Instructor: Gary L. Kleptach
Office: MH 207
Office Phone: 294-6829

Registration

You should be enrolled in Music 354 – Low Brass Methods. This course is designed to provide you with the knowledge, skills and resources necessary to successfully launch your low brass students instrumental experience. If you are NOT enrolled for this course, please bring it to my attention.

Required Text


Optional Texts


Course Objective

1. To stimulate thinking concerning life and instrumental music teaching as evidenced through verbalization and behavior demonstrating the abilities to logically analyze, criticize, and choose alternatives that exist within some value orientation.

2. To provide the prospective music educator with experiences that will enable them to lead their low brass students in affective music-making activities while building fundamental performance skills.

3. To provide the prospective music educator with the necessary low brass resources to achieve the goals of the instrumental program.

General Information

1. All assignments are due in class prior to or on the scheduled date.
2. Consistent demonstration of professionalism is expected.

3. Any missed course requirements/assignments, or deviation from recommended formats may result in a lowered grade.

4. The instructor reserves the right to raise a course grade in exceptional circumstances.

**Attendance**

Failure to attend class will be recognized as an indication of your lack of interest in the course. Three or more unexcused absences will result in the subtraction of all attendance points from your final point total. An unexcused absence on a test day will result in a “F” as your grade for the test and lose of points. A test can not be made up due to an unexcused absence. Three instances of tardiness will count as one unexcused absence.

It is understandable that you will encounter, at various times during the semester, conflicts of both an academic and personal nature. It is understood that such conflicts are normally not planned (i.e., illness). If you are going to miss a class meeting, call my office, 294-6829, and leave a message with me, or on my voice mail, so that I can excuse you from that class. If you do not report your absence from class by 2:00 p.m. on the following day, your absence will be deemed unexcused.

**Evaluation and Grading**

1. **Mastery Test (500pts.)** Throughout the semester you will be given five mastery tests. Some of the tests will be written and some will be performance based.

2. **Mid-term Examination (200pts.)** The mid-term exam will cover all materials covered throughout the first half of the semester.

3. **Final examination (200pts.)** The final examination will cover all materials presented from the beginning of the semester to the present.

4. **Note Book (100 pts)** You will maintain a 3 ring notebook which will contain your notes and all handouts given to you throughout the semester.

5. **Attendance (100 pts.)** Attendance will be taken at the beginning of each class period. Three unexcused absences will result in failure to achieve any
attendance points. Three instances of tardiness will count as one unexcused absence.

**Grade configuration**

The final grade will be determined by adding the total points earned and converted to a letter grade.
**General Outline of Topics**

**August**

22. Orientation, Discuss Syllabus, Distribution of Trombone

24. The Embouchure/First Lesson

29. In Class Playing/Articulations/Slide positions

31. Warm-up routines for Low Brass

**September**

5. UNIVERSITY HOLIDAY

7. Breathing

12. Improving range & flexibility

14. Advanced Performance Techniques

19. Promoting Positive Practice Habits

21. Mastery Test #1

26. In class application

28. In class application

**October**

3. Trombones, Mouthpieces, & Mutes

5. Mastery Test #2

10. Peer Pressure on the Beginning 5th Grader, Yes/No

12. Mid-term

17. In class application

19. First Euphonium/Tuba Lesson & Problems Encountered

24. In class application
26. Low Brass Players on Low Brass at the High School, on What Instrument should they begin?

30. In Class Application

**November**

2. Recruiting Low Brass Players

7. Mastery Test #3

9. In Class Playing

14. In Class Playing

16. Mastery Test #4

21. **BREAK**

29. In Class Playing

30. Teaching Same Instruments/Mixed Instruments/Por/Con

**December**

5. In Class Playing

7. Mastery Test #5

12. **FINALS WEEK. DATE OF FINAL EXAM TBA**

Materials/reading required by mid-term
Preface, p. xiii
Ch. 1, pg. 3-9
Ch. 5, pg. 68-81
Ch.10, pg. 133-151
Ch. 11, pg. 159-161
Ch. 12, pg. 165-173
Additional Material/reading required for finals
Ch. 2, pg. 10-23
Ch. 6, 85-92
Ch. 7, pg. 94-103
Ch. 11, pg. 162-164

Course outline subject to change by instructor when deemed necessary