Percussion Methods
SFA School of Music
MUP 305.001
Mr. Keith Lloyd
Jeff O'Rear
Tuesday/Thursday: 8:00 – 9:15 am
Music 124C
Music 123C
Music 121 – Band Hall
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OBJECTIVE: To introduce the music education major to the percussion family and basic techniques used in their performance. The goal of this class is to become thoroughly skilled and educated in this field, and its resources, to be a great teacher. The course will include fundamentals of snare drum, keyboard percussion, timpani, accessory percussion, drumset, marching percussion, and ethnic percussion.

ATTENDANCE: Attendance is extremely vital in all method classes in order for you to be the best educator possible! A textbook can never replace the “hands-on” experience you gain when participating in class. Students are allowed one unexcused absence without penalty. Every unexcused absence after the first will result in a 5-point reduction of the overall, semester grade. Every two tardies will equal one unexcused absence. Attendance will be taken at 8am, and if you are not present, you will be marked absent. If you come in after attendance is taken, it is the students responsibility to come to the instructor after class is over to let the instructor know you were tardy and not absent from class. For certain reasons the university and this instructor allow for excused absences – these might include: health reasons (with a doctor’s note), family emergencies, and/or student participation in certain university-sponsored events. The instructor must be notified ahead of time regarding any possible excused absences (except in emergency situations) and all worked missed is the student's responsibility. **It is the student's responsibility to schedule and make up all missed work.**

GRADING: Tests/Quizzes/HW 55%
- Test 1 (Snare Drum) 10%
- Test 2 (Keyboards) 10%
- Test 3 (Drum set/Timpani) 10%
- Final Exam (Cumulative) 15%
- Accessories Quiz 5%
- Stickings HW 2.5%
- Rudiment Identification HW 2.5%
2 Concert Reports 5% each
Website Review 10%
Arranging Project 10%
Final Notebook 15%

Graded Assignments: There will be multiple tests, playing tests, and graded homework assignments throughout the semester. All tests will be open-note tests.

Concert Reports: You are required to attend at least two (2) percussion related performances and write a one-page, or more (typed), review of each event. At least one report must be on the percussion ensemble concert. (These will be turned in with your Final Notebook at the end of the semester. Please reference the schedule by MUS 124 for a schedule of concerts.

Website Reviews: Throughout the semester you will review ten different percussion-related websites that you will put into your final notebook.

Projects: Students will be required to arrange a piece for percussion ensemble (8-12 players).

Notebook: This is an organized notebook including all class notes, handouts, website reviews, tests, and other materials. The notebook should be turned in with the final exam. All notes should be separated in your notebook as follows: Snare Drum, Keyboard, Timpani, Accessories, Drumset, Marching Percussion, Concert/Website Reviews, and all graded material. The goal of this notebook is to have a reference you can refer to over the next 5-10 years of teaching. Notebooks will be available for pick-up after grades are posted.
MATERIALS:
- Teaching Percussion – 3rd Edition w/DVD by Gary Cook
- Snare Drum Sticks – general, concert models (Vic Firth, SD1 Generals preferred)
- Practice Pad – checked out from SFA Percussion Department
- Three-ring binder for final project

Website Reviews
For the companies listed below; please fill out the “Website Review Handout” for at least 10 (ten) websites. Make sure these reviews will be of use to you in the future. Use the “Website Review Handout” as a model for what you hand in to your instructor. Recreate the handout on your own (in some word processing program) and type in the information for each company. A working knowledge of these companies will be useful if you ever need to order directly from the company.

Company List (use any search engine):
- Promark
- Vic Firth
- Pearl/Adams
- Yamaha
- Remo
- Evans
- Zildjian
- Sabian
- Grover
- Blakswamp
- Innovative Percussion
- Mike Balter Mallets
- Malletech
- LP (Latin Percussion)
- Row-Loff Productions
- Tap Space Percussion
- Honeyrock
- Tycoon Percussion

***Bonus (+5pts): Look up the Percussive Arts Society (www.pas.org) and list some of the benefits of being a member of the organization (make sure to research and mention what the Percussive Arts Society International Convention [PASIC] (www.pasic.org) is, and what makes it such a great convention for any percussionists of any skill-level to attend).

Percussion Methods Projects

Percussion Ensemble Arrangement
Arrange a common tune/song for a medium-large percussion ensemble. Christmas Carols, Patriotic tunes and/or Pop tunes work very well – check with the instructor if you’re not sure about a piece. Your arrangement should be for 8-12 players and include the following instruments: bells and/or vibes, xylophone and/or marimba, snare drum, bass drum and at least 2 other non-pitched percussion instruments. You are welcome to have players use more than one instrument (ie: marimba and claves), use the same instrument on separate parts (ie: marimba I, marimba II, marimba III) or use other instruments we discussed in class (ie: chimes, timpani). However, please do not write for marching percussion or drumset.

The turned in project should be done on music notation software (ie: Finale or other) and include a full score and printed parts (music software is available in the MIDI lab). If possible we will read all arrangements. Shoot for elementary/jr. high for difficulty level and make sure all notation, instruments and/or specific stick choices are clearly defined.

Final Notebook
Your final notebook will be turned in after the final exam – you will need your notebook for the final, which is an open book test. Please follow the “Notebook Checklist” handout. It should include all notes, handouts, tests/quizzes and any other materials. All notes should be typed and your notebook should be separated by instrument (SD, Keyboards, Timpani, Accessories, Drumset, Marching Percussion). Please include all relevant information (notes, handouts etc) in each section. The goal of the notebook is that in 5-10yrs you can quickly find the answers to common student/school questions. Don’t forget to pick up your notebook after the grades are recorded!
**Student Learning Outcomes**

1. Through study, practice and class participation, students will be able to demonstrate the fundamental performance techniques for common instruments in the concert band percussion section.
2. Through concert reviews, students will demonstrate their ability to recognize and understand how percussion integrates with other instruments in various performance venues.
3. Through website reviews, students will become familiar with how to use the internet to reference and research various percussion topics including manufacturers, distributors, artists, and performance organizations.
4. Through compiling a comprehensive notebook, students will be familiar with all of their course information and have an at-hand resource throughout their career to quickly answer future percussion questions.
5. Through class discussion, students will be familiar with the common pedagogical and philosophical approaches to percussion teaching and how to apply them within their own future teaching environment.

**Academic Integrity (A-9.1)**

Academic integrity is a responsibility of all university faculty and students. Faculty members promote academic integrity in multiple ways including instruction on the components of academic honesty, as well as abiding by university policy on penalties for cheating and plagiarism.

**Definition of Academic Dishonesty**

Academic dishonesty includes both cheating and plagiarism. Cheating includes but is not limited to (1) using or attempting to use unauthorized materials to aid in achieving a better grade on a component of a class; (2) the falsification or invention of any information, including citations, or an assigned exercise; and/or (3) helping or attempting to help another in an act of cheating or plagiarism. Plagiarism is presenting the words or ideas of another person as if they were your own. Examples of plagiarism are (1) submitting an assignment as if it were one’s own work when, in fact, it is at least partly the work of another; (2) submitting a work that has been purchased or otherwise obtained from an Internet source or another source; and (3) incorporating the words or ideas of an author into one’s paper without giving the author due credit.

Please read the complete policy at [http://www.sfasu.edu/policies/academic_integrity.asp](http://www.sfasu.edu/policies/academic_integrity.asp)

**Withheld Grades Semester Grades Policy (A-54)**

Ordinarily, at the discretion of the instructor of record and with the approval of the academic chair/director, a grade of WH will be assigned only if the student cannot complete the course work because of unavoidable circumstances. Students must complete the work within one calendar year from the end of the semester in which they receive a WH, or the grade automatically becomes an F. If students register for the same course in future terms the WH will automatically become an F and will be counted as a repeated course for the purpose of computing the grade point average.

**Students with Disabilities**

To obtain disability related accommodations, alternate formats and/or auxiliary aids, students with disabilities music contact the Office of Disability Services (ODS), Human Services Building, Room 325, 468-3004/468-1004 (TTD) as early as possible in the semester. Once verified, ODS will notify the course instructor and outline the accommodation and/or auxiliary aids to be provided.

For additional information, go to [http://www.sfasu.edu/disabilityservices/](http://www.sfasu.edu/disabilityservices/)
Percussion Methods – Class Schedule  

**Spring 2016**

**Wk 1**  
-Syllabus, Introduction/General Considerations  
-Drumsticks, Grips, Stroke: Singles, Doubles, Paradiddles, Rudiments 378

**Wk2**  
-Snare Drum, Playing areas, Style: Rudimental vs. Concert, Rolls, Notation  
-Other Drums, Sticking policies (67-68), Flams/Drags (62-62)  
Look at Pratt solo – take home and locate rudiments

**Wk3**  
-Change a head, Special effects  
Talk about playing test – pg. 72-73, paradiddles, rolls  
-Multiple Percussion, solos/books, common SD pieces/etudes

**Wk4**  
-Review for test  
**Written and playing test**

**Wk5**  
-Accessory Instruments: BD, Cymbals, Tambourine  
-Ensemble Playing

**Wk6**  
-Accessory Instruments: show and tell in studio  
**Accessory Quiz;** Keyboard Percussion  
Talk about instruments – bells, xylo, vibes, marimba, chimes, crotales  
Talk about mallets, shafts, heads

**Wk7**  
-Play: strokes, playing areas, scales, rolls – all by rote  
-Con’t playing/reading: pg 117-118, 120-125, 464-469

**Wk8**  
-Four Mallet techniques – demo Stevens and Burton  
-Talk through solos/books – pg 146  
Review for test

**Wk9**  
-Spring Break

**Wk10**  
**Keyboard Test**  
-Timpani: Drums/Ear training

**Wk11**  
-Timpani performance, solos/books, notation, etudes  
-Drumset: reasons for, instruments/setup, independence, basic styles

**Wk12**  
-Drumset: play, reading, method books/videos  
Drumset: names to know/brief history  
-Latin percussion (world percussion?)

**Wk13**  
**Timpani/Drumset Test**  
-Marching Percussion
Wk14  - Marching Percussion/Percussion Ensemble Performance
        - Percussion ensemble performance

Wk15  - Percussion ensemble performance
        - Review for Final Exam

5/10  **Final Exam 8:00 – 10:00 am in band hall**
       Turn in final notebook with test, including concert reports and web reviews

*The semester schedule is tentative and can be changed at the discretion of the instructor.*