

**IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY
COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS AND SCIENCES • DEPARTMENT OF MUSIC & THEATRE**

FALL SEMESTER 2023

MUSIC 415I, section SH: Percussion Pedagogy and Literature (VARIABLE CREDIT) - Literature Semester

Meeting time: TBD
Music Hall Rm. 257

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Office Hours: as posted or by appointment
606-213-0348

COURSE SYLLABUS

Course Description

Prerequisite: Permission of instructor

To expand the percussion students' comprehensive knowledge of percussion teaching and literature. The class will involve a survey of method books, periodicals, historical texts, solo and ensemble literature, and recordings. The student will become familiar with the philosophy, materials, and methods for teaching percussion instruments in an applied studio setting.

Learning Outcomes

The student will:

- 1) Learn and adopt a philosophy on teaching private students. This includes such topics as the art of teaching, sequencing, mentoring/nurturing, and the teaching of practice techniques. (pedagogy semester)
- 2) Recommend appropriate methods and materials on all percussion instruments towards the logical growth and development of a beginning, intermediate and advanced performer. (pedagogy semester)
- 3) Be able to classify composers and literature into time periods and stylistic genres. (literature semester)
- 4) Understand a broad history of percussion instruments and be able to formulate timelines of important events in percussion history. (literature semester)

Course Materials

Students will use the university library resources for accessing books, electronic articles, and music recordings. Reference materials will also be used from the Percussive Arts Society website, publishers' websites, and percussion databases.

Attendance Policy

Students are expected to attend all class meetings, with the exception of university-approved excuses.

Grading Description

Grading will be based on the completion of various weekly assigned projects. An unexcused absence will result in the lowering of one letter grade off the final grade.

Weekly Reading and Participation: 30%
Quizzes: 25%
Research Presentations: 15%
Research Papers: 15%
Final Notebook: 15%

- Reading comprehension and participation will be assessed and recorded weekly.
- Periodic listening quizzes will be administered during Chamber and Solo Literature topic modules.
- Research Presentations (oral presentation in class):
 - o Instrument: Students will choose a percussion instrument on which to present a historical development.
 - o Composer: Students will choose a landmark percussion composer (solo or ensemble) to research and present relevant biographical information.
- Research Paper Assignments: Students will write a brief paper coinciding with the topic of their composer/instrument presentations (same topic as the one chosen for the oral research presentation). The research paper will be turned in on the same class meeting as the presentation.
 - *For instrument history papers, include:
 - foreign terminology and definition
 - a brief history of development; both Ancient and Modern, with footnotes and works consulted.
 - a timeline of important composers, authors, significant orchestral repertoire, performers, inventors, design changes, etc.
 - additional resources such as discography, bibliography, and/or internet – where appropriate.
- Final Notebook: Students will keep record of all class materials in an organized binder, to be turned in at the end of the semester. Materials such as class notes, handouts, quizzes, and research papers should be included.

COVID-19 health and safety requirements

Face masks encouraged: *Because of the continuing COVID-19 pandemic, all students are encouraged—but not required—to wear face masks, consistent with current recommendations from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Further information on the proper use of face masks is available at: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/your-health/effective-masks.html>.*

Vaccinations encouraged: *All students are encouraged to receive a vaccination against COVID-19. Multiple locations are available on campus for free, convenient vaccination. Further information is available at: <https://web.iastate.edu/safety/updates/covid19/vaccinations>. Vaccinations may also be obtained from health care providers and pharmacies.*

Physical distancing encouraged for unvaccinated individuals: *Classrooms and other campus spaces are operating at normal capacities, and physical distancing by faculty, staff, students, and visitors to campus is not required. However, unvaccinated individuals are encouraged to continue to physically distance themselves from others when possible.*

Academic Dishonesty

The class will follow Iowa State University's policy on academic dishonesty. Anyone suspected of academic dishonesty will be reported to the [Dean of Students Office](#).

Accessibility Statement

Iowa State University is committed to assuring that all educational activities are free from discrimination and harassment based on disability status. Students requesting accommodations for a documented disability are required to work directly with staff in Student Accessibility Services (SAS) to establish eligibility and learn about related processes before accommodations will be identified. After eligibility is established, SAS staff will create and issue a Notification Letter for each course listing approved reasonable accommodations. This document will be made available to the student and instructor either electronically or in hard-copy every semester. Students and instructors are encouraged to review contents of the Notification Letters as early in the semester as possible

to identify a specific, timely plan to deliver/receive the indicated accommodations. Reasonable accommodations are not retroactive in nature and are not intended to be an unfair advantage. Additional information or assistance is available online at www.sas.dso.iastate.edu, by contacting SAS staff by email at accessibility@iastate.edu, or by calling 515-294-7220. Student Accessibility Services is a unit in the Dean of Students Office located at 1076 Student Services Building.

Dead Week

This class follows the Iowa State University Dead Week policy as noted in section 10.6.4 of the Faculty Handbook <http://www.provost.iastate.edu/resources/faculty-handbook>.

Harassment and Discrimination

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

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.

Week	Assignments Due	Topic	Reading/Listening (To be done before Class)
1		Preliminaries: Syllabus Project/Assignment Descriptions Orchestral percussion Timeline (document)	
2		Background/Essential Info: Instrument Classifications Early Sources Percussion Notation Janissary Music History of Timpani	Article: <i>Percussion - Status from Antiquity to the Modern Era</i> Blades – pp.223-235 Article: “Notational Nomenclature for Multiple Percussion” Article: “Janissary music in Oxford Music Online” Optional: Blades – pp.33 – 64
	Presentation 1 - Instrument (Paper 1 due)	Instrument Histories: History of Cymbals History of Bass Drum History of Triangle History of Tambourine History of Triangle History of Tambourine	Blades pp. 165-176 Article – “A Brief History of the Cymbals from Antiquity to the Renaissance
4		Instrument Histories: History of castanets History of Xylophone History of Vibraphone History of Snare Drum	Blades pp. 71-84, 160-164, 191-198, 203-204, 386-390 Blades pp. 205-222, 407-410 Optional: Blades 236-279
5	Presentation 2- Composer (Paper 2 due)	Orchestral/Chamber Literature	
6		Percussion Ensemble Literature	
7		Percussion Ensemble Literature	
8	Ensemble Literature Listening Quiz	Percussion Ensemble Literature	
9	Ensemble Literature Listening Quiz	Percussion Ensemble Literature/Solo Literature	
10		Solo Literature	
11	Solo Literature Listening Quiz	Solo Literature	
12	Solo Literature Listening Quiz	Solo Literature	
13	Solo Literature Listening Quiz	Solo Literature	
14	Solo Literature Listening Quiz	Solo Literature	
15		Wrap-up	