

MUAG 1117 Percussion Methods Syllabus
Tuesday, Thursday 9:30-10:50 A.M.
Room: M142

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Email: adamdavis1812@gmail.com

Room: MU142

Office Hours by appointment only

Marimba Practice Room: Music Practice North 310

Course Description:

The purpose of this course is to provide music education majors with basic information concerning teaching methods and performance techniques for musical instruments common to the percussion family. Students will follow a course of study that will enable them to teach beginning students at the elementary or secondary school levels and to continue to provide them with an accepted, organized approach to learning and developing percussion techniques and skills.

This course of study is designed to acquaint students with the history of each major instrument found in the percussion family, their acoustical properties and methods of sound production, and the idiosyncrasies of percussion music notation. It will provide future band and orchestra directors with a rudimentary technique on many of the instruments labeled percussion, concentrating on those that are most common to today's elementary, middle, and high school band and orchestra literature.

Specific Goals for the Course:

Though this course the student will:

1. Demonstrate on each of the percussion instruments, either by written or performance tests, an accurate knowledge in the following areas of pedagogy:
 - Instrument assembly and care
 - Grips and hand positions
 - Varieties of sticks and mallets
 - Acoustical characteristics of each percussion instrument as they affect tone production, tone quality, etc.
2. Identify practical and acoustical ranges of the instruments.
3. Participate in a class instructional process designed to identify, diagnose, and prescribe common solutions to performance problems encountered by students.

4. Be able to choose graded materials and literature that will account for a systematic growth in the musical and technical development of the school percussion student.
5. Become familiar with the various brands of percussion instruments to adequately advise students and parents in the selection of instruments that will fit their budget.
6. Understand and possess methods to successfully meet the challenges of percussion education in the public school music curriculum.

Required Materials:

Gary Cook. *Teaching Percussion, Third Edition*. Thomson Schirmer Publications, 2006.

One pair of "General" Drumsticks. Innovative IP-1, or other 5B model is recommended.

One Snare Drum Practice Pad for use in class and at home.

One pair of "General" Marimba Mallets. Innovative F3, or other medium marimba mallet is recommended.

Attendance:

Attendance will be taken each class period. Students are allowed to be absent a total of one week of class (3 class periods) without penalty. Each subsequent absence will lower the student's final grade by one letter. Tardiness of more than ten minutes will be considered an absence. If a student is absent for a school related function, documented illness, or other reasonable excuse, it is the student's responsibility to communicate with the instructor and make-up any missed work. All make-up work will be given at the discretion of the instructor.

Grading:

Three Written Exams	100 points each (300 total)
Three Performance Exams	100 points each (300 total)
Percussion Concert Reviews	50 points each (100 total)
Portfolio	200 points
Class Participation	<u>100 points</u>
	1000 points total

Portfolio:

The portfolio will be a documentation of your work in this class. Besides the textbook, the portfolio is the most important artifact that you can take from this class as it will be an invaluable reference when you begin to teach young percussionists. Your portfolio should include everything from the entire semester including, but not limited to, typed notes, handouts, relevant articles, graded

tests, comment sheets from performance exams, concert reviews, and other pertinent information regarding percussion pedagogy. The portfolio will be graded on the following:

1. neatness, clarity, and comprehensiveness of typed class notes and class assignments (50 points)
2. neatness, organization, and comprehensiveness of class handouts and class texts (50 points)
3. 5 current articles relating to percussion education including a 3 sentence explanation of why each is relevant to your career as a music teacher (50 points)
4. overall organization, future usefulness, and completeness of the entire portfolio (50 points)

The portfolio may be submitted as a hard or digital copy by the time of the final exam. Hard copies must be in a 3-ring binder with tabs designating some sort of logical organizational structure. Digital copies must be **ONE** .pdf file and include a table of contents with page numbers.

Percussion concert/solo recital reviews:

Watching high level performances on any instrument that you are attempting to learn is essential for a complete pedagogical understanding. For this class you are required to attend at least 2 UNT percussion performances and submit a formal review of what you observed/learned at the concert. Concerts that are permitted are UNT solo percussion recitals, Global Rhythms, and UNT Percussion Ensemble concerts. Any other concert that you would like to review must be approved by the instructor. At least one of the reviews must be from the "Global Rhythms" concert or the "Night of Percussion" concert. Dates and times are available at www.music.unt.edu/percussion. Click on events.

This review will consist largely of a detailed commentary on percussion techniques used during the concert. Within this commentary, one might discuss why particular techniques were good or bad, the types of sticks/mallets used and whether they were appropriate, or new general or technical performance aspects learned by attending the concert. Include the physical set-up used in each piece (if applicable) and reasons why that might have been chosen. Briefly discuss a challenge that each particular piece may pose to percussion students (rhythmic, technical, conceptual, independence, endurance, etc.) and how you might address it when teaching. In the interest of getting the best information possible, you may want to contact the performers to answer any further questions.

Performance review specifics:

- Around two pages of length.
- Every review is due by the first class meeting after the concert attendance. (ex: Monday night concert reviews are due the following Wednesday. Thursday night concert reviews are due by the following morning on Friday).
- Reviews turned in after the end of the required class meeting will not be accepted.
- Students are responsible for handing in a printed copy of the review, **regardless of what happens in the computer lab prior to the class meeting** ("save early and often"). You must include a copy of the program with your review.
- You will be graded on the thoroughness and clarity of your observations.
- Each review is worth 50 points for a total of 100.

Format of review:

- 12 point font using only Times New Roman
- **no more** than a 1" border around the entire document
- double spaced body of document using the following model;

Name and Date on top line (right margin justified)
double space

MUAG 1117 review: *name of performing group or individual* (centered)
double space

Body or review (double spaced and left margin justified)

- Review should be free of spelling and grammatical errors.
- Failure to adhere to these guidelines will result in either a lowered grade or a non-acceptance of your review

Grade of "I" Incomplete:

An incomplete is a non punitive grade given only during the last one-fourth of the semester and only if a student: 1) is passing the course; 2) has a justifiable reason why the work cannot be completed in scheduled; and 3) makes arrangements with the instructor to complete the course at a later date by completing specific requirements the instructor lists on the grade sheet. All work in the course must be completed within the specified time (not to exceed one year after the end of the course.) In order to receive an incomplete the student must sign a contract that specifies the work required for completion of the course requirements. The student must get the appropriate forms from the College of Music Office and initiate the request for an incomplete.

Americans with Disabilities Act:

The College of Music complies with the Americans With Disabilities Act in making reasonable accommodation for qualified students with disabilities. If you have an established disability as defined in the ADA and would like to request accommodation, please see the instructor as soon as possible.

Academic Dishonesty:

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, 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.

Acceptable 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 classroom, labs, discussion groups, field trips, etc. The Code of Student Conduct can be found at 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 and how to forward your e-mail: eagleconnect.unt.edu/

ADA 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 Accommodation (ODA) to verify their eligibility. If a disability is verified, the ODA will provide you with an accommodation letter to be delivered to faculty to begin a private discussion regarding your specific needs in a course. You may request accommodations at any time, however, ODA notices of accommodation should be provided as early as possible in the semester to avoid any delay in implementation. Note that students must obtain a new letter of accommodation for every semester and must meet with each faculty member prior to implementation in each class. For additional information see the Office of Disability Accommodation website at disability.unt.edu. You may also contact them by phone at (940) 565-4323.

Spring Semester Academic Schedule (with Add/Drop Dates):

<http://catalog.unt.edu/content.php?catoid=13&navoid=974> - [spring 2016](#)

Final Exam Schedule:

<http://registrar.unt.edu/exams/final-exam-schedule/spring>

Financial Aid and Satisfactory Academic Progress:

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 registered hours per term. 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.

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. Please visit <http://financialaid.unt.edu/sap> for more information about financial aid Satisfactory Academic Progress. 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 being doing so.

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

Blackboard 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 at the following link: essc.unt.edu/registrar/ferpa.html

***This syllabus may be modified at the discretion of the instructor.
Changes will be discussed in class and/or via email.***

**MUAG 1117-Percussion Methods
Spring 2016 Course Schedule**

	<u>Tuesday</u>	<u>Thursday</u>
<u>Week 1</u> Jan. 19, 21	Intro/Snare: Basics	Snare: Basics
<u>Week 2</u> Jan. 26, 28	Snare: Warm-ups	Snare: Rolls
<u>Week 3</u> Feb. 2, 4	Snare: Flams	Snare: Drags
<u>Week 4</u> Feb. 9, 11	Snare: Rudiments	Snare: Reading Review
<u>Week 5</u> Feb. 16, 18	Written Exam #1	Playing Exam #1
<u>Week 6</u> Feb. 23, 25	Keyboards: Intro Warm-Ups	Keyboards: Reading
<u>Week 7</u> Mar. 1, 3	Keyboards: Etudes	Timpani: Intro
<u>Week 8</u> Mar. 8, 10	Timpani: Tuning	Timpani: Playing
<u>Week 9</u> Mar. 15, 17	No Class Spring Break	No Class Spring Break
<u>Week 10</u> Mar. 22, 24	Accessories: Intro	Accessories: Playing
<u>Week 11</u> Mar. 29, 31	Accessories: Playing Review	Written Exam #2

Week 12
Apr. 5, 7

Playing Exam #2

Marching: Intro

Week 13
Apr. 12, 14

Marching: Playing

Marching: Playing

Week 14
Apr. 19, 21

Latin: Intro

Latin: Congas/Bongos

Week 15
Apr. 26, 28

Drum Set: Intro/Setup

Drum Set: Playing

Week 16
May 3, 5

Review

Written Exam #3
Portfolio Due

Playing Exam #3 Date TBD