Course Description: Principles, fundamentals, and techniques of playing and teaching the brass family of instruments, to include the trumpet, horn, trombone, euphonium, and tuba.

Course Objectives:
- To learn and practice the ability to teach the fundamentals or the brass family of instruments to others.
- To obtain a basic and demonstrable playing knowledge of each brass instrument.
- To understand the physical properties of brass instruments and how those properties affect pedagogical considerations.
- To gain a working and evolving knowledge of the fundamentals of brass pedagogy.
- To demonstrate a thorough knowledge of the care and maintenance of brass instruments.
- To foster a desire to seek out further knowledge to supplement and aid in the teaching of brass instruments throughout your career.

Required Texts:
Throughout the semester, I will hand out or send links to important resources/articles/musical examples/etc. As I am not requiring you to purchase a textbook at this time, I strongly recommend that you compile some sort of notebook or file with all of these materials for future reference. Also, it will help to familiarize yourself with the recommended texts below, particularly the Whitener book.

Recommended Texts:
- Whitener, Scott: *A Complete Guide To Brass* (3rd ed.)
- Arban: *Celebrated Method* (versions available for trumpet, trombone/euphonium, and tuba)
- Pottag and Andraud: *335 Selected Melodious, Progressive, and Technical Studies for French Horn*
- Pilafian/Sheridan: *The Breathing Gym* (book and DVD)

Other Recommended Materials:
- A loud metronome. The key is being able to hear it while playing. Most metronomes which use a beep are easily drowned out (and therefore ignored), especially with higher-pitched brasses. In many cases, adding an external speaker will help.
- A digital tuner. (There are many capable tuner apps available for iPhone/Android for those not yet ready to invest in a dedicated tuner.)
- A digital recording device. Record yourself as often as possible. Recording technology has become very affordable in recent years and is an invaluable tool for helping you improve more quickly. The tape never lies and will force you to become a more critical listener of your own performances. (Again, most smartphones already possess these capabilities. Put them to good use.)
Course Requirements and Grading:

Attendance and participation in classes is required of all enrolled students. As this class only meets once per week, missing one class is the equivalent of missing two or even three classes in another course. For that reason, only two absences of any kind will be permitted throughout the duration of this class. A third absence of any kind will result in a failing grade for the semester. Any quizzes or playing tests given during a missed class will NOT be made up and will be given a failing grade. Again, your attendance and participation is vital to your success in this class.

This course will focus on four main areas: playing, teaching, requisite knowledge, and listening. Playing tests will consist of materials assigned by the instructor and performed by the student on a specific brass instrument for a grade. Teaching tests will involve preparing and presenting a lesson involving the teaching of specific brass concepts to a member(s) of the class. Periodic quizzes throughout the semester will test requisite knowledge of brass basics. Listening tests will consist of written responses to assigned listening. In addition, there will be a written final.

All written assignments may be submitted to me via email at cbradwhitfield@gmail.com. Quizzes, playing tests, and teaching demonstrations will be done during class time. All playing tests will be recorded.

Tentative Class Schedule*:

1/6 Introduction and Basics of Brass
1/13 Fundamentals 1: Tone Production/Care and Maintenance of Brass Instruments (pass out instruments)
1/20 Instruments 1: The Trumpet (Listening Assignment 1 due)
1/27 Fundamentals 2: Articulation (Teaching Demonstration 1)
2/3 Playing Test 1 (instrument switch)
2/10 Breathing: The Lifeblood of Brass Playing (Listening Assignment 2 due)
2/17 Fundamentals 3: Flexibility and Range Building (Teaching Demonstration 2)
2/24 Playing Test 2 (instrument switch)
3/3 Instruments 2: The Trombone (Listening Assignment 3 due)
3/10 Instruments 3: The Tuba & Euphonium (Teaching Demonstration 3)
3/17 No Class (Spring Break)
3/24 Playing Test 3 (instrument switch)
3/31 Instruments 4: The Horn (Listening Assignment 4 due)
4/7 Fundamentals 4: Phrasing (Teaching Demonstration 4)
4/14 Playing Test 4 (instrument turn-in), Review for final exam
TBA Final Exam

* Subject to change. Be flexible!