

MUAP 3104: Low Brass Instruments**Fall Semester, 2009****Texas Tech University School of Music****Kevin Wass, Associate Professor****Office: M120****Phone: 742-2270, ext. 275****Email: kevin.wass@ttu.edu****Website: <http://webpages.acs.ttu.edu/kwass>****Office Hours: By Appointment****ADA Compliance**<http://www.depts.ttu.edu/opmanual/OP34.22.pdf>

Any student who, because of a disability, may require special arrangements in order to meet the course requirements should contact the instructor as soon as possible to make any necessary arrangements. Students should present appropriate verification from Student Disability Services during the instructor's office hours. Please note instructors are not allowed to provide classroom accommodations to a student until appropriate verification from Student Disability Services has been provided. For additional information, you may contact the Student Disability Services office at 335 West Hall or 806-742-2405.

Academic Integrity<http://www.depts.ttu.edu/opmanual/OP34.12.pdf>

It is the aim of the faculty of Texas Tech University to foster a spirit of complete honesty and high standard of integrity. The attempt of students to present as their own any work not honestly performed is regarded by the faculty and administration as a most serious offense and renders the offenders liable to serious consequences, possibly suspension.

"Scholastic dishonesty" includes, but is not limited to, cheating, plagiarism, collusion, falsifying academic records, misrepresenting facts, and any act designed to give unfair academic advantage to the student (such as, but not limited to, submission of essentially the same written assignment for two courses without the prior permission of the instructor) or the attempt to commit such an act.

a. "Cheating" includes, but is not limited to:

- (1) Copying from another student's test paper;
- (2) Using during a test materials not authorized by the person giving the test;
- (3) Failing to comply with instructions given by the person administering the test;
- (4) Possession during a test of materials that are not authorized by the person giving the test, such as class notes or specifically designed "crib notes." The presence of textbooks constitutes a violation only if they have been specifically prohibited by the person administering the test.
- (5) Using, buying, stealing, transporting, or soliciting in whole or in part the contents of an unadministered test, test key, homework solution, or computer program;
- (6) Collaborating with or seeking aid or receiving assistance from another student or individual during a test or in conjunction with other assignment without authority;
- (7) Discussing the contents of an examination with another student who will take the examination;
- (8) Divulging the contents of an examination for the purpose of preserving questions for use by another when the instructor has designated that the examination is not to be removed from the examination room or not to be returned to or kept by the student;
- (9) Substituting for another person or permitting another person to substitute for oneself to take a course, a test, or any course-related assignment;
- (10) Paying or offering money or other valuable thing to or coercing another person to obtain an unadministered test, test key, homework solution, or computer program, or information about an unadministered test, test key, homework solution, or computer program;
- (11) Falsifying research data, laboratory reports, and/or other academic work offered for credit; and
- (12) Taking, keeping, misplacing, or damaging the property of the university or of another if the student knows or reasonably should know that an unfair academic advantage would be gained by such conduct.

b. "Plagiarism" includes, but is not limited to, the appropriation of, buying, receiving as a gift, or obtaining by any means material that is attributable in whole or in part to another source, including words, ideas, illustrations, structure, computer code, other expression and media, and presenting that material as one's own academic work being offered for credit.

c. "Collusion" includes, but is not limited to, the unauthorized collaboration with another person in preparing academic assignments offered for credit or collaboration with another person to commit a violation of any section of the rules on scholastic dishonesty.

d. "Falsifying academic records" includes, but is not limited to, altering or assisting in the altering of any official record of the university and/or submitting false information or omitting requested information that is required for or related to any

academic record of the university. Academic records include, but are not limited to, applications for admission, the awarding of a degree, grade reports, test papers, registration materials, grade change forms, and reporting forms used by the Office of the Registrar. A former student who engages in such conduct is subject to a bar against readmission, revocation of a degree, and withdrawal of a diploma.

e. "Misrepresenting facts" to the university or an agent of the university includes, but is not limited to, providing false grades or resumes; providing false or misleading information in an effort to receive a postponement or an extension on a test, quiz, or other assignment for the purpose of obtaining an academic or financial benefit for oneself or another individual; or providing false or misleading information in an effort to injure another student academically or financially.

Last Day to drop a course: The 45th class day is the last day to drop a course.

Student Absence for Observance of Religious Holy Day

<http://www.depts.ttu.edu/opmanual/OP34.19.pdf>

"Religious holy day" means a holy day observed by a religion whose places of worship are exempt from property taxation under Texas Tax Code §11.20.

A student who intends to observe a religious holy day should make that intention known in writing to the instructor prior to the absence. A student who is absent from classes for the observance of a religious holy day shall be allowed to take an examination or complete an assignment scheduled for that day within a reasonable time after the absence.

Absence Due to Officially Approved Trips

The Texas Tech University Catalog states that the person responsible for a student missing class due to a trip should notify the instructors of the departure and return schedule in advance of the trip. The student may not be penalized and is responsible for the material missed.

Civility in the Classroom

<http://www.depts.ttu.edu/studentaffairs/CampusCrime/documents/CivilityInTheClassroom.pdf>

Students are expected to assist in maintaining a classroom environment that is conducive to learning. In order to assure that all students have the opportunity to gain from time spent in class, unless otherwise approved by the instructor, students are prohibited from engaging in any other form of distraction. Inappropriate behavior in the classroom shall result, minimally, in a request to leave class.

Student Handbook and Code of Conduct

http://www.depts.ttu.edu/studentaffairs/publications/2008_2009_Handbook_and_Code.pdf

Course Purpose

This is a half-semester course intended to introduce future music educators to the specific challenges of playing and teaching the tuba and baritone/euphonium. The semester will be divided into two parts (see course calendar following) with the first concentrating on tuba and euphonium, and the second concentrating on trombone. The trombone section of the course will be taught by Prof. Jim Decker.

MUAP 3104 is one of several instrumental methods courses required for the Bachelor of Music with Teacher Certification degree. Students should consult the *Texas Tech University Catalog* for specific methods class requirements for their degrees and concentrations.

Text

For study of tuba and baritone/euphonium, the required text will be **Standard of Excellence, Book 1**. Be sure to purchase the book appropriate to the instrument you have been assigned. Those playing baritone should buy the Baritone BC (Bass Clef) version.

The text should be available at Jent's Music or Tarpley's Music in Lubbock. By using a standard beginning band method, students will be exposed to one possible approach to teaching beginners. As the text is among the most popular beginning methods in use today, it will also serve to give future band directors a chance to learn from a book that they may actually be teaching from in the near future.

Course Outcomes

All students should be able to do the following upon completion of this course:

- Perform on either tuba or euphonium at an intermediate (2nd-year) level.
- Demonstrate thorough knowledge of the fundamental skills required to play a low brass instrument on the beginning, intermediate, and advanced level.
- Provide corrective therapies and exercises for fundamental problems in tone production at all levels of playing.
- Identify specific challenges for low brass players in selected literature.
- Demonstrate an understanding of sequential teaching and pacing for young beginners.
- Provide fingerings, including alternates and their specific uses, for all low brass instruments.

Assessment

Assessment will be done through quizzes, exams, notebook reviews, special assignments, and, most importantly, observation of in-class participation. This course is listed as a laboratory course and will be taught as such. Attending and participating in class offers students opportunity to participate in formal and informal discussion of course topics and provides Dr. Wass ample opportunity to assess each student's performing skills and grasp of the required course material. It should be noted that in the 15 terms Dr. Wass has taught this course, no one who has attended every session has ever gotten lower than an A. Those who regularly miss class, on the other hand, seldom pass the course. Attendance should be considered mandatory and will be recorded and graded accordingly.

Grading

The grading breakdown varies, as it is based on a point system and the total number of possible points varies from term to term. It is usually along the following lines:

Attendance: 10 points possible per class, or about 25% of the final grade. Those who are late for an individual class will have their points reduced and those who are absent will receive zero points (except for pre-excused absences or those that fall under the University's attendance policy listed above).

Quizzes: 10 points per written and playing quiz, or about 25% of the final grade. Written and playing quizzes will be given every Wednesday. Students who are absent or late will not be given a chance to make up the quiz unless prior arrangements have been made. Students should be aware that, like younger beginners, they will progress at different rates in their playing. Some students (particularly those with prior experience on brass instruments) will be able to pass playing quizzes with very little or no outside of class practice, while other students may require a substantial amount of practice time outside of class in order to pass.

Exams: 100 points per exam, or about 40% of the final grade. Written and playing exams will be given at the conclusion of the tuba and euphonium section of the course,

Notebook and other assignments: 50 points per notebook evaluation or other assignment, or about 10% of the final grade. Students are expected to keep a well-organized collection of all handouts and lecture notes which will be graded during the written exam. Other assignments may include recording or concert reviews, teacher observations, or practice teaching.

Course Calendar

The following calendar is approximate, but students should be prepared to cover the material listed in each week unless told otherwise.

Week 1(Aug. 31-Sep. 2): Check out instruments, make a sound.

Week 2 (Sep. 7-9): NO CLASS Sep. 7. Standard of Excellence pp. 1-9. The overtone series and chromatic fingering pattern.

Week 3 (Sep. 14-16): SOE pp. 10-13. Tonguing and sustaining notes. First written and playing quizzes Sep 10.

Week 4 (Sep. 21-23): SOE pp. 14-20. Choosing and maintaining equipment. Slurring on a valved instrument.

Week 5 (Sep. 28-30): SOE pp. 21-25. Tuba and euphonium method books, working with the intermediate player.

Week 6 (Oct. 5-7): SOE pp. 26-30. Working with the advanced player. Identifying challenges for tuba and euphonium players in solo and ensemble literature.

Week 7 (Oct. 12-14): SOE complete book. Playing scales. Developing advanced techniques and extreme registers.

Week 8 (Oct. 19-21): Tuba and euphonium playing and written exams. Notebook review.