

MUAG 1101 – Introduction to Winds and Percussion Methods

Spring 2026

Mondays & Wednesdays 11:00 – 11:50 A.M. / Room 132

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Office Hours: Upon Request

Course Description and Goals

This course is designed to develop the knowledge and skills of choral music education students to the level necessary to teach instrumental music (woodwinds, brass, and percussion) in a public school setting. This course focuses on: 1) teaching techniques for individual instruments, 2) developing playing skills on individual instruments with a focus on the ability to model for students, 3) compiling resources that will assist the student in future instrumental music teaching.

Course Objectives

Students in this course will be able to demonstrate learning by:

- *Reflecting*, with increasing sophistication and insight, upon their own teaching experiences as evidenced by written and verbal reflections.
- *Planning* effectively for teaching as evidenced in written lesson plans.
- *Applying* effective planning and teaching strategies as evidence in successful completion of peer teaching episodes.
- *Demonstrating* increasing pedagogical knowledge and skill as evidenced by successful completion of peer-teaching episodes on instruments.
- *Organizing* materials related to instrumental music teaching as evidenced by the compilation of a resource notebook.
- *Select* appropriate teaching methods and *evaluate* the results

Division of Music Education Attendance Policy

Regular attendance with promptness and with assignments completed reflects a positive, accepting attitude in university education. With the responsibility of being a music education student comes a conscious decision to act professionally at all times.

"Students cannot miss more than 3 classes in a given semester for each music education course (not counting university excused absences). If more than 3 classes are missed, the student will earn an "F" for the semester grade for that course. Instructors may have more stringent policies than this basic policy."

*Only university excused absences will be accepted. You must present notification to your professor, which may be obtained from the Office of the Dean of Students.

Three tardies will be counted as one absence. Attendance will be taken exactly at 11:00 AM.

Clarification of Absences

Although there may be time(s) during the semester where a student is too ill to attend class, there are no categories of absences. (i.e. excused or unexcused) Absences are simply absences. Like in the “real world”, it is expected that you notify your supervisor (or in this case, your instructor) if that occurs. Like in any educational setting, each student will always be granted “due process” in regard to absences. Like in any school district you work, you are only allotted so many absences, and if the employee exceeds those absences, a penalty results.

Extra Information Regarding Attendance

1. To ensure your success, be aware that the following absences do not constitute a university excused absence: illness (even with a note from your personal doctor or the UNT health clinic), family illness, or even family death. The three unexcused absences allowed by the Division of Music Education are to be used for absolute emergencies only. Keep it simple: attend every class and arrive early.

2. If you arrive late to class, it is your responsibility to inform me after class so that I can change an absence mark to a tardy mark. Do not leave class that day until you see me change the mark. If you are late, but do not remind me that you came to class, any marks for absence that day will not be changed.

3. Students who leave class early, more than ten minutes, will receive a tardy for the day.

4. The following activities will result in an automatic absence:

- a. Cell phone use (unless directed by the instructor)
- b. Eating or drinking anything (except water) in class due to safety of the equipment
- c. Sleeping in class
- d. Disrupting class

Required Text/Materials

There is no required textbook for this course, but students will be required to maintain either a virtual or hard-copy binder of notes, handouts, and assignments organized by instrument and topic for future use. **Students are not to access music on their phones.** Tablets for reading music are acceptable. For the final, each student will produce this notebook, and will individually show their notebook to the instructor and explain their method of organization that may better assist them in teaching. A rubric will be provided.

We have partnered with Music and Arts to provide an efficient way to rent and exchange the different instruments during the school year. Once a rental agreement is established, a representative will bring the current instrument to campus, then exchange instruments once it is time to switch. You can access the rental agreement by going to <https://www.musicarts.com/rentals>, clicking “Rent Now” and listing your school as “University of North Texas”. You will then select the first instrument (“Bell Kit”) and complete the information. The representatives will handle the exchange of other instruments from there. The first month of rental is \$10; \$24 every month afterwards. You can reach out to the following people if you have any questions or concerns regarding rentals:

Gio Washington-Wright (the representative in charge of instrument deliveries and exchanges)
Gio.washington@musicarts.com

Don Gardner (the UNT rental program coordinator/finances/etc)
dgardner@musicarts.com

Calendar Overview

	Monday		Wednesday
Jan 12	Introduction, Syllabus	Jan 14	Percussion – Auxiliary Percussion Instruments
Jan 19	MLK Day	Jan 21	Percussion – Bell Kit/Pad – Assembly, Grip, First Sounds
Jan 26	Percussion – Pitched Instruments, Pad Rolls, Rudiments	Jan 28	Percussion – Pad Playing, Music
Feb 2	Percussion – Lesson Plans Due, Peer Teaching, Playing Test	Feb 4	Flute – Assembly, Hand Position, Posture
Feb 9	Flute – Headjoint, First Sounds	Feb 11	Flute – 1 st 5 Notes, Tonguing
Feb 16	Flute – Playing, Music	Feb 18	Flute – Lesson Plans Due, Peer Teaching & Playing Test
Feb 23	Saxophone – Overview, Demonstration (No Playing)	Feb 25	Clarinet – Assembly, Hand Position, Posture
Mar 2	Clarinet – Mouthpiece & Barrel, First Sounds	Mar 4	Clarinet – New Notes, Register Exercise, Pinky Keys
Mar 9-13	SPRING BREAK		
Mar 16	Clarinet – Playing, Music	Mar 18	Clarinet – Lesson Plans Due, Peer Teaching & Playing Test
Mar 23	Trombone – Assembly, Hand Position, Posture	Mar 25	Trombone – Mouthpiece, First Sounds
Mar 30	Trombone – New Notes, Positions, Tonguing	Apr 1	Trombone – Playing, Music
Apr 6	Trombone – Lesson Plans Due, Peer Teaching & Playing Test	Apr 8	Trumpet – Assembly, Hand Position, Mouthpiece, First Sounds
Apr 13	Trumpet – Positions, 1 st 5 Notes	Apr 15	Trumpet – Flexibility, Lip Slurs, Tonguing
Apr 20	Trumpet – Playing, Music	Apr 22	Trumpet – Lesson Plans Due, Peer Teaching & Playing Test
Apr 27	French Horn/Euphonium/Tuba Discussion	Apr 29	Oboe/Bassoon – Overview, Demonstration & Full Band / Early notebook submission
May 4-8	FINALS WEEK – Your Final Exam will be to individually present your Notebook at a later-established Final Exam time		

GRADING CRITERIA

Attendance/Participation: 35%

Lesson Plans/Peer Teaching: 20%

Tests – Playing/Written: 20%

Final Exam/Notebook: 25%

TIMELINESS RETURN OF STUDENT WORK, FINAL EXAM

Students are required to turn in assignments on the day they are due according to the syllabus. The final exam, which is your notebook, must be presented during the final exam time. Students' work and feedback will be provided by the next class meeting time. The Final Exam will be graded during class during the final exam time.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

Students caught cheating or plagiarizing will receive a "0" for that particular assignment or exam [or specify alternative sanction, such as course failure]. Additionally, the incident will be reported to the Dean of Students (Office of Academic Integrity), who may impose further penalty. According to the UNT catalog, the term "cheating" includes, but is not limited to: a. use of any unauthorized assistance in taking quizzes, tests, or examinations; b. dependence upon the aid of sources beyond those authorized by the instructor in writing papers, preparing reports, solving problems, or carrying out other assignments; c. the acquisition, without permission, of tests or other academic material belonging to a faculty or staff member of the university; d. dual submission of a paper or project, or resubmission of a paper or project to a different class without express permission from the instructor(s); or e. any other act designed to give a student an unfair advantage. The term "plagiarism" includes, but is not limited to: a. the knowing or negligent use by paraphrase or direct quotation of the published or unpublished work of another person without full and clear acknowledgment; and b. the knowing or negligent unacknowledged use of materials prepared by another person or agency engaged in the selling of term papers or other academic materials.

<https://policy.unt.edu/policy/06-003>

PROHIBITED USE OF GENAI

In this course, I want you to engage deeply with the materials and develop your own critical thinking and lesson planning skills. For this reason, the use of Generative AI (GenAI) tools like Claude, ChatGPT, and Gemini is not permitted. While these tools can be helpful in some contexts, they do not align with our goal of fostering the development of your independent thinking. Using GenAI to complete any part of an assignment, exam, or coursework will be considered a violation of academic integrity, as it prevents the development of your own skills, and will be addressed according to the Student Academic Integrity policy.

STUDENT BEHAVIOR

Student behavior that interferes with an instructor's ability to conduct a class or other students' opportunity to learn is unacceptable and disruptive and will not be tolerated in any instructional forum at UNT. Students engaging in unacceptable behavior will be directed to leave the classroom and the instructor may refer the student to the Dean of Students to consider whether the student's conduct violated the Code of Student Conduct. The university's expectations for student conduct apply to all instructional forums, including university and electronic classrooms, labs, discussion groups, field trips, etc.

<https://deanofstudents.unt.edu/conduct>

ACCESS TO INFORMATION – EAGLE CONNECT

Your access point for business and academic services at UNT occurs at my.unt.edu. All official communication from the university will be delivered to your Eagle Connect account. For more information, please visit the website that explains Eagle Connect.

<https://aits.unt.edu/eagleconnect/>

ODA STATEMENT

The University of North Texas makes reasonable academic accommodation for students with disabilities. Students seeking accommodation must first register with the Office of Disability Access (ODA) to verify their eligibility. If a disability is verified, the ODA will provide you with an accommodation letter. You can now request your Letters of Accommodation ONLINE and ODA will mail your Letters of Accommodation to your instructors. You may wish to begin a private discussion with your professors regarding your specific needs in a course. Note that 6 students must obtain a new letter of accommodation for every semester. For additional information see the Office of Disability Access.

<https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/office-disability-access/>

DIVERSITY AND BELONGING

UNT values diversity and individuality as part of advancing ideals of human worth, dignity, and academic excellence. Diverse viewpoints enrich open discussion, foster the examination of values and exposure of biases, help educate people in rational conflict resolution and responsive leadership, and prepare us for the complexities of a pluralistic society. As such, UNT is committed to maintaining an open, welcoming atmosphere that attracts qualified students, staff, and faculty from all groups to support their success. UNT does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, age, disability, genetic information, or veteran status in its application and admission process, educational programs and activities, employment policies, and use of university facilities.

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH AND SAFETY

Students can access information about health and safety at:

<https://riskmanagement.unt.edu/environmental-risk/index.html>

REGISTRATION INFORMATION FOR STUDENTS

Link: <https://registrar.unt.edu/students>

ACADEMIC CALENDAR

Link: <https://registrar.unt.edu/registration/fall-registration-guide>

FINANCIAL AID AND SATISFACTORY ACADEMIC PROGRESS

Undergraduates

A student must maintain Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) to continue to receive financial aid. Students must maintain a minimum 2.0 cumulative GPA in addition to successfully completing a required number of credit hours based on total hours registered. Students cannot exceed attempted credit hours above 150% of their required degree plan. If a student does not maintain the required standards, the student may lose their financial aid eligibility.

Students holding music scholarships must maintain a minimum 2.5 overall cumulative GPA and 3.0 cumulative GPA in music courses.

If at any point you consider dropping this or any other course, please be advised that the decision to do so may have the potential to affect your current and future financial aid eligibility. It is recommended that you to schedule a meeting with an academic advisor in your college or visit the Student Financial Aid and Scholarships office to discuss dropping a course before doing so.

LINK: <http://financialaid.unt.edu/sap>

Graduates

A student must maintain Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) to continue to receive financial aid. Students must maintain a minimum 3.0 cumulative GPA in addition to successfully completing a required number of credit hours based on total registered hours per term. Music scholarships require a 3.5 cumulative GPA. Students cannot exceed maximum timeframes established based on the published length of the graduate program. If a student does not maintain the required standards, the student may lose their financial aid eligibility.

If at any point you consider dropping this or any other course, please be advised that the decision to do so may have the potential to affect your current and future financial aid eligibility. It is recommended you schedule a meeting with an academic advisor in your college, an advisor in UNT-International or visit the Student Financial Aid and Scholarships office to discuss dropping a course.

<http://financialaid.unt.edu/sap>

RETENTION OF STUDENT RECORDS

Student records pertaining to this course are maintained in a secure location by the instructor of record. All records such as exams, answer sheets (with keys), and written papers submitted during the duration of the course are kept for at least one calendar year after course completion. Course work completed via the Canvas online system, including grading information and comments, is also stored in a safe electronic environment for one year. You have a right to view your individual record; however, information about your records will not be divulged to other individuals without the proper written consent. You are encouraged to review the Public Information Policy and the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) laws and the university's policy in accordance with those mandates.

<http://ferpa.unt.edu/>

COUNSELING AND TESTING

UNT's Center for Counseling and Testing has an available counselor whose position includes 16 hours per week of dedicated service to students in the College of Music and the College of Visual Arts and Design. Please visit the Center's website for further information:

<http://studentaffairs.unt.edu/counseling-and-testing-services>

ADD/DROP POLICY

Please be reminded that dropping classes or failing to complete and pass registered hours may make you ineligible for financial aid. In addition, if you drop below half-time enrollment you may be required to begin paying back your student loans. See Academic Calendar (listed above) for additional add/drop Information.

Drop Information: <https://registrar.unt.edu/registration/fall-registration-guide>

STUDENT RESOURCES

The University of North Texas has many resources available to students. For a complete list, go to:

Link: <https://success.unt.edu/aa-sa-resources>

(Note: A printer-friendly PDF version is available by clicking the green button on the home page)

CARE TEAM

The Care Team is a collaborative interdisciplinary committee of university officials that meets regularly to provide a response to student, staff, and faculty whose behavior could be harmful to themselves or others.

<https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/care-team>