MUEN 1135.004: Tuba/Euphonium Ensemble
Fall Semester 2019

2:00 – 3:00 pm Friday
Monday Rehearsal TBA
Texas A&M University – Corpus Christi – BH 1.11
Dr. Dan T. Sipes, Instructor Office Phone: 361-825-5659
Office: Bay Hall 1.11 E-mail: dan.sipes@tamucc.edu

Office Hours:
Monday – Friday: 11:00 – 12:00 PM
If these hours do not fit your schedule, please call or e-mail me and we will find
a mutually agreeable time. Because of other commitments, I may not always be
available during posted hours. Please leave me a note.

Course Description:
Personal musical and creative growth is the overriding goal of the TAMUCC Brass
Ensemble. Whether one’s goal is to teach, perform, create new works, or to
develop as an artist and musician while pursuing an unrelated course of study,
the TAMUCC Brass Ensemble serves an important aesthetic and social role. The
selection, rehearsal, and performance of a wide range of music is intended to
challenge ensemble members aesthetically, musically, and intellectually.

Expectations:
The role of the conductor is the selection and preparation of quality repertoire,
and the use of appropriate rehearsal techniques to bring that music to life (both
in rehearsal and performance). It is imperative that each student accepts the
responsibility of mastering the technical details — outside of the ensemble
rehearsal — of his/her individual parts immediately following the initial reading.
Attendance, punctuality, and preparation are understood as required of all
players.

Student Learning Outcomes:
1. The student will become familiar with standard brass ensemble literature.
2. The student will develop an understanding of how to perform and interpret
   music from the baroque, classical, romantic, twentieth century and
   contemporary style periods.
3. The student will become familiar how to sonically and tonally blend with the
   other musicians in order to produce a balanced, musical performance.
Grading:
Each ensemble member meeting expectations (i.e. preparation, attendance, and growth) and having no unexcused absences from rehearsals/performances will receive a grade of “A.” Those not meeting expectations will receive a grade of “B” or lower. In the case of substandard preparation/growth, the student will be called into a conference with Dr. Sipes in an effort to ameliorate the situation before the grade is lowered.

Excuses from performances and rehearsals are extremely rare (i.e. death in the family). Each unexcused absence from rehearsal will lower the student’s grade by one full letter grade. Four unexcused tardies will equal one unexcused absence. An unexcused absence from a performance will result in a failing grade.

IMPORTANT:
If you find that you are unable to attend a rehearsal or performance for any reason, you must contact Mr. Sipes by email (preferred), text message, phone, or in person before said rehearsal or performance. If impossible to do so (car accident on the way to rehearsal, etc.), contact Mr. Sipes as soon as possible.

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 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.

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. Degree plans are prepared in the CLA Academic Advising Center. The University uses an online Degree Audit system. Any amendment must be approved by the Department Chair and the Office of the Dean. All courses and requirements specified in the final degree plan audit must be completed before a degree will be granted. The CLA Academic Advising Office is in Driftwood #203. For more information please call 361-825-3466.

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 your academic advisor, the Financial Aid Office, and me, before you decide to drop this course. 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 8 is the last day to drop a class with an automatic grade of “W” this term.

Grade Appeals
As stated in University Procedure 13.02.99.C2.03, 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 Procedure
13.02.99.C2.03, Student Grade Appeals. These documents are accessible online at:
http://academicaffairs.tamucc.edu/rules_procedures/assets/13.02.99.C0.03_student_grade_appeals.pdf. For
assistance and/or guidance in the grade appeal process, students may contact the Associate Dean’s office in the
college in which the course is taught. For complete details on the process of submitting a formal grade appeal in CLA,
please visit the College of Liberal Arts website, http://cla.tamucc.edu/about/student-resources.html.

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.

Statement of Civility
Texas A&M University–Corpus Christi has a diverse student population that represents the population of the state.
Our goal is to provide you with a high-quality educational experience that is free from repression. You are responsible
for following the rules of the University, city, state and federal government. We expect that you will behave in a
manner that is dignified, respectful and courteous to all people, regardless of sex, ethnic/racial origin, religious
background, sexual orientation or disability. Behaviors that infringe on the rights of another individual will not be
tolerated.

Academic Integrity/Plagiarism
University students are expected to conduct themselves in accordance with the highest standards of academic
honesty. Academic misconduct for which a student is subject to penalty includes all forms of cheating, such as
illicit possession of examinations or examination materials, falsification, forgery, complicity or plagiarism.
(Plagiarism is the presentation of the work of another as one’s own work.) In this class, academic misconduct or
complicity in an act of academic misconduct on an assignment or test will result in a zero credit and possible
disciplinary action.

Academic Honesty/Plagiarism
Definition: In an instructional setting, plagiarism occurs when a writer deliberately uses someone else’s language, ideas, or other
original (not common-knowledge) material without acknowledging its source. Plagiarism is a violation of academic expectations, but
it is sometimes difficult to understand what plagiarism actually is. Often, students commit unintentional plagiarism (not citing
sources properly, for example), because they are unaware of the standards that apply. Plagiarism includes:
• Using the work of another as your own,
• Downloading or purchasing ready-made essays off the web and using them as your own,
• Using resource materials without correct documentation,
• Using the organization or language of a source without using quote marks and proper citation.
• Turning in a researched project without citing sources in an appropriate documentation style.
When you are confused about citation of quotes or ideas, please visit the Writing Center or me to get help. Information on MLA
documentation rules and APA documentation rules is available at Purdue University’s OWL: http://owl.english.purdue.edu/, and
from our local Writing Center at CASA.

Statement of Academic Continuity
In the event of an unforeseen adverse event, such as a major hurricane and classes could not be held on the campus
of Texas A&M University–Corpus Christi, this course would continue through the use of Blackboard and/or email. In
addition, the syllabus and class activities may be modified to allow continuation of the course. Ideally, University
facilities (i.e., emails, web sites, and Blackboard) will be operational within two days of the closing of the physical
campus. However, students need to make certain that the course instructor has a primary and a secondary means of
contacting each student.