

**Iowa State University – Department of Music & Theatre**  
**Music 374B: Instrumental Methods for Vocalists**  
Fall, 2023

Instructor: Dr. Sarah Van Dusen  
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**Description:**

“Techniques and skills required to teach instrumental music in the schools for vocalists.” This course is intended for vocal music education majors.

**Course Objectives:**

1. To provide vocal students with a review of wind, brass, string, and percussion instruments basics and pedagogy.
2. To provide vocal students with a review of score reading, transposition, and rehearsal techniques for teaching instrumental music.
3. To provide vocal students with a variety of resources to assist with teaching instrumental music.

**Learning Outcomes:**

1. By the end of this course, students will be able to demonstrate the ability to transpose music for the basic instruments (Bb, Eb, F) and alto/tenor clef.
2. By the end of this course, students will be able to discuss the names of composers and arrangers for young band and orchestral music.
3. By the end of this course, students will demonstrate a basic understanding of instrumental basics, including posture, fingerings, and instrumental basics.
4. By the end of this course, students will have acquired an understanding of basic instrumental rehearsal techniques, including warm-ups.

**Evaluation & Grading:**

There will be four quizzes throughout the semester. Each quiz will comprise 20% of your grade. There will be a final project and presentation at the end of the semester which will comprise the final 20%. Your grade will be dropped half a letter for every unexcused absence.

90%+ = A    80-89% = B    70-79% = C    60-69% = D    0-59% = F

**Topics to cover include:**

- Instruments: woodwind, brass, percussion and string
- Score study and transposition
- Rehearsal techniques for Large Instrumental Ensembles (Concert Band, Jazz Band, Marching Band, Orchestra)
- Resources for further study

## **Text**

*Teaching of Instrumental Music*, 4<sup>th</sup> ed., Simon Colwell. There will also be handouts available on Canvas.

## **Specific Course Activities and Readings**

*Each Reading is expected to have been read **BEFORE** the week it is listed (e.g. Read Chapter 5 **BEFORE** our meeting for Week 2). Readings may change depending on class needs and experience, check the Canvas page for updated information each week.*

### **Weeks:**

1 – Intro / Transposition & Score Reading

2 – Transposition & Score Reading/Recruiting and Selecting an Instrument

Read: Chapter 5

3 – Flute

Read: Chapter 10 and 11

4 – Clarinet/Sax

***Students are Given Take Home Quiz #1 -- Transposition***

Read: Chapters 13 and 15

5 – Valved Brass

***Quiz #1 is Due by this Class Session***

Read: Chapter 16 and 17

6 – Trombone/Euphonium

Read: Chapter 19

7 – Percussion

***Quiz #2 (Flute through Trombone/Euphonium)***

Read: Chapter 21

8 – Planning and Rehearsing/Repertoire/Rehearsals/Warm Ups

Read: Chapter 27

9 – Marching Band

Read: Chapter 28

10 – Jazz Band

Read: Chapter 29

11 – Open Review

***Quiz #3 (Percussion through Jazz Band)***

12 – String (Violin)

Read: Chapters 22 and 23

13 – String (Cello)

Read: Chapter 25

14—Classroom Management/Concerts/Assessment **Quiz #4 (Strings)**

Read: Chapters 24 and 26

15—Semester Review

Final time TBD--- ***Final projects due. Final presentations during class.***

### Land Acknowledgement

Iowa State University aspires to be the best land-grant university at creating a welcoming and inclusive environment where diverse individuals can succeed and thrive. As a land-grant institution, we are committed to the caretaking of this land and acknowledge those who have previously taken care of the land on which we gather. Before this site became Iowa State University, it was the ancestral lands and territory of the Baxoje (bah-kho-dzhe), or Ioway Nation. The United States obtained the land from the Meskwaki and Sauk nations in the Treaty of 1842. We wish to recognize our obligations to this land and to the people who took care of it, as well as to the 17,000 Native people who live in Iowa today.

### Free Expression

Iowa State University supports and upholds the First Amendment protection of **freedom of speech** and the principle of **academic freedom** in order to foster a learning environment where open inquiry and the vigorous debate of a diversity of ideas are encouraged. Students will not be penalized for the content or viewpoints of their speech as long as student expression in a class context is germane to the subject matter of the class and conveyed in an appropriate manner.

### Academic Dishonesty

The class will follow Iowa State University's policy on academic misconduct (**5.1 in the Student Code of Conduct**). Students are responsible for adhering to university policy and the expectations in the course syllabus and on coursework and exams, and for following directions given by faculty, instructors, and Testing Center regulations related to coursework, assessments, and exams. Anyone suspected of academic misconduct will be reported to the **Office of Student Conduct in the Dean of Students Office**. Information about academic integrity and the value of completing academic work honestly can be found in the **Iowa State University Academic Integrity Tutorial**.

### Accessibility Statement

Iowa State University is committed to advancing equity, access, and inclusion for students with disabilities. Promoting these values entails providing reasonable accommodations where barriers exist to students' full participation in higher education. Students in need of accommodations or who experience accessibility-related barriers to learning should work with Student Accessibility Services (SAS) to identify resources and support available to them. Staff at SAS collaborate with students and campus partners to coordinate accommodations and to further the academic excellence of students with disabilities. Information about SAS is available online at [www.sas.dso.iastate.edu](http://www.sas.dso.iastate.edu), by email at [accessibility@iastate.edu](mailto:accessibility@iastate.edu), or by phone at 515-294-7220.

### Discrimination and Harassment

Iowa State University does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, age, ethnicity, religion, national origin, pregnancy, sexual orientation, gender identity, genetic information, sex, marital status, disability, or status as a U.S. Veteran. Inquiries regarding non-discrimination policies may be directed to Office of Equal Opportunity, 3410 Beardshear Hall, 515 Morrill Road, Ames, Iowa 50011, Tel. 515-294-7612, Hotline 515-294-1222, email [eooffice@iastate.edu](mailto:eooffice@iastate.edu)

### Mental Health and Well-Being Resources

Iowa State University is committed to proactively facilitating all students' well-being. Resources are available on the [ISU Student Health and Wellness website](https://www.cyclonehealth.iastate.edu) (<https://www.cyclonehealth.iastate.edu>).

### Prep Week

This class follows the Iowa State University Prep Week policy as noted in section 10.6.4 of the [Faculty Handbook](#).

### Religious Accommodation

Iowa State University welcomes diversity of religious beliefs and practices, recognizing the contributions differing experiences and viewpoints can bring to the community. There may be times when an academic requirement conflicts with religious observances and practices. If that happens, students may request the reasonable accommodation for religious practices. In all cases, you must put your request in writing. The instructor will review the situation in an effort to provide a reasonable accommodation when possible to do so without fundamentally altering a course. For students, you should first discuss the conflict and your requested accommodation with your professor at the earliest possible time. You or your instructor may also seek assistance from the [Dean of Students Office](#) at 515-294-1020 or the [Office of Equal Opportunity](#) at 515-294-7612.

### Contact Information for Academic Issues

If you are experiencing, or have experienced, a problem with any of the above statements, email [academicissues@iastate.edu](mailto:academicissues@iastate.edu)