INSTRUMENTAL LITERATURE AND TECHNIQUES
MUSI 4358.001 Fall 2015

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Office Hours: MWF 8:00-9:00 a.m., TR 8:00-9:30 a.m.
Class Times: MWF 9:00-9:50 a.m. CA 222

Course Description:

The primary aim of this course is to prepare students for the art of teaching music by developing students' musicianship, pedagogy, and scholarship. The course deals with the techniques involved in the organization, administration, and preparation of a comprehensive band/orchestra program at the secondary level. The semester will include the study of methods, materials, and repertoire used to teach jazz band, concert band, orchestra, and marching band. The study of marching band includes its performance practices, drill maneuver counts, development and charting of shows, and its place in the school music program and the community.

Student Learning Outcomes:

1. The student will examine and develop his or her own philosophy of music education in the public schools and will be able to express it in writing.
2. The student will develop skills and competencies—administrative and musical—regularly used by professionals in a secondary band/orchestra program.
3. The student will discover and learn to use available resources in the pursuit of continued education in the field of instrumental music education.
4. The student will become familiar with band/orchestra repertoire and develop skills in determining the artistic merit of musical works.

Attendance:

Since every class is essential, attendance is necessary for success. If you must miss class due to an illness or emergency, please call me, or leave a message on my voice mail prior to class. For MWF classes, after 3 absences, each unexcused absence will drop your final grade a whole letter grade.

**** After 6 absences, your grade will be an automatic F. ****
This is a music department policy.

Assignments and Grading:

1. Music Education Philosophy Paper = 100 pts.
2. Article Reviews (3 @ 50 points each) = 150 pts.
3. High School Band/Orch. Observations (2 @ 100 pts. each) = 200 pts.
5. Marching Band Project = 100 pts.
6. Repertoire Project = 100 pts.
7. Class Notebook = 100 pts.
8. Daily Grades (divided equally among assignments) = 100 pts.
9. Class Participation = 50 pts.
Total = 1000 pts.

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

Assignment Due Dates:

- Music Education Philosophy (Daily Grade)
- Ensemble Handbook
- Beginner Band/Orchestra Book Review (Daily Grade)
- Article Review Presentations I
- Article Review Presentations I
- Article Review Presentations III
- Marching Band Project
- High School Band/Orchestra Observation Presentations I - 11/3/15
- High School Band/Orchestra Observation Presentations II - 11/5/15
- Repertoire Project Presentations - 11/24/15
- Class Notebooks - 12/1/15
- Music Education Philosophy Paper/Presentation - 12/8/15

Assignment Descriptions:

1. **Music Education Philosophy Paper**: A formal paper that describes your philosophy of music education in the public schools, with special emphasis on the comprehensive high school band/orchestra program. This paper might be a work that one would present to parents or administrators as a means of advocacy for music as a curricular part of a public school education. The paper should be 2-3 pages in length and demonstrate a good amount of thought and research.

2. **Article Reviews**: Students will locate and review a journal article on each of the following areas: Concert Band/Orchestra, and Marching Band. The articles should be written within the last ten years, and can cover any subject within the broader areas. Students should select articles that speak to areas of interest, and areas that will be helpful in their future careers. A review of the article will include a summary of the salient points and personal reaction to them. How is this information helpful (or not) to you? How might you use the information? What questions does the article raise? Each review should be 2-3 pages in length. Be sure to site correctly the chosen articles.
3. **Ensemble Handbook:** Create a handbook for a high school band/orchestra program. Include sections on: philosophy, expectations, grading, discipline, sample performance dates, awards, and anything else that you might deem appropriate for your program. Your grade will reflect the amount of thought and creativity that you put into this project. This should be something that you would be prepared to handout to your future students.

4. **High School Band/Orch. Observations due November 3rd:** Students will contact two different area high school band/orchestra directors to set up a time to observe a Jazz Band, Concert Band, Orchestra or Marching Band rehearsal. Pre-contest warm-ups or run-throughs don’t count. Not much teaching happens during these times. If you presently work with a high school band, the observations must be with two other bands/directors, as these observations should give new perspectives on rehearsals. If you attended high school in the area, avoid returning to your old school. For your observation, it is imperative that you dress professionally. Take good notes of your observations and write a 2-3 page report on your insights. Do not procrastinate on this assignment. There will be no class time spent on this particular project. The completion of this assignment will be entirely up to you.

5. **Marching Band Project:** Create a contemporary marching design for one chart in the TAMUCC pep band library. The design should include but not limited to drill maneuver counts, drill design, visuals, use of props, staging, large or small band considerations, colorguard details (uniform/costumes, equipment, changes during selection), etc.

6. **Class Notebook:** Your notebook will consist of class notes, handouts, assignments, and other supplemental materials. This is your resource and as such it can be of great value in your future teaching. Neatness and organization is of paramount importance to you, and as such, it will be a large part of your notebook grade. You may organize the notebook however you wish, but the system of organization must be clear. Class notes can be typed, and the notebook should include some kind of table of contents (the more detailed, the better resource this will be to you in the future).

7. **Repertoire Project:** Select a UIL Concert and Sight-Reading program for high school wind band or orchestra using reliable repertoire sources (PML) and create a one-page program note for each. Include composer information, as well as information about the history, form, and points of interest in the work. Keep the audience in mind (why should they want to hear this work?). Each student will present his/her program in class.

8. **Daily Grades:** These will be made up of varying, small classroom assignments throughout the semester.

9. **Class Participation:** This class will be a seminar style, with much classroom discussion, sharing of ideas, and open dialogue. As such, student participation is essential. Students are expected to engage in class discussions at all times. Also factored into class participation is attendance and punctuality.
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.

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.

Notice to Students with Disabilities: 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.

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. If the problem cannot be resolved at this level, the student may take the steps below:

1. Presentation of grievance to instructor. (This step must be taken within fourteen calendar days after the beginning of the next term.)
2. Appeal to department chair or area coordinator.
3. Written appeal to the University Academic Standards Grievance Committee.
4. Preliminary review and advising by an ombudsman appointed by the Provost.
5. Submission of file by department chair to the chair of the University Academic Standards Grievance Committee.
6. Review of file by committee chair and submission of case to committee.
7. Proceedings of the University Academic Standards Grievance Committee. (Committee holds hearing, reviews data, presents findings to
all parties, and makes recommendation to Provost).
8. Decision by Provost.
9. Final appeal in writing to the Provost if student or instructor thinks appropriate procedures have not been followed.

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.htm. For assistance and/or guidance in the grade appeal process, students may contact the Office of Student Affairs.

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