PERCUSSION TECHNIQUES AND MATERIALS
MUSC 3603 Syllabus
Dr. Douglas R. Overyier
(678) 839-6267, dovermie@westga.edu
University of West Georgia
HUM, Room 331
Spring 2006
5:30 – 8:00 PM, W

Description: Nomenclature of percussion instruments and fundamentals of performance.

Purpose: Expose students to traditional practices and contemporary trends in percussion performance and teaching. This will include a study of most Western percussion instruments with an emphasis on the snare drum for a working knowledge of percussion instruments and pedagogy.

Competency Objectives:
- development of a solid snare drum technique in both rudimental and concert style
- development of a basic two- and four-mallet percussion keyboard technique
- development of basic skill on accessory percussion
- demonstrate knowledge of major methods and reference books on percussion
- knowledge of proper care, maintenance, storage, and light repair of percussion instruments
- ability to detect problems and offer solutions while observing others in performance
- development of a greater awareness, respect, and appreciation of the percussive arts

Attendance Policy:
More than one missed class meeting will result in the recording of the final grade of “F” for the class. Make-up tests and exams will not be given.

Required Class Materials:
* Notebook. Class members will maintain a separate notebook in which ALL class notes and handouts are stored. Details on this notebook will be supplied separately.
* 1 pr. of “2B” Promark or “SD 1 General” Vic Firth snare drum sticks
* 1 pr. of medium-hard marimba mallets (DETAILS LATER)
  * Indicates a required purchase by students
1 tunable practice pad (8” – 10” Ludwig or Remo model). PROVIDED.

Tests and Grading Policy:
A minimum of three written and three playing exams will be given during the semester. Total points from each will be tabulated and the grand total converted to the following scale:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Points</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>100-93%</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>3.72-4.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>84-92%</td>
<td>B</td>
<td>3.36-3.71</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>74-83%</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>2.96-3.35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>66-73%</td>
<td>D</td>
<td>2.64-2.95</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0-65 %</td>
<td>F</td>
<td>0.00-2.63</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Nature of Testing:
Objective, Fill-in the Blank, Matching, True/False, Performance.
Percussion Techniques and Materials
MUSC 3603 SCHEDULE
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Class 1, Jan 11  Course Overview and Syllabus, Daily Schedules, Required and Recommended Readings, Lecture, Listening, Discussion, Performance: Sticks, Pads, 6 Functions of Percussion, Playing positions, Grips, Beginning Exercises, Rudiments Notation, More Exercises, Types of Strokes, Subtraction Sticking, hand out Rudimental Solo.

Class 2, Jan 18  Lecture, Listening, Discussion, and Performance: Review of Class 1, Snare Drum con’t. Sticks & practice pad required for class.

Jan 25  NO CLASS GMEA

Class 3, Feb. 1  Lecture, Listening, Discussion, and Performance: Review of Class 2, Snare Drum con’t. Sticks & practice pad required for class.

Class 4, Feb 8  SNARE DRUM RUDIMENTAL PERFORMANCE & WRITTEN EXAM #1. Sticks & practice pad required for class.


Class 6, Feb 22  Lecture, Listening, Discussion, and Performance: Review of Class 5, Latin Percussion Accessories, Concert Snare Drumming. Sticks & practice pad required for class.

Class 7, Mar 1  Lecture, Listening, Discussion, and Performance: Review of Class 6, Orchestral Accessories, Concert Snare Drumming. Sticks & practice pad required for class.

Class 8, Mar 8  WRITTEN EXAM #2, CONCERT SNARE PERFORMANCE EXAM.

Class 9, Mar 15  Lecture, Listening, Discussion, and Performance: Begin Mallet Instruments, Mallets & Choices, Timpani, Hand Out Mallet Solo

Mar 22  NO CLASS – SPRING BREAK

Class 10, Mar 29  Lecture, Listening, Discussion, and Performance: Review of Class 9, Timpani con’t., Mallets, con’t

SPECIAL INTEREST:  Saxophone and Percussion Symposium. Mar. 29-31

Class 11, Apr 5  WRITTEN EXAM #3 AND MALLET PERFORMANCE EXAM

Class 12, Apr 12  Class Percussion Ensemble Practice

Class 13, Apr 19  Class Percussion Ensemble Practice

Class 14, April 26  3rd Annual Night of Percussion, TCPA, 8:15 PM
FINAL EXAM, WEDNESDAY, MAY 3 AT 5:30 P.M.

DEADLINES

***WEDNESDAY, MAY 3, 2006 AT 5:30 P.M final exam. The final is comprehensive. A minor celebration will follow the exam.

***WEDNESDAY, MAY 3, 2006 at 5:30 P.M. – NOTEBOOKS ARE DUE. All notes are to be typed, double-spaced, and with 1 inch margins. Please organize the class notes, handouts, and other materials to include a table of contents. Tabs, dividers, and page numbers are an imperative part of this organization.

PLEASE (for both of us!)

If there is anything that you don’t understand or are confused about concerning any assignments or lectures/discussions, projects, etc. – please feel free to ask me. If something is not clear, please ask me. If you have a question regarding a grade, feel free to come and discuss it. If you have a suggestion on how to improve the teaching of this course at any time, please feel free to make it – in person or anonymously.

Not every professor will want this type of feedback, but I do. It will not have an adverse impact on your standing in the class. My objective is for each of you to learn as much as possible. No teacher is perfect. No single approach will work for every student. Everyone brings a different background to this course. Please help me to help you.