and into the future.

**Professional Communication Policy**

- All communication with me should be done through e-mail. If needed, we can arrange to speak over Zoom.
- You are expected to check your e-mail on a regular basis.

**Academic Integrity**

Academic dishonesty hurts everyone and reduces the value of college degrees. Doing someone else's work, presenting the ideas and work of others as

your own, submitting the same paper for multiple classes, and/or failing to cite your sources when you utilize the ideas of others, are all examples of academic dishonesty. It is your responsibility to read and understand the university's policy on academic dishonesty in the SRSU Student Handbook, as all violations will be taken seriously and handled through the appropriate university process. The Student Handbook can be found at: <https://www.sulross.edu/page/2454/student-handbook> (page 80).

In addition, please note that plagiarism detection software will be used in this class for written assignments, as well as monitoring software for course exams.

If you have any questions about this, please ask!

### **SRSU Library Services**

The Sul Ross Library offers FREE resources and services to the entire SRSU community. Access and borrow books, articles, and more by visiting the library's website, [library.sulross.edu](http://library.sulross.edu). Off-campus access requires your LoboID and password. Check out materials using your photo ID. Librarians are a tremendous resource for your coursework and can be reached in person, by email ([srsulibrary@sulross.edu](mailto:srsulibrary@sulross.edu)), or phone (432-837-8123).

### **SRSU Disability Services:**

Sul Ross State University (SRSU) is committed to equal access in compliance with Americans with Disabilities Act of 1973.

It is SRSU policy to provide reasonable accommodations to students with documented disabilities. It is the student's responsibility to initiate a request each semester for each class. Students seeking accessibility/accommodations services must contact Rebecca Greathouse Wren, LPC-S, SRSU's Accessibility Services Coordinator at 432-837-8203 (please leave a message and we'll get back to you as soon as we can during working hours), or email [rebecca.wren@sulross.edu](mailto:rebecca.wren@sulross.edu). Our office is located on the first floor of Ferguson Hall (Suite 112), and our mailing address is P.O. Box C-122, Sul Ross State University, Alpine, Texas, 79832.

### **Distance Education Statement:**

Students enrolled in distance education courses have equal access to the university's academic support services, such as Smarthinking, library resources,

online databases, and instructional technology support. For more information about accessing these resources, visit the SRSU website. Students should correspond using Sul Ross email accounts and submit online assignments through Blackboard, which requires secure login information to verify students' identities and to protect students' information. The procedures for filing a student complaint are included in the student handbook. Students enrolled in distance education courses at Sul Ross are expected to adhere to all policies pertaining to academic honesty and appropriate student conduct, as described in the student handbook. Students in web-based courses must maintain appropriate equipment and software, according to the needs and requirements of the course, as outlined on the SRSU website.

### **COVID Statement:**

Sul Ross State University will follow federal, statewide, and Texas State University System orders. All changes will be posted on the SRSU website: [sulross.edu](http://sulross.edu).

If you need further assistance, please contact your support services listed above, including counseling, library, OIT/Blackboard.

In face-to-face courses, wearing masks and social distancing is required. Anyone who has a fever, or any other symptom, should stay home. If you do not comply with these directions, you will be asked to leave, and if you do not, class will be cancelled.

Patience, respect, and cooperation are needed from all of us to persist through these uncomfortable times. Your health, safety, and academic success is my priority.

### **Course Content and Calendar (subject to change)**

*Each lesson shall consist of the following instructional methods: warm-ups, fundamentals, lyrical etudes, technical etudes, excerpts, solos, chamber music, ensemble music, and other relevant topics, such as auditioning, performance anxiety, career development, and so forth. The instructional methods contribute towards the aforementioned SLOs.*

#### WEEK 1 August 24 – August 30

First Day of Classes: August 24, 2020

Lesson 1

Weds. August 26 - MMMM

#### WEEK 2 August 31 – September 6

Lesson 2

WEEK 3 September 7 – September 13

Lesson 3

Weds. September 9 – Performance/Studio Class 1 (Zuzu)

WEEK 4 September 14 – September 20

Lesson 4

WEEK 5 September 21 – September 27

Lesson 5

Weds. September 23 - Performance/Studio Class 2 (Zuzu)

WEEK 6 September 28 – October 4

Lesson 6

WEEK 7 October 5 – October 11

Lesson 7

Weds. October 7 - Performance/Studio Class 3 (Zuzu)

WEEK 8 October 12 – October 18

Lesson 8

WEEK 9 October 19 – October 25

Lesson 9

Weds. October 21 - Performance/Studio Class 4 (Zuzu)

WEEK 10 October 26 – November 1

Lesson 10

WEEK 11 November 2 – November 8

Lesson 11

Weds. November 4 – Recital Hearing (Zuzu)

WEEK 12 November 9 – November 15

Lesson 12

Veteran's Day: November 11, 2020

WEEK 13 November 16 – November 22

Lesson 13

Weds. November 18 – Student Recital (Zuzu)

WEEK 14 November 23 – November 29

Lesson 14

Thanksgiving Holiday: November 25-27, 2020

WEEK 15 November 30 – December 2

Last Day of Classes: December 2, 2020

Dead Day: December 3, 2020

**Final Examinations: December 4, 7-9, 2020**

**Juried examinations: December 9, 2020, time TBD**