ISU Percussion Methods MUSIC 355 – Spring 2013 Class Schedule

*The weekly plan will serve as a guide for us, but we will not hold strictly to it. Assignments will most likely fall into the weeks they are listed. Please take notes as things shift and on exact dates that are given out in class.

**Week 1**
- Introduction
  - overview of syllabus
  - vocabulary/instrument list (copy provided)
  - resources (back of Siwe book)
  - history (Dropbox)
  - concerts to attend (provided)
  - rudiments and basic technique (match grip; fulcrum, rebound stroke, down and up strokes)

- Auxiliary Percussion Instruments and their techniques:
  - Cymbals (suspended, crash, sizes, timbre, etc)
  - Tambourine
- Introduction to basic technique:
  - snare drum (parts of the instrument, set-up, matched/traditional grip, basic rudiments [paradiddles], marching/rudimental drumming vs. concert drumming)
  - other drums and their technique; bass drum, tenor drum, tom-toms, field drum, etc.
  - begin playing exercises

**Week 2**
- Continue Drums:
  - Flam, Roll (open/closed), drag rudiments
  - Choose mid-term etude
  - Drum Set (independence, practicing snare drum with kick drum, styles, chart reading, set-up)

- Drum Talk
  - Questions/Review
  - More playing/warm-up exercise
  - tuning and maintenance
  - Sight reading
  - Work on chosen etude

**Week 3**
- Multiple Percussion
  - Conventional Staff Notation / Symbol notation
  - Set-up concerns
  - Importance to young students
  - Music

- Keyboard Percussion
  - Marimba/Xylophone [range, tuning, technique, mallet importance]
  - choose mid-term etude
  - play scales and arpeggios
  - 4-mallet technique [Musser, Stevens, Cross, Burton]

**Week 4**
- Keyboard Percussion
  - Vibraphone, Bells, Chimes, Crotales [range, tuning, technique, mallets]
  - Pedal technique
  - practice mid-term etudes and scales

- Short Answer Quiz #1

**Week 5**
Week 6

Week 7

- Method book presentation for snare drum and marimba
- Snare Drum review session

Week 8

-Mid-term Performance Examination/Master Class Session
-  Method Book review due (1-2 pages)
  - all students will perform rudiments, scales and arpeggios, and their mid-term etudes in front of class to receive help from teacher – practice, practice!
-  Snare Drum: rudiments, etude
-  Keyboard: scales and arpeggios, etude
-  Method Book Review/Comparison Due

-Mid-term Performance Examination/Master Class Session
  - all students will perform rudiments, scales and arpeggios, and their mid-term etudes in front of class to receive help from teacher – practice, practice!

Week 9

- Timpani:
  - Set-up
  - pedaling, tuning, and range
  - technique (grips; French, German, “American”)
  - rolling
  - muffling
  - play exercises, choose final etude

Week 10

- Timpani
  - maintenance and care
  - more timpani playing
  - Chapter 5 of Cook book
  - practice mid-term keyboard etude and timpani etude

- Auxiliary Percussion Instruments and their techniques:
  - Cymbals (suspended, crash, sizes, timbre, etc)
  - Tambourine
  - Triangle
  - Tam-tam
  - Others
  - tone production
  - Choose 1 etude to perform on 2 different auxiliary instruments
  - Chapter 6 of Cook book

Week 11

- More on Auxiliary instruments and World Percussion
  - tone production
  - The Contemporary Arsenal
- Latin Percussion
- African Percussion
- practice Auxiliary etudes
- Chapter 7 of Cook book
- ensemble playing and issues
- Chapters 9 and 3 of Cook book

- Percussion Ensemble
  - Importance
  - Repertoire
  - Strategy for students performing more

**Week 12**

- Maintenance Day
  - Drum heads; tuning and changing
  - timpani mysteries
  - vibraphone problems
  - storage

- Short Answer Quiz #2

**Week 13**

- Review

- Marching Percussion
  - The Line (orchestration, tuning, sound, marching, needs)
  - The Pit (orchestration, instruments, logistics, band parents, Make friends with the local hardware store.)

**Week 14**

- Marching Percussion
  - The Line (orchestration, tuning, sound, marching, needs)
  - The Pit (orchestration, instruments, logistics, band parents, Make friends with the local hardware store.)

- Method book presentation on keyboard percussion and drumset

**Week 15 [Dead Week]**

- Short Answer Test

**FINALS WEEK**

- ALL CONCERT ATTENDANCE ESSAYS DUE
  - Teaching Demonstrations
  - Final Performance Exam
Assignments and Grading –

Grades will be determined through 10 assignments

Short Answer Quizzes (2) (5% each)
Two short answer quizzes will be given to test on the materials covered thus far in the course. Each quiz will be 15-20 questions with some extra credit questions. Vocabulary, technique, history, instruments, etc. will be included, and you will only have half of the class period to finish.

Concert Attendance Essays (2 required concerts) (10% each)
Attendance is required at the two percussion concerts for the semester. Write a 1-2 page essay on a work on the program, discussing the work, the composer, the instruments, the technique, and your opinion of the piece. Go up and chat with the performers if you can, this could provide you with a good amount of information. These assignments will be due 1 week following the performance. Turn in program with paper.

Final Short Answer Test (10%)
This test will have short answer questions that pertain to the topics and terms discussed during the semester. Don’t let historical items, performers names, technique names, instrument names, etc. fly by, take notes when you can. There is too much to cover in the time we have, so try to make the most of it.

Method Book Presentations (2) (5% each)
The percussionists in the class will each present 6 method books (2 beginner, 2 intermediate, and 2 advanced) from one of these instrument areas: snare drum, marimba/keyboard percussion, auxiliary/world percussion, timpani, and drum set. They will provide an annotated bibliography for each book for the class. The non-percussionists in the class will write a 1-2 page review on what they learn about the percussion method books from that class period. They can include thoughts about specific books, segments of the presentation they liked or disliked, what they felt may have been missing from the books presented, and/or information about the authors. This review should provide a comprehensive overview of what they observed from the presentations.

Mid-term Performance Examination (10%)
Each student will perform the Mid-term snare drum and marimba etude they have chosen for the instructor. At this point in the course there should be an awareness of technique and tone production, and a commitment to learning percussion needs to be present. A selection of rudiments, scales, and arpeggios will be asked for this examination as well.

Teaching Demonstration (10%)
Each will be asked to teach the basics of playing snare drum to a beginning student.

Percussion Tech Notebook (10%)
You will be required to keep a notebook with all materials given out during class and notes you take organized by instrument category. This notebook will be due at one of your final exam times.

Final Performance Exam (10%)
Each student will perform the timpani etude and 2 auxiliary etudes they chose, as well as all lines of the snare drum and keyboard 2-mallet etude from the mid-term examination. They also need to demonstrate some knowledge of a 4-mallet grip by performing 1 of the 3 4-mallet mallet studies from the Garwood Whaley method book examples. A selection of rudiments, scales, and arpeggios will be asked for this examination as well.

Participation and Attendance (10%)
You are allowed to miss 2 classes for whatever reason. Beyond that it will affect your final grade. Try not to miss a class it will be a lot of information to catch up on. Don’t forget to take notes during class so that when you can’t remember it while teaching in a few years it will be there for you.

*Percussion Majors will be asked to teach a portion of a class, subject to be determined. And will need to write a 2-3 page essay describing their approach to starting a new percussion ensemble, repertoire they would use, rehearsal techniques used, and plan for an entire school year with a high school percussion ensemble. Provide an annotated bibliography of at least 10 pieces of percussion ensemble literature you would use for such a group. These 2 assignments will take the place of the concert attendance essays.