

MUE 2470: Percussion Techniques

Department of Music | School of Performing Arts
College of Arts & Humanities | University of Central Florida

COURSE SYLLABUS

Instructor:	Dr. Thad Anderson	Term:	Spring 2017
Office:	Performing Arts Center, M-225	Class Meeting Days:	Monday & Wednesday
Phone:	(407) 823-2221	Class Meeting Hours:	9:30 to 10:20 a.m.
Email:	tra@ucf.edu	Class Location:	PAC M140

Course Description:

The purpose of this course is to provide music educators with basic information concerning teaching methods and performance techniques for musical instruments common to the percussion family. Students will follow a course of study that will enable them to teach beginning students at the elementary or secondary school levels and to continue to provide them with an accepted, organized approach to learning and developing percussion techniques and skills.

This course of study is designed to acquaint students with the history of each major instrument found in the percussion family, their acoustical properties and methods of sound production, and the idiosyncrasies of percussion music notation. It will provide future band and orchestra directors with a rudimentary technique on many of the instruments labeled percussion, concentrating on those that are most common to today's elementary and high school band and orchestra literature.

Course Objectives and Expectations:

Through this course the student will:

- Demonstrate on each of the percussion instruments (either by written or performance tests) an accurate knowledge in the following areas of pedagogy:
 - Instrument assembly and care
 - Grips and hand positions
 - Varieties of sticks and mallets
 - Acoustical characteristics of each percussion instrument as they affect tone production, tone quality, etc...
- Identify practical and acoustical ranges of the instruments.
- Participate in a class instructional process designed to identify, diagnose, and prescribe solutions to performance problems encountered by fellow students.
- Be able to choose graded materials and literature that will account for a systematic growth in the musical and technical development of the school percussion student.

- Become familiar with the various brands of percussion instruments to adequately advise students and parents in the selection of instruments that will fit their budget.
- Understand and possess methods to successfully meet the challenges of percussion education in the public school music curriculum.

Course Requirements:

Students will be required to attend class regularly due to the course's practical, laboratory approach. A minimal amount of outside reading will be required. Students must purchase their own snare drum sticks and practice pad. Considerable time must be devoted to individual practice. Students will be informed of the need for any additional class material. The location and use of practice facilities will be discussed during the first class meeting. Equipment and mallets will be assigned to each student who then assumes responsibility for any loss or damage. Replacement or repair costs will be assessed as losses and damages occur.

Required Text and Materials:

- *Teaching Percussion*, 3rd Edition by Gary Cook
- *Percussion: A Course of Study for the Future Band and Orchestra Directors* by Tom Siwe
- One pair of "General" drumsticks (Pro-Mark or Vic Firth SD1 are recommended)
- One practice pad (Reel Feel or Remo brands are recommended)

Evaluation Procedures:

In general, subjective assessments will be made by the instructor regarding preparation, performance competency, class participation, and attendance. More specifically, evaluation criteria will be based upon, but not limited to, the following criteria:

Categories	Description	Points
Attendance & Participation	Attendance and class participation is expected on a regular basis. The Roll Call feature on Webcourses will be used to record attendance for each class meeting. This grade will be calculated by the number of class meetings we have within the semester. The following percentage designations will be used: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 100% = Arrived to class meeting on time and participated • 80% = Arrived to class meeting late and/or did not participate • 0% = Did not attend class meeting 	100
Playing Exams	Two playing exams will be given throughout the course of the term. Each will be valued at 100 points each.	200
Quizzes	Two quizzes will be given and will cover topics covered during in class lectures, online discussions, and reading. Each is worth 100 points.	200
Discussions	Participation in both on-line and in-class discussions based on reading topics.	100
Resource Collection	Each student will submit a USB "thumb" drive containing a well organized folder of related handouts, articles, music, and other resources.	100
Final Exam	There are three components to the final exam: lesson plan, teaching demonstration, and performance. These will all be related to percussion ensemble music found on the FBA list.	300
Total (final grade out of...)		1,000

Grading Scale:

The following grading scale will be used throughout the semester:

Grading Scale (%)	
94-100	A
90-93	A-
87-89	B+
84-86	B
80-83	B-
77-79	C+
74-76	C
70-73	C-
67-69	D+
64-66	D
60-63	D-
0 - 59	F

No late work will be accepted without prior approval. Any assignments not submitted by the due date will not receive full credit.

Final Exam

This courses final exam is slotted for **Monday, May 1** from 10:00 a.m. to 12:50 p.m.

Communication

In accordance with university regulations, your Knights email address will be the primary source of communication regarding pertinent details and information for this course. Please plan to check this account on a daily basis. Additional, less urgent communication will take place on the WebCourses site.

Recording Academic Activity:

We are required to document students' academic activity at the beginning of each course. We will use the discussion tool on Webcourses to complete a personal introduction. This will document that you began this course and must be completed by **Friday, January 13**. Failure to complete this items will result in a delay in the disbursement of your financial aid. Attendance records will also be used to help document your enrollment.

Academic Integrity

UCF is committed to a policy of honesty in academic affairs. Conduct that comprises a breach of this policy may result in academic action and disciplinary action. Academic action affects student assignments, examinations or grades. Disciplinary action affects student enrollment status. Please review the behavior standards at: http://www.goldenrule.sdes.ucf.edu/11_behavior.html

Plagiarism Statement

Work submitted must be your own. The university and the department have a strict policy on cheating and plagiarism. Go to the Golden Rule at <http://www.goldenrule.sdes.ucf.edu> to review these guidelines.

Accommodations For the Differently-abled

The University of Central Florida is committed to providing reasonable accommodations for all persons with disabilities. This syllabus is available in alternate formats upon request. Students with disabilities who need accommodations in this course must contact the professor at the beginning of the semester to discuss needed accommodations. No accommodations will be provided until the student has met with the professor to request accommodations. Students who need accommodations must be registered with Student Disability Services, Student Resource Center Room 132, phone (407) 823-2371, TTY/TDD only phone (407) 823-2116, before requesting accommodations from the professor.

The UCF Creed

Integrity, scholarship, community, creativity, and excellence are the core values that guide our conduct, performance, and decisions.

- **Integrity:** I will practice and defend academic and personal honesty.
- **Scholarship:** I will cherish and honor learning as a fundamental purpose of my membership in the UCF community.
- **Community:** I will promote an open and supportive campus environment by respecting the rights and contributions of every individual.
- **Creativity:** I will use my talents to enrich the human experience.
- **Excellence:** I will strive toward the highest standards of performance in any endeavor I undertake.