



Percussion Ensemble Syllabus

School of Performing Arts | College of Arts & Humanities
University of Central Florida
Spring 2020

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Percussion Ensemble Courses:

MUN 2442, 3443, 3444, 3831, and 5445

Course Description:

Rehearsals each week will be utilized for instruction in both percussion performance techniques and chamber percussion performance skills encompassing the various styles of the avante garde, standard works, marimba band, commercial/jazz, transcriptions, and original student compositions and arrangements. Participating membership and exact instrumentation will vary according to the specifications of each work studied and/or performed.

Course Objectives:

The percussion ensemble provides the percussion student, through rehearsal and performance activities, a chamber ensemble experience comprised of a wide range of repertoire and performance mediums. Development of chamber ensemble skills is at the core of the course objectives, in addition to gaining knowledge of selected percussion ensemble repertoire. The development of sight-reading skills is also an important aspect of this course. The student should develop an understanding of and an ability to apply appropriate and/or correct performance techniques upon all pertinent percussion instruments, many of which are not utilized in any other ensemble. Opportunities for student composition and arranging, in the medium of percussion ensemble, are available to the student and highly encouraged. Individual organizational skills and stage presence will be subject to review and examination as necessary.

Required Equipment:

- The student is responsible for his or her own musical performance needs regarding sticks, mallets, black towels, and other appropriate paraphernalia.
- No text will be required.
- UCF or the instructor will provide all music. All music and its physical condition are the direct personal and financial responsibility of the student.
- Attire for all percussion ensemble performances could be one of three: 1) Dress clothes – shirt and tie for the males, dresses for the females, 2) Black pants, black long-sleeved mock-turtle or solid color, button-up shirts or 3) Tuxedos and black concert dresses (as defined by the instructor), dark socks and shoes (unless changed by instructor). Steel Band attire is light colored pants (white or Khaki), a Hawaiian shirt (approved by the instructor), white shoes and socks.

Library Resources:

- Recordings of the pieces are usually available from the Professor and will be included in the studio Webcourses page when available.
- Research information on the composer and the works is available from the Professor and at the UCF Library.

Evaluation Procedures:

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

Grade Categories	Description of the requirements	Points
Rehearsal Preparation:	<p><u>Practice individual parts outside of rehearsal.</u> All ensembles require concentrated individual preparation. The quality of any ensemble is only as good as the weakest individual performance.</p> <p>Contribute towards the scheduling and effectiveness of <i>sectional rehearsals</i> whenever necessary.</p>	100
Rehearsal Setup:	<p><u>Arrive at a minimum of 30 minutes ahead of rehearsal times</u> for set-up and warm-up. The conductor's downbeat will take place at the designated rehearsal time. Preparations for rehearsal must be complete at this time. Proper warm-up on all instruments to be played is very important and is considered a responsibility of each member.</p>	50
Performance in Rehearsal:	<p>All ensemble members should always be totally prepared; all instruments present, in working order, and properly tuned. All mallets and paraphernalia are the responsibility of the performer, as are pencils, music markings, auxiliary equipment, tuning equipment, etc.</p> <p>Regarding contributions towards productive and efficient rehearsals, talking during rehearsals should pertain only to immediate ensemble requirements.</p>	100
Special Requirements:	<p>Designed multiple set-ups are the responsibility of each performer. Diagram when necessary; try to be consistent in set-up. (It is a good idea to recheck for possibilities of improved set-ups as the music becomes more familiar and comfortable.) Individual set-ups are first priority, but offer help to individuals with larger or more complex set-ups.</p> <p>Maintain lists of all needed equipment and mallets for each work to be performed: <u>do not leave it to memory.</u> Do not find yourself in performance with instruments or mallets missing.</p>	100

Concert Performance and Equipment moving:	Arrive at set times to: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Move/Load Equipment 2. Set-up carefully 3. Help others Help others 4. Then warm-up a little (after everyone is set) Active and full participation returning and putting equipment away is required.	150
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Technology Requirements:

Technology	Expectations for Use
Webcourses	Webcourses may be used throughout the semester to help disseminate content and to include important resources that pertain to repertoire and the history of the Percussion Ensemble.
Special tools	Computers are provided in studio spaces with necessary software to assist with completing various assignments throughout the semester (compositions, arrangements, analysis, etc...).
Communication	In accordance with university regulations, your knights.ucf.edu email address and the Webcourses "Inbox" feature will be the primary source of communication regarding pertinent details and information for this course. We will also utilize the Office 365 Group tool (group email: ucfpercussion@knights.ucf.edu) and our Slack team to help facilitate communication. Please plan to check these accounts on a regular basis.

Additional Policies:

- **Steel Band Arrangements:** Students in the Steel Drum Class are expected to turn in a band arrangement (Score and Parts) no later than the last day of classes. The piece must be approved by the instructor and written in digital notation.
- **Attendance and Participation: Attendance is mandatory. Any unexcused absences will lower your final grade one whole letter.**
 - If an absence is necessary, make sure that:
 - You telephone Dr. Anderson's office at (407) 823-2221 and leave a message.
 - The folder of music arrives at the rehearsal.
 - A competent substitute replaces the absent player, if possible, and...
 - The substitute player has all necessary mallets, auxiliary instruments, and knowledgeable of the necessary set-up (being aware of his/her responsibilities).
 - You may be required to complete a web search assignment as a make-up for an unexcused absence.
- **Concert Dates:** The first spring concert will be presented on **Thursday, March 5** at 7:00 p.m. We will present a second Percussion Ensemble concert on **Tuesday, April 7** at 7:30 p.m. as part of UCF Celebrates the Arts. Several other performances may be planned during the semester. Every attempt will be made to accommodate the schedules of the members of the ensemble and will be discussed in class or via e-mail. It is the member's responsibility to make every effort to attend all additional ensemble performances and dress rehearsals.
- **Procedures:** Attend all rehearsals and concerts. Do not accept commitments that conflict with scheduled rehearsals and concerts. Percussion ensemble is chamber music requiring the careful balancing of all

parts and an understanding of the moment-by-moment role and function of each individual part. This can only be accomplished by the prepared presence of all ensemble members.

- **Part Assignments:** Every effort will be made to distribute parts fairly with regard to the performance abilities of each member of the ensemble. Part assignments will also be made with recognition of the individuals potential for personal and musical success. Part assignments can and will be reassigned when preparation criteria are not met within a reasonable period of time.

Recording Academic Activity:

All faculty members are required to document students' academic activity at the beginning of each course. In order to document that you began this course, we will count your large ensemble audition as a “zero” credit assignment as all percussion majors are required to complete the audition process. Failure to do so 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:

The Center for Academic Integrity (CAI) defines academic integrity as a commitment, even in the face of adversity, to five fundamental values: honesty, trust, fairness, respect, and responsibility. From these values flow principles of behavior that enable academic communities to translate ideals into action.

<http://www.academicintegrity.org/icai/assets/FVProject.pdf>

UCF Creed:

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

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

Plagiarism:

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. This definition applies to texts published in print or on-line, to manuscripts, and to the work of other student writers.

Misuse of Sources:

A student who attempts (even if clumsily) to identify and credit his or her source, but who misuses a specific citation format or incorrectly uses quotation marks or other forms of identifying material taken from other sources, has not plagiarized. Instead, such a student should be considered to have failed to cite and document sources appropriately.

Responses to Academic Dishonesty, Plagiarism, or Cheating:

UCF faculty members have a responsibility for your education and the value of a UCF degree, and so seek to prevent unethical behavior and when necessary respond to infringements of academic integrity. Penalties can include a failing grade in an assignment or in the course, suspension or expulsion from the university, and/or a "Z Designation" on a student's official transcript indicating academic dishonesty, where the final grade for this course will be preceded by the letter Z. For more information about the Z Designation, see <http://goldenrule.sdes.ucf.edu/zgrade>.

For more information about UCF's Rules of Conduct, see <http://www.osc.sdes.ucf.edu/>.

Unauthorized Use of Class Materials:

There are many fraudulent websites claiming to offer study aids to students but are actually cheat sites. They encourage students to upload course materials, such as test questions, individual assignments, and examples of graded material. Such materials are the intellectual property of instructors, the university, or publishers and may not be distributed without prior authorization. Students who engage in such activity are in violation of academic conduct standards and may face penalties.

Unauthorized Use of Class Notes:

Third parties may be selling class notes from this class without my authorization. Please be aware that such class materials may contain errors, which could affect your performance or grade. Use these materials at your own risk.

In-Class Recording Policy

Outside of the note taking and recording services offered by Student Accessibility Services, the creation of an audio or video recording of all or part of a class for personal use is allowed *only* with the advance and explicit written consent of the instructor. Such recordings are only acceptable in the context of personal, private studying and note taking and are not authorized to be shared with *anyone* without the separate written approval of the instructor.

Course Accessibility Statement:

The University of Central Florida is committed to providing access and inclusion for all persons with disabilities. This syllabus is available in alternate formats upon request. Students with disabilities who need specific access in this course, such as accommodations, should contact the professor as soon as possible to discuss various access options. Students should also connect with [Student Accessibility Services](#) (Ferrell Commons, 7F, Room 185, sas@ucf.edu, phone (407) 823-2371). Through Student Accessibility Services, a Course Accessibility Letter may be created and sent to professors, which informs faculty of potential access and accommodations that might be reasonable.

Campus Safety Statement:

Emergencies on campus are rare, but if one should arise in our class, we will all need to work together. Everyone should be aware of the surroundings and familiar with some basic safety and security concepts.

- In case of an emergency, dial 911 for assistance.
- Every UCF classroom contains an emergency procedure guide posted on a wall near the door. Please make a note of the guide's physical location and consider reviewing the online version at http://emergency.ucf.edu/emergency_guide.html.
- Familiarize yourself with evacuation routes from each of your classrooms and have a plan for finding safety in case of an emergency. (Insert class-specific details if appropriate)

- If there is a medical emergency during class, we may need to access a first aid kit or AED (Automated External Defibrillator). To learn where those items are located in this building, see <http://www.ehs.ucf.edu/AEDlocations-UCF> (click on link from menu on left). (insert class specific information if appropriate)
- To stay informed about emergency situations, sign up to receive UCF text alerts by going to my.ucf.edu and logging in. Click on “Student Self Service” located on the left side of the screen in the tool bar, scroll down to the blue “Personal Information” heading on your Student Center screen, click on “UCF Alert”, fill out the information, including your e-mail address, cell phone number, and cell phone provider, click “Apply” to save the changes, and then click “OK.”
- If you have a special need related to emergency situations, please speak with me during office hours.
- Consider viewing this video (<https://youtu.be/NIKYajEx4pk>) about how to manage an active shooter situation on campus or elsewhere.

Deployed Active Duty Military Students:

If you are a deployed active duty military student and feel that you may need a special accommodation due to that unique status, please contact your instructor to discuss your circumstances.

***Please note, this syllabus may be modified at the discretion of the instructor. Changes will be discussed in lessons, studio class and/or via communication tools.**