Brass Ensemble (Trombone)

Course Description

Brass Ensemble (Trombone) is open to any trombone-playing music major. Non-majors are required to audition. This course will emphasize the development of characteristic trombone section sound, ensemble skills, and fundamentals of technique.

Learning Objectives

1. Demonstrate punctuality and professionalism in all rehearsals and performances.
2. Demonstrate musical progress on assigned parts during the semester.
3. Perform assigned parts accurately and musically in performances.
4. Develop ensemble skills such as intonation, ensemble balance, stylistic interpretation, and interpersonal communication.
5. Gain familiarity with standard literature for trombone choir and trombone chamber ensembles.

Major Course Requirements

Grading is based on attendance, rehearsal attitude, and improvement. Those students who attend all rehearsals and performances, maintain a positive attitude in all rehearsals, and learn all of the required music will receive an A in the course. Students should plan to spend at least an hour a week outside of class practicing ensemble music as necessary. Failure to achieve these objectives will result in a lower grade based on the following percentages:

- Daily attendance: 30%
- Participation/preparation: 30%
- Performances: 40%

The trombone ensemble will perform at least twice in a semester: once with the Corpus Christi Trombone Society and one other time on campus at TAMU-CC. Students will be notified (in writing) by the instructor of required events at least two weeks in advance.

Required or Recommended Readings

Students should listen to professional recordings of repertoire where applicable. Many recordings are available on YouTube.

Textbook: not applicable
Course Policies

Attendance/tardiness

Punctual attendance is required at all rehearsals and performances. A student may be dropped from Brass Ensemble (Trombone) after two absences. Late arrival or absence at a performance will result in a failing grade for the course. Each absence/tardy from a rehearsal will lower that portion of the grade by the appropriate percentage.

Cell Phone/Electronic Device Usage

Students are expected to silence cell phones/electronic devices during all rehearsals and performances. Professional musicians are expected to do this, and this policy will be strongly enforced, lowering the participation/preparation or performance portion of the grade for each infraction.

Dropping a Class

I hope that you never find it necessary to drop this or any other class. However, events can sometimes occur that make dropping a course necessary or wise. Please consult with me before you decide to drop to be sure it is the best thing to do. Should dropping the course be the best course of action, you must initiate the process to drop the course by going to the Student Services Center and filling out a course drop form. Just stopping attendance and participation WILL NOT automatically result in your being dropped from the class. November 2 is the last day to drop a class with an automatic grade of “W” this term.

Classroom/professional behavior

Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi, as an academic community, requires that each individual respect the needs of others to study and learn in a peaceful atmosphere. Under Article III of the Student Code of Conduct, classroom behavior that interferes with either (a) the instructor’s ability to conduct the class or (b) the ability of other students to profit from the instructional program may be considered a breach of the peace and is subject to disciplinary sanction outlined in article VII of the Student Code of Conduct. Students engaging in unacceptable behavior may be instructed to leave the classroom. This prohibition applies to all instructional forums, including classrooms, electronic classrooms, labs, discussion groups, field trips, etc.

Grade Appeals

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.

**Disabilities Accommodations**

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you believe you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please call or visit Disability Services at (361) 825-5816 in Corpus Christi Hall, Room 116.

If you are a returning veteran and are experiencing cognitive and/or physical access issues in the classroom or on campus, please contact the Disability Services office for assistance at (361) 825-5816.

**Course Outline (schedule)**

Each week the class will meet at the scheduled time to rehearse music for the semester’s performances. Students are expected to spend time outside of rehearsal practicing individual parts.

*Note: Syllabus is subject to change without prior notice.*