INSTRUMENTAL METHODS AND MATERIALS
MUSC 4021
Fall 2003
T, 5:30 - 8:00 p.m. HUM 331

Instructor: Dr. Douglas R. Overmier  Phone: (770) 836-4332
Office: HUM 340  e-mail: dovermie@westga.edu
Office Hours: M – F 10:00 a.m. or
by appointment

Catalog Course Description
Prerequisite: MUSC 3850 and 3900 or permission of the department chair. Principles,
procedures, techniques, literature, tools, methods and materials used in teaching instrumental
music. Includes a field-experience component.

Required materials
• Notebook
• Conducting baton

Reference Texts
• See Handout of Reference Materials
• Colwell, Richard J. and Thomas Goolsby. The Teaching of Instrumental Music. 3rd ed. Upper
• Leonhard, Charles and Robert House. Foundations and Principles of Music Education. NY:
• Miles, Richard, ed. Teaching Music Through Performance in Band. 4 vols. Chicago, IL: GIA
• Bollinger, Donald. Band Director’s Complete Handbook. West Nyack, NY: Parker

Course Objectives
• Develop criteria for assessment of music
• Understand the role and structure of performance ensembles in the public school
• Learn about professional organizations associated with the teaching of music
• Study music journals and other resources for continued development
• Become familiar with resources for further assistance and study relative to public school
• Encounter a variety of repertoire suitable for use in the public school
• Improve conducting technique
• Develop rehearsal techniques utilizing knowledge of subject, skills, and psychology
• Understand stylistic factors in music
• Demonstrate a knowledge of instrumental pedagogy
• Develop score analysis techniques
• Develop a philosophy regarding non-musical aspects of a music program, such as
  entertainment and competition
• Utilize technology in completing assignments
• Demonstrate practical skills
• Assigned reading and skills preparation
• Lectures and discussion of topics pertinent to the direction of performance classes
• Conducting and rehearsing in class
• Conducting and rehearsing the Lab Ensemble
• Book and article reviews
• Field experiences in public school music (average two hours per week)
• One or more announced written exams
• Student demonstrations of skills common to music teachers

Syllabus: Instrumental Methods and Materials

Grading and Attendance Policy

Grades for the semester will be based on preparedness, attitude, willingness to take direction, progress, attendance, **individual performance effort**, and degree of active participation during the class. A letter grade will be assigned for each class based on these areas.

Absences affect respective student’s grades. Students with three or more absences throughout the semester will be required to verify the absences with doctor’s notes or other pertinent materials.

**Individual performance effort** will be determined by assessing individual attendance with the student’s ability to prepare for class and subsequently perform.

**Excused absences are typically defined as unavoidable circumstances, or time conflicts beyond the control of the individual.**

**Absence from all or any part of class will be considered one unexcused absence pending justification.**

**Extenuating Circumstances:** Any unavoidable absence from a rehearsal must be cleared in advance* with Dr. Douglas R. Overmier

(Best) 1. Contact the director in person in advance.*
2. Telephone the director in advance * and explanation your situation: (770) 836-4332 or dovermie@westga.edu.
3. As a last resort, leave emergency messages with the secretaries at the above numbers.

Evaluation

• Successful completion of the field experience
• Conducting skills
• Rehearsal techniques
• Knowledge of repertoire and applicability to specific situations
• Awareness of resources and capability for independent improvement
• Knowledge of instruments, instrumental technique, and procedures for development of individual and instrumental tone production
• Attendance

Evaluation

Class Schedule (subject to revision)

Week #1: Aug 19  Introduction,

Week #2: Aug 26  Syllabus, philosophy of music in the schools, classroom management
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 questions 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 every time for every student. Everyone brings a different background to this course. Please help me help you.
Thanks,

Dr. Overmier