

MUSC 4021
INSTRUMENTAL METHODS AND MATERIALS
UNIVERSITY OF WEST GEORGIA—DEPARTMENT OF MUSIC

COURSE SYLLABUS

Instructor: Dr. Josh Byrd
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Term: Spring 2016
Class Times: M 5:30-8:00 p.m.
Location: HUM 301
Office Hours: By Appointment

Course Description:

Principles, procedures, techniques, literature, tools, methods, and materials used in teaching instrumental music. Includes a field experience component.

Prerequisite: MUSC 4000 and admission to the Teacher Education Program or permission of the department chair.

Please note that the information contained in this syllabus may be altered by the instructor at any point during the semester in order to adapt to the pace or needs specific to the current class.

***TEACHING IS DIFFICULT. THIS CLASS IS PREPARING YOU TO TEACH.
THEREFORE, THIS CLASS IS DIFFICULT.***

Class Objectives:

The primary objective of this class is to educate students in contemporary rehearsal and teaching techniques, current trends in education, and the many facets that make up a band program.

1. Understand the role and structure of performance ensembles and music teachers in the public school in a variety of schedule structures
2. Establish a thorough knowledge of the professional organizations and resources available to music teachers
3. Continue to develop conducting technique and podium presence
4. Display a thorough knowledge of the works that serve as the foundation for the wind band or orchestra repertoire and program for the modern ensemble
5. Be able to discuss the different types/styles/approaches of the modern marching band (music, drill, percussion, guard/dance team, philosophies, competitive trends)
6. Begin to build a professional relationship with current band/orchestra directors in the state of Georgia
7. Understand the different method books, warm up concepts, and sound philosophies available to today's bands and orchestras
8. Learn about the LGPE (Large Group Performance Evaluation) process and the different approaches being taken to successful performances
9. Prepare for EdTPA submissions through lesson plans and technology
10. Understand the makeup and purpose of a variety of booster programs
11. Work with many different types of budgets and vendors
12. Develop thorough score preparation techniques along with a *musical* approach to rehearsals and performances
13. Communicate effectively and in a professional manner with colleagues, parents, and students
14. Identify individual performance issues and create a plan to work with a student one-on-one
15. How to evaluate students in today's educational system
16. Detail the basic concepts for all wind and percussion instruments (embouchure, fingerings, typical problems and solutions, instruments/setups available)
17. List, evaluate, process, and adapt techniques witnessed in teacher observations
18. Develop a personal philosophy for everything listed above

Required Materials:

1. Baton
2. Video camera (*must support flv, asf, qt, mov, mpg, mpeg, avi, wmv, mp4, or m4v formats*)
3. *A Guide to Understanding and Correction of Intonation Problems*, Fabrizio
4. *Complete Instrument Reference Guide for Band Directors, Conductor's Manual*, Williams
5. "CD set" for Teaching Music, Vol. 1 (all pieces available on YouTube)
6. Assigned scores, readings, and recordings
7. Primary and *any* secondary instruments readily available
8. Notebook for compiling handouts (due at the end of the semester)
9. Tort liability insurance, e.g. SPAGE student membership, SGAE student membership, or a home insurance policy.
10. Tk20
11. Completed *Memorandum of Understanding* (available through Tk20)
12. Video camera (or access to one)
13. Professional dress for every class and observation
14. No cell phones are allowed at any point during class unless approved in advance by Dr. Byrd

Class Activities:

1. Assigned readings and skills preparation
2. In-class teaching assignments
3. Lectures and *discussion* of all class topics
4. Conducting and rehearsing in class
5. Conducting and rehearsing the Lab Band
6. Perform on primary and secondary instruments
7. Literature reviews (books, scores, CDs)
8. Field experiences in the public schools (total of 30 hours)
9. Guest speakers
10. Exams
11. Projects
12. Demonstrations of skills common to music teachers

Attendance Policy:

In general, do not miss class or arrive late to class. However, if you must miss, please email Dr. Byrd *at least* one day in advance.ⁱ Excused absences (illness, etc.) must be approved by the instructor; students are allowed one excused absence for the entire semester. After one *unexcused* absence your grade will be lowered by ten percent. Subsequent unexcused absences will also result in a ten percent drop (B to C, etc.) for each class missed. **Late entrances will not be tolerated and may result in students being marked absent for that class day.** Should a student not be able to attend a class, he/she is responsible for the information and assignments covered in class. Presentations and assignments must be completed on their assigned day. All written assignments need to be typed and stapled unless otherwise noted.

Student Expectations:

Because this is the final course prior to one's student teaching, particular emphasis will be placed on professionalism through attire, punctuality, and preparation. All assignments must be completed, PRINTED, STAPLED, and turned in on time.ⁱⁱ Late work will rarely be accepted, even if you were absent from class that day. Again, the purpose of this class is to prepare you for the professional world!

Email Policy:

PLEASE NOTE THAT ANY EMAIL MISSING A HEADER, GREETING, EMAIL BODY, AND/OR SIGNATURE WILL NOT BE ANSWERED.

Field Experience:

Students in MUSC 4021 are required to complete a little over two (2) hours per week (30 hours total) in observation at an assigned high school and to complete and turn in an observation form for each day of observation. These forms will be graded and filed in the Department of Music office. These forms must be completed in ink! **You MUST email the teachers prior to attending their classes; this not only helps them prepare but you will find out scheduling issues in advance (i.e. testing, etc.). Please following the following guidelines while observing:**

1. **It is your responsibility to work out what/when you will teach your 20-minute mini-lesson. You need to record one (1) of these in the correct EdTPA-accepted format for your Video Project.**
2. **Aside from your Video Project lessons, you are not there to teach, you are there to observe. Do not speak and/or offer assistance at any time unless asked.**
3. **Do not express opinions, gossip, or offer advice to anyone.**
4. **Knock before entering a director's office.**

Field Experience Forms:

Copy the field observation form as needed. The school site teacher must sign the form at the end of each observation. Forms must be completed in ink without corrections. The deadline for turning the forms in will be the last class meeting of the semester. Students may not observe during finals. Under extreme circumstances, a student may be granted permission to turn in observation forms after the deadline with a penalty imposed. After observation submission deadline, a penalty of 5 percentage points will be subtracted for each day that forms are late, including weekends. **Students will be required to submit two (2) ten-minute (10) segments of field experience TEACHING (edTPA formats apply) via GoogleDrive or DropBox.**

Note: students who have not completed 12 documented hours of their field assignment by the mid-point of the term may be withdrawn from this course and receive a grade of W.

Lab Band:

Student will conduct the Lab Band (MUSC 1000, select Mondays from 3:30-4:45) either once or twice (depending on class size) during the semester. Each conductor will have the opportunity to choose 4 contrasting pieces from the list below). **Scores must be in hand by Monday, January 18th. DUE TO edTPA REQUIREMENTS, ALL MUSC 4021 STUDENTS WILL RECORD THEIR OWN LAB BAND EXPERIENCES FROM THIS POINT FORWARD.**

Spoon River, Grainger/Sheldon
Australian Up-Country Tune, Grainger/Bainum
Joy Revisited, Ticheli
Amazing Grace, Ticheli
First Suite in E-flat, Holst (Mvmt. I only)
Second Suite in F, Holst (Mvmts. I and IV only)

Evaluation:

Students are graded on the quality of work done on weekly assignments, exams, projects, and their ability to articulate concepts and philosophies both verbally and in writing. The instructor will evaluate the quality of work done on course assignments, papers, and presentations and class participation. Work must be completed and turned in on time in order to receive credit. Again, all work must be typed and stapled.ⁱⁱⁱ

The following formula will be used to determine your semester grade:

Projects	30%
Field Experience	25%
Chromatic Fingering (5%) and Playing (5%) Exam	10%
Lab Band preparation/performance and summary	10%
Quizzes	10%
Class Assignments and Participation (In-Class and Homework)	5%
In-class Teaching/Rehearsal sessions	5%
Final Exam (listening based on TMTPIB Vol. 1)	5%

Grade Scale:

A	90-100%
B	80-89%
C	70-79%
D	60-69%
F	0-59%

University of West Georgia Honor Code:

Please refer to the University's honor code regarding academic honesty and student integrity (<http://www.westga.edu/~handbook/index.php?page=honorcode>).

Disability Services:

All students are provided with equal access to classes and materials, regardless of special needs, temporary or permanent disability, special needs related to pregnancy, etc. If you have any special learning needs, particularly (but not limited to) needs defined under the Americans with Disabilities Act, and require specific accommodations, please do not hesitate to make those known, either yourself or through the Coordinator of Disability Services. Students with documented special needs may expect accommodation in relation to classroom accessibility, modification of testing, special test administration, etc. For more information, please contact Disability Services at the University of West Georgia. Any student with a disability documented through Student Services is encouraged to contact the professor right away so that appropriate accommodations may be arranged. In addition, certain accommodations (which will be discussed in class) are available to all students, within constraints of time and space.

Syllabus Information:

Please visit http://www.westga.edu/assetsDept/vpaa/Common_Language_for_Course_Syllabi.pdf should you wish to review the University's syllabus policies.

Notable Dates:

- Monday, January 18—MLK Day, NO CLASS (Conducting submissions and email responses will be your assignments for this week)
- **LAB BAND SCHEDULE:** February 1, February 29
- Monday, March 14-Friday, March 18—Spring Break, NO CLASS
- **FINAL EXAM:** Monday, April 25, 5:30-7:30 pm
- **Tk20 DEADLINE:** Monday, April 25 (All **projects** posted to your portfolio)

Tentative Calendar:

January 11	Discussion—"So You Want to Be a Band Director," syllabus, observation forms, Lab Band score selections, score study (particularly layers 1 and 4), philosophies, GPS, lesson plans, standard class procedures, conducting (basic patterns and exercises), survey, assign secondary instruments, ^{iv} "EdTPA Video" Project, Small group teaching preparation
January 18	NO CLASS—MLK Day: AN "ONLINE COURSE" WILL TAKE PLACE IN ITS STEAD!!!!!! First, be prepared to answer six emails—each of you will have only a few days in which to respond—as well as begin researching your instrument fingering charts for your Chromatic Fingering Exam. Second, each of you will be required to research the application process for 3 different county/city school systems. I will assign them to each of you via email. Lastly, you will submit conducting exercises via GoogleDrive, DropBox, etc.
January 25	GPS, score study, Middle School Band Project, conducting, marching band, woodwinds, databases (continued), conducting assessment forms, "formal" philosophies due, Small Group Teaching Demonstration #1, Lab Ensemble preparation, Lab Band Score Check, additional layers, <i>Electronic Conducting #1 due</i>
February 1	<i>Application assignment due</i> as well as review and discussion, Email assignment review and discussion, Woodwinds (continued), conducting, "Score Preparation" Project, "Programming" Project
February 8	Conducting, woodwinds (continued), Small group teaching assignment
February 15	Lab Band Assessment #1 due, Budgets/boosters/purchasing, sound concepts, brass, Observation form check (12 hours due by this point; note "drop" policy!), <i>Score Preparation Project due</i>
February 22	WOODWIND QUIZ , sound concepts (continued), incorporating <i>music</i> into your rehearsals (from day one!), brass
February 29	Conducting, brass (continued), Using technology IN the Classroom
March 7	<i>Budget Project due</i> , "Le Curve Ball" Project, programming, LGPE, GMEA, BRASS QUIZ , percussion, <i>Electronic Conducting #2 due</i>
March 14	NO CLASS—Spring Break
March 21	Lab Assessment #2 due, "Where are you going?," Resumes and networking, "Preparing for the Future," Listening Exam Review, conducting, <i>Middle School Band Projects due/discussion</i> , percussion (continued), <i>Le Curve Ball Project due</i>
March 28	Evaluating music in the school system and incorporating national concepts and requirements, PERCUSSION QUIZ , Listening exam review,
April 4	<i>Resumes due</i> , "Emergencies," Supplemental Materials and discussion, resources, Boosters Part II, <i>Programming Project due/discussion</i>
April 11	<i>Chromatic Fingering Test (written)</i> , Programming Project Review"
April 18	Final class—Summary Meeting, "odds and ends," <i>EdTPA Video Project (from assigned school) due</i>
April 25	Final exam date: LISTENING AND CHROMATIC PLAYING EXAM FROM 5:30-7:30

PROJECT DUE DATE SUMMARY:

Electronic Conducting #1—January 25, Score Preparation Project: February 1, Budget Project: March 7, Electronic Conducting #2—March 7, Curve Ball Project: March 21, Middle School Band Project: March 21, Programming Project: April 4, Video Project: April 18, Observation Forms: April 18

- ⁱ Please use the UWG email system for all communications. Examples of excused absences may include but are not limited to—with documentation where applicable—family emergencies, illness, and Music Department trips. When in doubt whether or not an absence will be excused... ASK!
- ⁱⁱ Please post all typed assignments to Tk20 as well as **turn in a printed copy (THE PRINTED COPY WILL BE GRADED, DO NOT RELY ON TK20!!!)**. Assignments emailed to me will not be graded (aside from the Electronic Assignments for Week 2).
- ⁱⁱⁱ Multiple-page assignments missing a staple, paper clip, etc. will NOT be accepted as on time.
- ^{iv} Brass players will play flute, clarinet, or saxophone for class demonstrations and a playing test. Woodwind players will play either trumpet or euphonium. Percussionists may choose from either group. *STUDENTS MUST PROVIDE THEIR OWN INSTRUMENTS!!! You may check with our Equipment Manager but we cannot guarantee that UWG will have an instrument for you.*