BRASS TECHNIQUES AND MATERIALS
MUSC 3602 – Spring 2009 (Humanities 301)
Tuesday 5:30-8:00 p.m.

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Course Description: Principles, fundamentals, and techniques of playing and teaching trumpet, horn, trombone, euphonium, and tuba. Includes a survey of instructional materials and literature for brass instruments.

Course Objectives: As a result of studies in this course, students will demonstrate:

- Appropriate embouchure, hand placement, body position, and playing techniques for the brass instruments (i.e., trumpet, horn, trombone, euphonium, and tuba).
- Correct assembly and care for the brass instruments, and knowledge of the necessary accessories.
- Expertise in playing major scales over a two-octave range (when appropriate) on one or more of the brass instruments.
- Appropriate performance technique on assigned solos and ensemble materials.
- Ability to complete fingering charts for the brass instruments.
- Knowledge and understanding for the acoustical properties of the various brass instruments.
- Visual and aural diagnostic skills that will result in the application of the appropriate instructional technique.
- Knowledge of selected materials, literature, and techniques for teaching and learning brass instruments.
- Knowledge of the history of the brass instruments.
- Weekly improvement of brass performance skills through daily practice.

Required Materials and Texts:

- A Complete Guide to Brass, by Scott Whitener, 3rd edition (used 2nd edition is fine, also)
- Instrument, mouthpiece, and related equipment (lubrication oils/greases, etc.) in working order
- 2 sharpened pencils
- 3-ring binder
- Metronome

Attendance: While attendance is not factored into the student’s grade, it is strongly recommended that students attend all classes in order to be successful in developing the skills and understanding needed to effectively play and teach brass instruments.
It is the student’s responsibility to inform the instructor in a timely fashion (before class) if there are legitimate reasons to miss a class. Any missed assignments, quizzes, tests, etc. due to a student’s absence may or may not be made up on the discretion of the instructor.

**Evaluation:**

Students will be evaluated using a series of written and playing quizzes (see attached schedule). Quizzes are as follows:

**Note/slide position written quizzes**

This will be a written quiz in which students will be asked to either identify or diagram the fingerings/slide positions of notes for each instrument.

**Pedagogy written quizzes**

This will be a written quiz in which students will demonstrate their understanding of proper playing techniques for each instrument, how to teach and identify errors in beginning brass students, and the fundamentals of brass instrument performance.

**Scale playing quizzes**

Students will be expected to play the following concert pitch scales on each instrument (two octaves when applicable):

- B-flat major
- E-flat major
- F major
- C major
- G major
- chromatic

**Solo playing quizzes**

Students will purchase a solo from any state school music organization (GMEA, Florida Bandmasters Association, etc.) solo list listed at least grade 2 or higher and prepare it for performance. Students will be evaluated on their ability to demonstrate proper playing fundamentals.

**Final grades will be distributed as following:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>Component</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>20%</td>
<td>Note/slide position written quizzes (5% each)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15%</td>
<td>Pedagogy written quizzes (5% each)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20%</td>
<td>Scale playing quizzes (5% each)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15%</td>
<td>Solo playing quizzes (5% each)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10%</td>
<td>Class assignments/preparation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20%</td>
<td>Comprehensive final written exam</td>
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**Grade Scale**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>Letter Grade</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>95-100</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>85-94</td>
<td>B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>75-84</td>
<td>C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>65-74</td>
<td>D</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0-64</td>
<td>F</td>
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Instruments: Instruments will be provided to you with the understanding that you are responsible for their maintenance, care, and security. You will switch instruments approximately every 4 weeks.

Practice Expectations: Success in this course is heavily dependent on maintaining a consistent, deliberate, and effective practice schedule of AT LEAST 30 minutes PER DAY. Your practice regimen should be broken down into the following increments:

- 5-10 minutes of long tones
- 5-10 minutes of lip slurs
- 5-10 minutes of technical exercises
- 10-20 minutes practicing scales
- 15-30 minutes practicing assigned music

It is strongly recommended to practice exercises with a metronome and with a practice partner.

Academic Integrity: At West Georgia, the student is expected to achieve and maintain the highest standards of academic honesty and excellence. Not only does academic honesty preserve the integrity of both the student and the institution, but it is also essential in gaining a true education. The West Georgia student, therefore, pledges not to lie, cheat, steal or engage in plagiarism in the pursuit of his or her studies and is encouraged to report those who do. All work must be the product of a student’s own labor. Failure to comply may result in a grade of “F” on the project/test or a grade of “F” in the course. A report of plagiarism will be submitted to the Office of Academic Affairs.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topics</th>
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| January 13 | • Introduction and syllabus
              • Effective practice techniques
              • Fundamentals of brass instruments
              • Introduction to the trumpet |
| January 20 | • Fundamentals of trumpet performance                                  |
| January 27 | • Fundamentals of trumpet performance
              • Trumpet note written quiz |
| February 3 | • Fundamentals of trumpet performance
              • Trumpet scale playing quiz |
| February 10| • Fundamentals of trumpet performance
              • Trumpet solo playing quiz
              • Trumpet pedagogy written quiz |
| February 17| • Introduction to french horn                                           |
| February 24| • Fundamentals of french horn performance
              • French horn note written quiz |
| March 3    | • Fundamentals of french horn performance
              • French horn scale playing quiz |
| March 10   | • Fundamentals of french horn performance
              • French horn solo playing quiz
              • French horn pedagogy written quiz |
| March 17   | • NO CLASS (Spring Break)                                              |
| March 24   | • Introduction to trombone                                             |
| March 31   | • Fundamentals of trombone performance
              • Trombone slide position written quiz |
| April 7    | • Fundamentals of trombone performance
              • Trombone scale playing quiz |
| April 14   | • Fundamentals of trombone performance
              • Trombone solo playing quiz
              • Trombone pedagogy written quiz |
| April 21   | • Introduction to tuba/euphonium                                       |
| April 28   | • Fundamentals of tuba/euphonium performance
              • Tuba/euphonium note written quiz |
| May        | • COMPREHENSIVE WRITTEN FINAL EXAM (NOTES & PEDAGOGY)
              • Tuba/euphonium scale playing quiz |
BRASS TECHNIQUES RESOURCE LIST

All Brass
R Jones Trumpet Page (www.whc.net/rjones)
International Trumpet Guild Links Page (www.trumpetguild.org/links/links.htm)
Osmun Music (www.osmun.com)
Brass Bulletin (www.brass-bulletin.com)
Hornplanet.com (www.hornplanet.com)
Dillon Music (www.dillonmusic.com)
Douglas Yeo (www.yeodoug.com)
Worldwide Internet Music Resources (http://www.music.indiana.edu/music_resources)
Music For Brass (www.musicforbrass.com)

Trumpet
International Trumpet Guild (www.trumpetguild.org)
ITG Youth Page (www.trumpetguild.org/itgyouth.index.htm)
The Trumpet Herald (www.trumpetherald.com)
Trumpet Player Online (www.trumpetplayeronline.com)
Brian Goff (http://mailer.fsu.edu/~bgoff/index.html)
O.J.’s Trumpet Page (http://abel.hive.no/trumpet/)

Horn
International Horn Society (www.hornsociety.org)
Hornplayer.net (www.hornplayer.net)
Osmun Music (www.osmun.com)
Hornplanet.com (www.hornplanet.com)
Horn Articles Online (http://www.public.asu.edu/~jqerics/articles_online.htm)
The Jazz Horn (http://feinsteins.net/music/jazzhorn.html)

Trombone
International Trombone Association (www.ita-web.org)
Christian Lindberg (www.tarrodi.se/lindberg/index.html)
Online Trombone Journal (www.trombone.org)
Annotated Index of Solo Trombone Literature (http://www.wam.umd.edu/~mmwood/project)
Trombone Zone (http://facstaff.uww.edu/wiests/TromboneZone)

Euphonium and Tuba
ITEA (www.iteaonline.org)
Stephen Mead (www.euphonium.net)
Adam Frey (www.euphonium.com)
Tubenet (www.chisham.com)
Jeff Funderbunk (www.uni.edu/funderbu/articles/index.html)
David Werden Publications (www.dwerden.com/index.asp)