

**MISSISSIPPI STATE UNIVERSITY
COLLEGE OF EDUCATION**

**DEPARTMENT of MUSIC
COURSE SYLLABUS**

Course Prefix and Number: MUE 3212

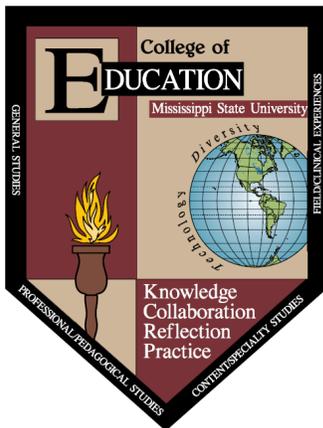
Course Title: Brass Techniques

Credit Hours: Two (2) credit hours

Course Type: Lecture

Catalog Description: Study of brass winds with emphasis on embouchure, techniques, and teaching problems.

College of Education Conceptual Framework:



The faculty in the College of Education at Mississippi State University are committed to assuring the success of students and graduates by providing superior learning opportunities that are continually improved as society, schools, and technology change. The organizing theme for the conceptual framework for the College of Education at Mississippi State University is educational professionals - dedicated to continual improvement of all students' educational experiences. The beliefs that guide program development are as follows:

1. **KNOWLEDGE** - Educational professionals must have a deep understanding of the organizing concepts, processes, and attitudes that comprise their chosen disciplinary knowledge base, the pedagogical knowledge base, and the pedagogical content knowledge base. They must also know how to complement these knowledge bases with the appropriate use of technology.
2. **COLLABORATION** - Educational professionals must continually seek opportunities to work together, learn from one another, forge partnerships, and assume positions of responsibility.
3. **REFLECTION** - Educational professionals must be willing to assess their own strengths and weaknesses through reflection. They must also possess the skills, behaviors, and attitudes necessary to learn, change, and grow as life-long learners.
4. **PRACTICE** - Educational professionals must have a rich repertoire of research-based strategies for instruction, assessment, and the use of technologies. They must be able to focus that array of skills on promoting authentic learning by all students or clients, while exhibiting an appreciation and commitment to the value and role of diversity.

Course Objectives:

1. Develop an understanding of the basic problems inherent in teaching and playing brass instruments. **INTASC #1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9,10; CFPO #1, 3, 4, 5, 6**
2. Develop a general understanding of literature available pertaining to brass instruments. **INTASC #1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10; CFPO #1, 3, 4, 5, 6**
3. Experience “hands-on” learning on brass instruments. **INTASC #1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10; CFPO #1, 3, 4, 5, 6**

Topics to Be Covered:

- Unit I: Basics of brass (5 hours)
- Unit II: Trumpet (9 hours)
- Unit III: French Horn (10 hours)
- Unit IV: Trombone (10 hours)
- Unit V: Tuba/Euphonium (9 hours)
- Unit VI: Marching brass, miscellaneous (2 hours)

Required Materials:

1. Bailey, W. (2008). *Teaching Brass*. 2nd ed. New York: McGraw Hill.
2. Sheldon, R., (2012). *Sound Innovations for Concert Band* (Book 1 for each--Tpt, Hrn, Tbn, Tuba)
3. SmartMusic subscription, available from <http://www.smartmusic.com/>
4. A microphone and headphones for your computer
5. 3 ring binder or other notebook to which you can add class material and notes.

Methods of Instruction:

This class will in many ways be a “beginning band” lab where you learn techniques that can be used in beginning band class (Course objectives 1-3). Attendance is mandatory for all classes; class material will not be made up unless there is an illness accompanied by an excuse from a physician. First class missed without prior approval of the instructor will be considered a warning, and all classes missed after that without prior approval of the instructor will lower your final grade one letter grade. Please be sure to bring your instrument (and pen for taking notes), a pencil (for writing music), and your notebook to every class. You will also need a few sheets of manuscript paper in your notebook.

Student Activities:

Class Assignments:

Demonstrations of your playing will be expected periodically throughout the term on all instruments. From time to time, additional assignments will be given related to the course materials. (Course Objective 1 and 3)

Playing Exams:

From time to time, more in-depth playing exams will be given. (Course Objectives 1-3)

Written Quizzes/Exams:

Occasionally, your knowledge of these instruments will be tested in written form. (Course Objectives 1-3)

Notebook Assignment:

Assemble all handouts and class notes for each instrument in a loose-leaf notebook with tabs. Class notes are required to be typed. If any class is missed, it is your responsibility to ensure you have all handouts and notes from that class. Additional details on the final assessment will be made available after the midterm grading period has passed.

Final Written Exam:

The final exam in this course will be comprehensive in nature, as your knowledge of the instruments is vital to your success as a music educator. More details will follow during the course of the semester.

Honor Code:

“As a Mississippi State University student I will conduct myself with honor and integrity at all times. I will not lie, cheat, or steal, nor will I accept the actions of those who do.”

Technology:

Students must acquire Smartmusic software to practice solo literature with accompaniment and sight reading as assigned.

Diversity:

There is no diversity component to this course.

Disability:

I need to hear from anyone who has a disability that may require some modification of seating or other class requirements so that appropriate arrangements may be made.

Students with disabilities requesting academic accommodations must identify themselves to the office of Student Support Services and to the instructor at the beginning of the semester. Refer to <http://www.msstate.edu/dept/audit/1235.html> for more details.

Field Component:

Students will be observing in the Starkville Public Schools under the direction of Kathy Baker. Activities may include classroom observations, participation, and small group teaching. More details later.

Evaluation of Student Progress:

Grading will be based on the following:

Class Assignments	10%	
Field Component	10%	
Playing exams	20%	
Written exams	20%	
Notebook project	20%	
Final written exam	20%	100% total

Bibliography:

Bachelder, D. (2002). *Guide to teaching brass*. 6th ed. Boston: McGraw Hill.

Farkas, P. (n.d.). *The art of brass playing*.

Froseth, J., (1977). *Introducing the instruments*. Ann Arbor, MI: Accura Music.

Sherman, R., (1979). *The trumpeter's handbook*. Ann Arbor, MI: Accura Music.