

University of North Texas, College of Music
Applied Horn Lessons, Fall 2025

FRENCH HORN: MUAM/MUAC/MUAS 1514, 3514, 5514, 6514
.700 (Holding Section) | .702 (McBain) | .703 (Carroll) | .704 (Castillon) | .705 (Piper) | .706 (Wood)

Faculty:

Dr. Katherine McBain, katherine.mcbain@unt.edu

Dr. Stacie Mickens (sabbatical for Fall 2025)

Teaching Fellows:

Benjamin Carroll, benjamincarroll2@my.unt.edu

Daniel Castillon, danielcastillon@my.unt.edu

Adjunct Faculty:

Gerry Wood, gerald.wood@unt.edu

Nancy Piper, nancy.jarrett@unt.edu

Office Hours

By email appointment, flexible.

Course Objective

- Develop, improve, and demonstrate technical skills on your instrument.
- Apply knowledge from music theory and music history classes toward scales, arpeggios, etudes, excerpts, and solos.
- Observe and apply performance techniques.
- Develop musical and interpretive skills through score study and listening.
- Learn to express and communicate musical ideas and emotions through your instrument.
- Understand the cultural and historical context of your musical repertoire.
- Develop problem solving skills to address technical and musical aspects of performance and pedagogy.
- Exhibit good citizenship towards other students through behavior and attitude.
- Learn to set achievable performance goals and the skills to reach them.
- Perform in front of live audiences.
- Develop skills to deliver verbal and written constructive feedback to peers.
- Explore repertoire by diverse and/or under-represented composers

Lessons and Studio Assignments

Students will be assigned to a horn teacher at the start of the semester. Your lesson time will be set up individually with your teacher.

2-4 credit lessons: students will receive thirteen 50-minute lessons per semester.

1 credit lessons: students will receive thirteen 25-minute lessons per semester.

Lessons Delivery Mode

All lessons are taught in person.

Lessons Attendance

Students are expected to be warmed up and on time for lessons.

Your final grade may be **lowered by one-half of a letter grade** for each unexcused absence of a lesson.

Unexcused lesson absences will not be made up, but your teachers will make their best efforts to reschedule any excused absences. Email your instructor as soon as possible prior to missing a lesson in order to be excused. UNT Policy 06.039 (Student Attendance and Authorized Absences) defines the following excused absences:

- religious holy day, including travel for that purpose;
- active military service, including travel for that purpose;
- participation in an official university function;
- illness or other extenuating circumstances;
- pregnancy and parenting under Title IX; and
- when the University is officially closed by the President.

Horn Departmental

Participation in weekly horn departmental (in person) is a required component of lessons.

Time: Fridays 1-2:50pm. Absence from one of the two hours is excused with proof of unavoidable class conflict.

Location: IRR (Instrumental Rehearsal Room), MPAC

Performance Departmentals will focus on performance and feedback from your peers and teachers.

Written comment slips will be passed out and returned in class for each performer.

- All students are required to perform twice per semester in departmental.
- The performance date assignments will be assigned at the beginning of the semester.
- You do not need to perform with an accompanist, but you are always welcome to bring one.
- Plan to introduce yourself and your musical selection, including brief background information about the composer and/or the piece itself.
- Record your own departmental performance to review with your teacher.
- We encourage you to seek out composers from traditionally underrepresented backgrounds along with traditionally standard repertoire.

Departmental Attendance

Requests for excused absences should be made in advance. Unexcused absences may affect your final lessons grade negatively, **up to 1/2 letter grade demotion** per absence.

Recital and Concert Performance Attendance

Attendance at all faculty and student horn recitals is required. Attendance will be taken by a TF. If you have an excused absence in advance, try to attend the dress rehearsal. **Unexcused absences may result in a 1/2 letter grade deduction per absence.**

End of Semester Juries

Juries are scheduled to be in person and take place during the last week of classes, before Final Exams week. Your teacher will help you pick out repertoire. You will likely need an accompanist for your jury, so plan ahead to contact a pianist and to pay them. Students should not schedule their juries during their regularly scheduled classes.

Email and Canvas

All official UNT correspondence will be through your UNT email address; please check it regularly or have it forwarded. Keep emails polite and respectful. When addressing teachers, use their formal titles (ex: “Dr.” or “Professor”). If they have asked you to refer to them in a specific way, use this address.

All lessons sections are in a combined Canvas group. Canvas will be used as much as possible for communication in addition to UNT emails once the semester is set up.

Required Materials:

MOUTHPIECE

You will need your own horn mouthpiece. If an upgrade from your previous mouthpiece is desired, your teacher will help you choose one.

HORN

While UNT does have some horns that can be rented each semester from the Instrument Repair Shop, they have seen better days and there isn’t much selection. It is preferable to eventually own your own quality instrument. If you are shopping for an upgrade, your teacher can help you choose an instrument.

MUTE

UNT owns a few straight-mutes that you can borrow. If you are ready to invest in a mute, let Dr. Mickens know, as we may be able to get a group discount for TrumCor mutes. The red and white Humes and Berg mutes will suffice, but these are not preferred due to the low quality of sound.

PERFORMANCE MAJORS: Seriously consider owning your own stop-mute.

NOTEBOOK

Have a notebook used exclusively for horn lessons and practice journals – any size and style. If you prefer to keep a digital notebook, that is acceptable as long as it is organized.

TUNER AND METRONOME

Purchase the Tonal Energy app for your phone or tablet. It's helpful (but not required) to have a separate tuner/metronome, such as the Korg TM-60.

SUGGESTED, not required: RECORDING DEVICE and/or MICROPHONE

It is common for applications for festivals, schools, and professional groups to request high quality recordings of your playing. You can invest in an external microphone connected to your phone/tablet/computer, or a portable recording device that can double as an external microphone. (The first option only serves as a microphone. The second option is both a microphone and can store digital files.)

ITEMS FOR CHECK-OUT:

- Instrumental Studies Division has the following items available for INST student/faculty use. Please see Carole Overturf during business hours to check items out. Students need to have the instructor's permission.
 - 2-Shure MV-88 microphones with tripod
 - 3-Bluetooth speakers
 - 10 sets of stand extenders
 - Video camera
- The Soundbox – Music Technology Lab at the UNT Music Library (4th floor, Willis Library)
 - <https://guides.library.unt.edu/music-library-equipment-checkout>

METHOD BOOKS

The following books are required for each student. Additional method books and solos will be assigned individually. Check with your teacher if you have questions.

Pender's Music in downtown Denton stocks required books. Support locally if possible:
www.penders.com, 1-800-772-5918. <https://www.penders.com/c-2811-unt-horn-studio.aspx>
(www.penders.com Contest University Repertoire Lists UNT Horn Studio)

METHOD BOOKS

Author	Title	Publisher
REQUIRED		
Schantl, Josef	Grand Theoretical and Practical Method for the Valve Horn	Wind Music Inc
Kopprasch, Georg	Sixty Selected Studies, Vol.1	Various (Carl Fischer; International; Kalmus)
French, Rose	Range Songs	Mountain Peak Music mountainpeakmusic.com
Boosey & Hawkes	Scales and Arpeggios: The Complete Boosey & Hawkes Horn Scale Book	Boosey & Hawkes
Hesse, Marian	Daily Routines for Horn	Mountain Peak Music mountainpeakmusic.com
Teuber, Fred	Progressive Studies in Flexibility and Range	Medici Music Press

Have ONE of these TWO low register etude books:

Hackleman, Martin	34 Characteristic Etudes for Low Horn Player	Editions BIM
Caliendo, Kate	18 Virtuoso Concert Etudes for Low Horn	digital download from https://www.katecaliendo.com/etudes-for-low-horn

Freshmen can wait to buy this book, but once you begin working on excerpts, you should have:

Robbins, Daren (compiler)	Orchestral Horn Excerpts	hornsociety.org
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Other non-required suggestions, based upon teacher recommendations (your teacher may require materials not on this list):

Author	Title	Publisher	Notes
SUGGESTED			
Shoemaker, John	Legato Etudes for French Horn	Alfred	variety of low/high etudes
Pottag, Max	Preparatory Melodies	Alfred	
Kling, Henri	40 Characteristic Etudes	Southern Music	technical in nature
Bach, J.S., ed. by Wendell Hoss	Cello Suites	Southern Music	challenging mid- to low-register, not in original key

Gallay, Jacques	various	various	variety of etude books, technical and musical
Alphonse, Maxim	200 New Studies in Six Books	Alphonse Leduc; also available through www.IMSLP.org	Progressively challenging etudes with technical and musical features
E.F. Goldman	Practical Studies for the Trumpet	Carl Fischer	studies in multiple tonguing

Grading:

Jury and Recital Semesters

10% Departmental Performances and Participation

10% Jury or Recital

80% Lessons. Grades will be based upon **performance, preparation, progress, attendance, and attitude**. *An 'A' grade will be given to students displaying excellence in all four areas.* See the grading rubric below. Consideration will be given to all performances and assignments throughout the semester: lessons, departmental performance, mock auditions, recitals, juries, etc. Individual lessons will be graded. It is expected that all material assigned in each lesson be thoroughly prepared for the following lesson. Discuss with your teachers if you feel you need your weekly assignments adjusted.

OR

Non-jury, non-recital semester

10% Departmental Performances and Participation

90% Lessons

Absences

As noted above, unexcused absences in lessons, departmental, technique class, or recital attendance results in 1/2 letter grade demotion. Please communicate excused absences in advance to Daniel Castillon, danielcastillon@my.unt.edu.

Lesson Grading Rubric:

	Practice	Preparation/Progress	Scales/Arpeggios	Solo Work	Excerpts
A	2-3 hours daily	Each assigned item is prepared (right notes, rhythms, and tempos).	Easy facility; can play correctly on the first try	Takes initiative; solid. Learns 3-5	Listened to recording(s); has notes and tempos

		Makes steady progress.		movements per semester	solid
B	1-2 hours daily	Not completely prepared; has not made efforts to solve problems on their own. Makes progress, but inconsistent.	Takes prompting or more than one attempt	Moderate progress. Learns 2-3 movements per semester	Practiced like an etude; has the basics
C	less than 1 hour daily	Mostly not prepared; unbalanced preparation. Slow progress.	Success rate of only 50%	Learns 1 movement per semester, not achieving at a high level	Does not have all the correct notes and tempos
D	barely practicing	Student is sight reading. No progress.	Cannot really perform; faking	Not good	Doesn't know the excerpt; faking

**** UNT Policies for Fall 2025****

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. See: Academic Integrity LINK:

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

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. See: Student Code of Conduct Link:

<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. See: Eagle Connect LINK: eagleconnect.unt.edu/

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 students must obtain a new letter of accommodation for every semester. For additional

information see the Office of Disability Access. See: ODA LINK: disability.unt.edu. (Phone: (940) 565-4323)

Health and Safety Information

Students can access information about health and safety at: <https://music.unt.edu/student-health-and-wellness>

Registration Information for Students See: Registration Information Link: <https://registrar.unt.edu/students>

Academic Calendar, Fall 2025 See: Fall 2025 Registration Information Link: <https://registrar.unt.edu/registration/fall-academic-calendar.html>

Final Exam Schedule, Fall 2025

See above

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. See: Financial Aid 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. See: Financial Aid LINK: <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. See: FERPA Link: <http://ferpa.unt.edu/>

COUNSELING AND TESTING

UNT's Center for Counseling and Testing has an available counselor for students in need. Please visit the Center's website for further information: See: Counseling and Testing Link: <http://studentaffairs.unt.edu/counseling-and-testing-services>.

For more information on mental health resources, please visit: See: Mental Health Resources Link: <https://disparities.unt.edu/mental-health-resources>

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-academic-calendar.html>

STUDENT RESOURCES

The University of North Texas has many resources available to students. For a complete list, go to: See: Student Resources Link: <https://success.unt.edu/aa-sa-resources>

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.

See: Care Team: Link: <https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/care-team>