MUED 4209-001
Music Performance: Instrumental
High school band methods

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Spring semester 2026
Tuesdays & Thursdays, 8:00 – 9:20 a.m.
PAC 132 ("IRR") · 3 credit hours
Office hours by appointment *(where possible, after class is preferred)*

COURSE DESCRIPTION

UNT course description: Principles of music performance using the band and/or orchestra ensemble. Foundations of performance on band and/or stringed instruments, rescoring and arranging for band and/or orchestra, fundamentals of marching band, performance practices, and standard band and/or orchestra literature. Prerequisite(s): MUED 3100 and MUED 3200. Must be a Music Education major.

As instrumental music teachers, our programs are often in the spotlight of public attention, opinion, and expectations. The combination of teaching, performing, and serving is a delicate "balancing act" that is often unique to music educators. Although the structure of programs may differ from school to school, instrumental music teaching in any setting invariably requires attention to musical, social, and organizational goals.

In this course, we will think critically about the nature of music, music instruction, and the role of school music participation in the lives of young people, particularly adolescents.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

1. Investigate organizational and support structures of school instrumental music programs
2. Review and evaluate literature appropriate for use in a variety of school ensembles
3. Practice teaching techniques applicable to the ensemble setting
4. Prepare instrumental scores for instructional contexts

As with many college-level courses (and for nearly every course that I teach), strengthening written communication skills writ large is an ever-present goal.

MATERIALS AND TECHNOLOGY

Canvas will be utilized on a limited basis. Email, basic word processing, accessing journal articles via online library resources, basic Canvas navigation and uploading assignments into Canvas modules. **Primary and/or secondary musical instruments. Conductor baton.** Purchase of conductor score if needed. A small set of color pencils for score study assignment is recommended.

HIGHLY RECOMMENDED TEXTS

(None required.)

Duke, R. A. (2005). *Intelligent music teaching: Essays on the core principles of effective instruction.* Learning and Behavior Resources. [ISBN 0977113906]

Feldman, E. & Contzius, A., Lutch, M., & Katarzyna, K. (2021). *Instrumental music education: Teaching with the musical and practical in harmony* (3rd ed.). Routledge. [ISBN 978-0-367-13814-1 (pbk); 978-0-429-02870-0 (ebk)]

Denis, J. M. (Ed.) (2022). *Program notes: A comprehensive guide to band directing.* GIA Publications. [ISBN 978-1-62277-622-1]

Madsen, C. K., & Madsen, C. H., Jr. (2016). *Teaching/discipline: A positive approach to educational development* (5th ed.). Contemporary Publishing Company. [ISBN 0-89892-412-X]

ASSIGNMENTS and WEIGHTING

(See calendar, p. 4, for due dates.)

	Your score	Weight	Points
History & context readings response	_____	× 1	_____ (5)
School observation plans (January/February)	_____	× 0	_____ (0)
Mini-arrangement	_____	× 1	_____ (5)
Rehearsal exercise selections	_____	× 0	_____ (0)
School observation records (March)	_____	× 0	_____ (0)
School observation records (April)	_____	× 0	_____ (0)
Rehearsal exercise 1	_____	× 1	_____ (5)
Rehearsal exercise 1 self-observation	_____	× 1	_____ (5)
Rehearsal exercise 2	_____	× 2	_____ (10)
Rehearsal exercise 2 self-observation	_____	× 1	_____ (5)
Score study, Part One	_____	× 2	_____ (10)
Score study, Part Two	_____	× 2	_____ (10)
List of concert program; lit. project selections (each)	_____	× 0	_____ (0)
Concert program	_____	× 3	_____ (15)
Literature project	_____	× 3	_____ (15)
Final school observation records & brief report (May)	_____	× 3	_____ (15)
Total points			**_____ (100)**

The instructor reserves the right to make modest amendments to this syllabus (including the schedule and assignments), given reasonable advance notice to students. In fairness, I will also entertain student requests for assignment substitutions, again, given reasonable advance notice. *Do not engage in "busy work."* • Use above scoring sheet rather than Canvas to calculate course grade.

ASSIGNMENT SCORING and COURSE GRADES

Assignment parameters will be provided when introduced ("INT") on calendar, p. 4.

Each assignment will be adjudicated *(as a presumed third-party observer)* as follows:

5	Impressive! Fully satisfactory, both in content and in presentation.
4	Satisfactory (fulfills assignment expectations).
3	Marginal.
2	Not satisfactory. *(Might be used as a temporary score as needed.)*
1	Let's talk.
0	Unacceptable, or unsubmitted.

Each assignment will be weighted as indicated above (see "Assignments and weighting") to calculate the final course grade.

Assignments should be submitted when due ("DUE" on calendar). Assignments will be graded/returned by the end of the following week. Late work may receive limited instructor feedback and is subject to a maximum score of 4. Unless specified otherwise, assignments may be resubmitted for a higher score. Work must be submitted by the end of the course.

Course grades will be assigned as follows:

A	90 or more points
B	80 points
C	60 points *(N.B.: Minimum "C" grade needed in all music classes; min. GPA 2.75)*
D	40 points
F	< 40 points

Attendance at all class meetings is expected. Three absences for any reason (aside from university-excused absences) will subject the course grade to being lowered by one full letter. Per Division of Music Education policy, more than three absences results in a failing grade for the course. End-of-semester juries must not be scheduled during class time; any such absences will not be excused.

For purposes of encouraging punctuality (or, more precisely, discouraging tardiness), three tardies shall be calculated as one absence. Concerns regarding punctuality, attendance, and any other matters of professionalism may affect Teacher Candidate status and Clinical Teaching eligibility.

I expect…

… that you will recognize that the profession that you propose to enter is worthy of your best efforts, musically and intellectually… that you will extend to me and your classmates the basic courtesy and professional expectation of attention to the instructor and to the subject matter at hand during class (that means you're not attending to homework from other classes or personal electronic devices and not taking frequent or extended personal breaks)… that you will work to recognize applicability of principles discussed in class to your proposed area of instruction… that you will work to recognize how these principles have functioned in your past (and current) experience as a student and as a teacher… that you critically reconsider previously-held beliefs about teaching and learning, in light of what you learn in this class… that you will ask questions, and exhibit inquisitiveness appropriate for a future professional teacher. ***Also, I would appreciate*** *your assistance in setting up chairs before class, and your assistance in putting them away after class as needed as well.* ***Please also see Page Five.***

wk.	Tuesday		Thursday	
1	Jan. 13	Course introduction INT: History & context	Jan. 15*	Instruments & Transpositions INT: School obs.; Mini-arrangemt.
2	Jan. 20	DUE: History & context (& quiz) INT: Rehearsal ex. selections	Jan. 22*	INT: Literature project INT: Concert program
3	Jan. 27	INT: Score study DUE: Reh. ex. selections; Mini-arr.	Jan. 29	*Scheduled visits with Mrs. Russell, MU 242.* ***No class meeting.***
4	Feb. 3	Score study, cont'd *(color pencils)* DUE: School obs. plans	Feb. 5	Rehearsal strategy
5	Feb. 10	Rehearsal preparation	Feb. 12	**TMEA in San Antonio** **No class** ***(note F'26 CT app. dates)***
6	Feb. 17	Rehearsal planning	Feb. 19	Folder prep. rehearsal exercises INT: Self-observations
7	Feb. 24	Rehearsal exercises ROUND ONE ***← brief, ~10 students/day R1 →***	Feb. 26	Rehearsal exercises DUE: Score study
8	Mar. 3	Rehearsal exercises DUE: School obs. records	Mar. 5	Rehearsal exercises
9	Mar. 17 🍀	Rehearsal exercises ROUND TWO DUE: Titles for prog. & lit. project	Mar. 19	Rehearsal exercises *(Dr. M. away; guest to lead class)*
10	Mar. 24	Rehearsal exercises ***← four students per day R2 →***	Mar. 26	Rehearsal exercises DUE: First self-obs.
11	Mar. 31	Rehearsal exercises	Apr. 2	Rehearsal exercises
12	Apr. 7	Rehearsal exercises DUE: School obs. records	Apr. 9*	Rehearsal exercises
13	Apr. 14	Rehearsal exercises DUE 4:00 pm: Concert program	Apr. 16	Rehearsal exercises
14	Apr. 21	Rehearsal strategy 2.0	Apr. 23	Teaching intonation skills DUE: Second self-observation
15	Apr. 28	Being a change agent DUE Wed., Apr. 29, 9am: Lit. proj.	Apr. 30	Literature project presentations
finals	Tuesday, May 5, 7:30 – 9:30 a.m. *(per Registrar*, but we'll start at 8am*)* • Lit. proj., continued. DUE on Friday of finals week (May 8): Final school observation records & brief report			

* *Last day to add course is Fri., Jan. 16. Last day to drop is Sat., Jan. 24; with "W," Fri., April 10.*

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ATTENDANCE: If you miss class or if you anticipate needing to be absent or late, *email me before I email you.* (In your forthcoming professional career—especially if as a teacher— you won't have the option to simply not show up.)

ASSIGNMENTS: If you need extra time on an assignment, just let me know. (Please do so within the designated assignment portal in Canvas.) Please note that except as noted, assignments are due by 8:00 a.m. on the indicated due date.

I review assignments as soon as I can after their due date. Once I've reviewed all submissions, I may close the submission portal. (Do not submit assignments in the "Comments" portion of a Canvas assignment unless requested to do so.) Any subsequent submissions must be discussed with me.

If I request to meet with you in person (whether to discuss attendance, an assignment, or anything else), please do so. (Again, for now and for your future, ignoring such requests is not an option!)

The zero-weight assignments are still very important. (See Disposition Inventory, No. 1.)

USE OF GENERATIVE ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE (GenAI): Prohibited for writing assignments (i.e., History & Context, school observation reports). Although more focused-use tools like Grammarly, spell check, predictive text, speech-to-text, and translation tools are considered forms of GenAI, I would permit your judicious use of them in writing assignments.

GenAI is permitted (if possible, and at your discretion) for everything else. Use must be disclosed.

DISPOSITION INVENTORY FOR TEACHERS criteria:

The teacher candidate…

1. …is prepared and punctual.
2. …develops appropriate relationships with peers, colleagues, and students.
3. …communicates in a manner appropriate to the learning environment.
4. …makes appropriate adaptations in accommodations for those with diverse needs.
5. …is flexible and comfortable with change, adapting, adjusting, and modifying practices to meet the needs of students and peers.
6. …demonstrates initiative and responsibility and making plans, completing tasks, and meeting deadlines.
7. …accepts and acts upon constructive criticism.
8. …actively seeks out professional growth opportunities.
9. …seeks out, develops, and continually refines expertise in teaching.
10. …maintains high expectations for self and all others.
11. …complies with educational laws and policies.
12. …demonstrates ethical and scholastic integrity.

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[1] The title of this page is an homage to "Page Six," the gossip section of the tabloid newspaper *New York Post.* Here, I offer in plainspoken language some thoughts and advice regarding your success in MUED 4209.

STANDARD, IMPORTANT INFORMATION

We will abide by all current university policies and guidelines regarding any health-related alerts.

Canvas technical requirements: https://digitalstrategy.unt.edu/clear/approved_and_supported_technologies/canvas.html Help desk information included on website

Additional Student Support Services

- Registrar (https://registrar.unt.edu/registration)
- Financial Aid (https://financialaid.unt.edu/)
- Student Legal Services (https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/student-legal-services)
- Career Center (https://careercenter.unt.edu/)
- Eagle Engagement Center (https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/eagle-engagement-center/index.html)
- Counseling and Testing Services (https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/counseling-and-testing-services)
- UNT Food Pantry (https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/desresources/programs/food-pantry/index.html)
- Dean of Students (lots of great resources!) (https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/dean-of-students/)

UNT Division of Digital Strategy and Innovation

- Online Student Resources (https://digitalstrategy.unt.edu/clear/approved_and_supported_technologies/online_student_resources.html)
- Academic Success Center (https://www.unt.edu/success/asc)
- UNT Libraries (https://library.unt.edu/)
- Writing Lab (http://writingcenter.unt.edu/)

As provided to faculty, Spring 2026:

DEFIBRILLATORS IN THE COLLEGE OF MUSIC

- Music Building: Across from the west side of the Music Commons, directly across from the elevator
- Music Building: Third floor hallway, across from the staircase that comes up from the Copy Room. Next to Room 322
- Music Building: Across from the Copy Room next to Room 293
- Music Building: Voertman Lobby by the big double set of doors that lead out to the courtyard

- Music Building: Main Office (247) under the student worker's desk
- Music Annex: Next to room MA117, near the triple set of doors on the east side of the building
- Music Practice Building North: First floor on the Avenue C side
- Music Practice Building South: First floor on the Avenue C side
- Bain Hall: First floor by the restrooms
- Murchison Performing Arts Center: Located off the main lobby, beyond the grand staircase, across from the single occupancy restroom (next to the public water fountains)

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: Spring Academic Calendar Information
Link: https://registrar.unt.edu/registration/spring-academic-calendar.html

Semester Calendar, Spring 2026
See: Spring Semester Calendar
Link: https://registrar.unt.edu/sites/default/files/spring-2026-academic-calendar.pdf

Final Exam Schedule, Spring 2026
See above

Financial Aid and Satisfactory Academic Progress

Undergraduates *[graduate student information omitted for space —Dr. M.]*
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

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/spring-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

FURTHER RESOURCES

DIVISION OF MUSIC EDUCATION
https://music.unt.edu/music-education/

MUSIC EDUCATION UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAM
https://music.unt.edu/music-education/student-information/programs-undergraduate.html

DEGREE PLAN FOR BAND TRACK (2021 catalog)
https://music.unt.edu/music-education/sites/default/files/2021_band_degree_plan_august_2021.pdf

UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAM HANDBOOK
https://music.unt.edu/music-education/sites/default/files/bm_handbook_-_august_2021.pdf

TEACHING SUCCESS REFERRAL FORM
https://music.unt.edu/music-education/sites/default/files/mued_teaching_success_referral_form_2021.pdf

DISPOSITION RUBRIC
https://music.unt.edu/music-education/sites/default/files/disposition_inventory_for_teachers_-_candidate_dift-c.pdf

OBSERVATION TIME RECORD
https://music.unt.edu/music-education/sites/default/files/observation_time_record_0.pdf