Iowa State University  
Course Syllabus – Spring 2011  
Music 354 - Low Brass Methods  
Music Hall 102 – T/TH 11:00-11:50

Instructor: Mr. Bill Staub  
Music Hall 107  
ISU Phone: 294-1520  
Email: wstaub@iastate.edu

Required Materials:  
A Complete Guide to Brass, 3rd edition by Scott Whitener  
Schirmer Books ISBN# 0534509886

Essential Elements 2000: Trombone Book 1  
Essential Elements 2000: Tuba Book 1

3 ring binder

Course Description:  
In this course you will be exposed to the trombone, euphonium and tuba. You will learn the basic history, gain an understanding of how the low brass instruments work, appropriate teaching methods and materials, and develop basic playing skills for each instrument. You will also develop strategies for honing your mind’s ear towards characteristic sounds of low brass instruments.

Class Format:  
Classes will be a combination of lecture, discussion and participation. In addition, you will have the opportunity to work together and to teach a lesson.

Attendance Policy:  
All students are expected to attend class regularly. You are allowed 1 absence that will not affect your grade. Each additional absence will lower your final grade by 1 letter grade. More than three unexcused absences will result in a failing grade for the course. 2 tardies is equal to 1 absence. Excused absences will only include University sanctioned absences and family or medical emergencies. Documentation will be required for all medical emergencies. Use your 1 absence wisely.  
You are responsible for the class materials and all assignments. NO incompletes will be given unless you are in an emergency situation. Check my office door for office hours. Appointments may also be made outside of regular office hours, as there may be times that I have appointments with other students or observations with student teachers. If you need to be certain of seeing me, making an appointment will guarantee some uninterrupted time.
**Instruments:**
The instruments used in this class are either property of ISU or on loan from a music store. You are responsible for treating the instruments appropriately and will be held financially liable for loss or damage.

**Grades:**
The following percentages will be used for determining your final grade:

- A = 92-100
- A- = 90-91
- B+ = 88-89
- B = 82-87
- B- = 80-81
- C+ = 78-79
- C = 72-77
- C- = 70-71
- D = 60-69
- F = 59 and below

The following formula will be used for assessing your final grade for the semester.

- Participation, Attitude & Attendance: 10%
- Assignments & Quizzes: 15%
- Playing Exams (2): 20%
- Midterm Exam: 15%
- Notebook: 10%
- Article Synopses: 10%
- Final Exam: 20%

While the evaluation process is implemented in order to protect and encourage your academic and musical growth, resist the urge to become fixated on grades. Keep in mind that an A is a result of EXCELLENT work, a B is a result of GOOD work, and a C is a result of AVERAGE work.

**Written Assignments** – You will be given a series of questions to be answered for each chapter you are assigned in the Whitner book. These are due the day listed on the syllabus and must be typed, double-spaced, and stapled, if needed. Late assignments will NOT be accepted and will be given a zero.

**Notebook** – Throughout the semester, you will receive handouts and supplemental materials. You will need to keep these handouts and all other materials in a three-ring binder. Notebooks will be handed in at the end of the semester. Notebook grades will be given according to the comprehensive content (50%) and organizational content (50%) of all the materials acquired (class notes, quizzes, exams, handouts, daily assignments, paper(s), article summaries, etc.) Please make sure that your notebook is arranged in a logical, sequential manner so that you may refer back to it in the future. Your notebook will be due at the final exam.

**Article Synopses** – You will be given a list of articles you are required to read this semester. For each article you must write a brief. Please make sure that the full article citation is included on your synopsis. You may also photocopy the article for inclusion if you wish – but it is not required. Format will be discussed in class.

**Exams** - There will be one exam at the end of the trombone section and one at the end of the semester on the tuba/euphonium section. **The final exam is scheduled for May 4 @ 9:45AM**

Exams and Quizzes cannot be made up.
**Academic Dishonesty:**
Any form of academic dishonesty, including but not limited to cheating and plagiarism, will result in failure of the course.

**Disability Statement:**
If you have a documented disability and anticipate needing accommodations in this course, please make arrangements to meet with me soon. Please request that a Disability Resources staff send a SAAR form verifying your disability and specifying the accommodations you will need.

**Tentative Schedule (subject to change):**

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<td>Fink CH 7, 12</td>
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<td>Fink CH 22 &amp; 23</td>
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<td>25</td>
<td>Whitner CH 5 &amp; CH 11 (p 159-161), CH9 (trombone only)</td>
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**Note:** Tentative Schedule subject to change.
**Recommended Resources:**


