**BRASS TECHNIQUES I**

*MUSI 3168 001*

*Fall 2011*

**Instructor:** Dr. Mary Thornton  
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**E-mail:** mary.thornton@tamucc.edu  
**Office Location:** CA135  
**Office Hours:** These are TBA and will be posted after the first week of class as trumpet lessons are scheduled.

**Class Times:** Mon and Wed 9:00-9:50 a.m.  
**Location:** TBA

There are used copies of this book on Amazon starting at $69.95

**Course Description:** This course is designed to teach future music educators essential pedagogical and performance skills for upper brass instruments.

**Course Goals:**

1. The student will be able to provide basic instruction on the trumpet and horn at the elementary, middle school, and secondary level.
2. The student will develop basic performance skills on the trumpet and horn.
3. The student will gain familiarity with brass reference materials and brass equipment, including mouthpieces and mutes.
4. The student will learn how to properly care for brass instruments, and learn basic repair techniques.

**Class Materials**

- Instruments—checked out and cared for by each student.
- Textbook
- Three ring binder for notes/handouts/practice log.

**Assignments and Grading:**

1. Playing tests (4) (100 points each)  
2. Mid-Term  
3. Final Exam  
4. Article reviews (2) (50 points each)  
5. Practice Log  
6. Class Preparation/Attendance  

Total= 1000 points

A = 900-1000  
B = 800-899  
C = 700-799  
D = 600-699  
F = 0-599
Assignment Descriptions:

**Playing Tests**
Short performance tests including scales and musical passages. You will be graded on playing position, intonation, tone, articulation, and accuracy to written pitches. You will need to practice a little every day in order to do well on these playing exams.

**Article Reviews**
A 1-2 page review of one article on trumpet playing/pedagogy and one article on French horn playing/pedagogy (Articles will be easy to find in the Instrumentalist or ITG Journal or IHS Journal). Find articles that will be helpful to you as a future educator (“A Chemical Analysis of the Spit Released from the Standard French Horn” by Axe Pectorate would probably not be the best choice).

**Notebook**
A three-ring binder that will include class notes, handouts and assignments. It must be neatly organized and thorough.

**Class Preparation/Attendance**
To successfully learn a new instrument, it is essential that you practice every day and be in class every day. You will be expected to read assigned chapters in the text, and participate in classroom discussion. You will lose 50 points for each day that you are absent.

**Late Work:** It is extremely important that assignments be turned in on time. Any work turned in after the due date will receive a 10% grade reduction per day.

**Proposed Class Schedule** (Subject to change):

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Activity</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8/24</td>
<td>Syllabus Distribution</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8/29</td>
<td>Course Overview/Instrument Checkout</td>
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<tr>
<td>8/31</td>
<td>Chapter 10 - Tone Production, First Steps, Mouthpiece buzzing</td>
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<tr>
<td>9/5</td>
<td>NO CLASS - LABOR DAY</td>
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<tr>
<td>9/7</td>
<td>Chapter 10 continued</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9/12</td>
<td>Chapter 11 — Playing position, Mouthpiece buzzing (p. 191), and First notes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9/14</td>
<td>Chapter 11 continued</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9/19</td>
<td>Chapter 1 — How Brass Instruments Work</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9/21</td>
<td>Playing Exercises</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9/26</td>
<td>Playing Exercises</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9/28</td>
<td>Chapter 13 — Instrument Care</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10/3</td>
<td>NO CLASS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10/5</td>
<td>Playing Test 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10/10</td>
<td>Chapter 3 — The Trumpet and Cornet</td>
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<tr>
<td>10/12</td>
<td>Chapter 3 continued, Playing Exercises</td>
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<tr>
<td>10/17</td>
<td>Playing Exercises</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10/19</td>
<td>Mid-Term Exam (all written, there is no playing on this exam)</td>
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<tr>
<td>10/24</td>
<td>Playing Test 2</td>
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<tr>
<td>10/26</td>
<td>Army Field Band Trumpet Presentation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10/31</td>
<td>Switch Instruments/Return and Checkout</td>
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<tr>
<td>11/2</td>
<td>Horn pg 167-172</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11/7</td>
<td>Playing Exercises</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
11/9  Chapter 4 – The Horn, pg 47
11/14  Chapter 4 continued
11/16  Playing Exercises
11/21  Playing Test #3
11/23  Playing Exercises
11/28  Horn Video Presentation
11/30  Playing Test #4
12/5  Review for Final Exam

FINAL EXAM (all written) IS AT THE UNIVERSITY SCHEDULED FINAL EXAM TIME.

Important Information:

NOTICE TO STUDENTS WITH DIABLILITIES: Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi complies with the Americans with Disabilities Act in making reasonable accommodations for qualified students with disabilities. If you suspect that you may have a disability (physical impairment, learning disability, psychiatric disability, etc.), please contact the Services for Students with Disabilities Office, located in Driftwood 101, at 825-5816. If you need disability accommodations in this class, please see me as soon as possible.

ACADEMIC ADVISING: The College of Liberal Arts requires that students meet with an Academic Advisor as soon as they are ready to declare a major. The Academic Advisor will set up a degree plan, which must be signed by the student, a faculty mentor, and the department chair. The College's Academic Advising Center is located in Driftwood 203E, and can be reached at 825-3466.

GRADE APPEAL PROCESS: As stated in University Rule 13.02.99.C2, Student Grade Appeals, a student who believes that he or she has not been held to appropriate academic standards as outlined in the class syllabus, equitable evaluation procedures, or appropriate grading, may appeal the final grade given in the course. The burden of proof is upon the student to demonstrate the appropriateness of the appeal. A student with a complaint about a grade is encouraged to first discuss the matter with the instructor. For complete details, including the responsibilities of the parties involved in the process and the number of days allowed for completing the steps in the process, see University Rule 13.02.99.C2, Student Grade Appeals, and University Procedure 13.02.99.C2.01, Student Grade Appeal Procedures. These documents are accessible through the University Rules Web site at http://www.tamucc.edu/provost/university_rules/index.html. For assistance and/or guidance in the grade appeal process, students may contact the Office of Student Affairs.