Don Wright Faculty of Music
Western University

GROUP BRASS INSTRUCTION

(Trumpet, Horn, Trombone, Euphonium/Tuba)

2017-2018

MUSIC 2875Q (sections 001, 002) - FALL
MUSIC 2876Q (sections 001, 002) - FALL
MUSIC 2875S (sections 001, 002) - WINTER
MUSIC 2876S (sections 001, 002) - WINTER

Jon Rowsell
Instructor
Email: jrowsel3@uwo.ca
Classroom: MB 341 - Office: TC 316

FALL TERM - WED/FRI
9:30  - 2875Q (001)    Tpt/Horn
10:30 - 2876Q (002)    Tuba/Tbn
1:30  - 2875Q (002)    Horn/Tpt
2:30  - 2876Q (001)    Tbn/Tuba

WINTER TERM – WED/FRI
9:30  2876S (001)    Tbn/Tuba
10:30 2875S (002)    Horn/Tpt
1:30  2875S (001)    Tpt/Horn
2:30  2876S (002)    Tuba/Tbn
Class Times and Locations:
Wednesdays & Fridays - 9:30, 10:30, 1:30, 2:30
Room: MB 341

Instructor: Jon Rowsell
Office: TC 316
E-mail: jrowsel3@uwo.ca

COURSE DESCRIPTION:
Both practical and pedagogical elements of brass instruction will be covered for trumpet, horn, trombone and tuba/euphonium. Materials and procedures will be appropriate for individual study as well as group instruction. You will be expected to perform on the instrument at an elementary level. You will also be expected to teach basic concepts including posture, breathing, tone production, articulation, embouchure, and finger/slide technique.

The purpose of Group Brass Instruction is to develop sufficient performing skill and knowledge of each instrument to enable you to teach the instrument at a rudimentary to intermediate level. Students who are already proficient performers on brass instruments may be asked to assist with explaining and demonstrating concepts to the class.

COURSE MATERIALS:
Instruments - are signed out by Len Ingrao in TC 313.
You are responsible for the timely return of instruments at the end of each quarter. This includes the instrument and accessories (case, mouthpiece, etc.), which should be maintained damage free throughout the term, and then thoroughly re-cleaned before return. Care and maintenance will be discussed and demonstrated in class.

Please have your instrument, book and a music stand for our next class.

Standard of Excellence: Comprehensive Band Method Book 1 & 2
Author: Bruce Pearson

The Standard of Excellence books are often used in brass instrumental instruction in both elementary and high school music. They are a great resource to have for prospective music teachers and will be used heavily in this course. The majority of the playing we do will be out of these books. Make sure you buy both book 1 and 2 for the appropriate instruments.
ASSESSMENT & EVALUATION

Performance (60%)
- Playing test #1 (first instrument) 10%
- Playing test #2 (first instrument) 20%
- Playing test #3 (second instrument) 10%
- Playing test #4 (second instrument) 20%

Project 30%

Class Attendance & Participation 10%

Grading Scale:
- A++ 90 – 100
- A 80 – 89
- B 70 – 79
- C 60 – 69
- D 50 – 59
- F Below 50, or assigned when course is dropped with academic penalty, or with 7+ unexcused absences (see attendance policy below)

Participation and Attendance Policy:
Your mark will reflect attendance, participation in discussions and class activities, preparation, practice habits, learning attitudes. Participation and attendance are 10% of your grade. Observation marks will be given on a daily basis to assist with this part of the evaluation.

An unexcused absence will result in a loss of 2 marks from the attendance component of your overall evaluation (i.e., one unexcused absence equals 2 out of 10). Failure to appear for a scheduled exam session (without documented medical evidence) will result in a mark of zero for that test/exam. Students with 4 or more unexcused absences will be referred to the Chair of the Department and will be in jeopardy of failing the course. Absences will be excused only if:

1) Student is involved in official UWO business that has been approved by the chair or the instructor;
2) Documented Family issue;
3) Documented family or personal illness.

Tardiness: Arriving late for two classes is equivalent to one unexcused absence.

Absences from Tests and Assignments
For absences from tests and assignments (eg. Peer Teaching) with medical documentation, a make-up test may be scheduled or some other method of evaluation determined in consultation with the student. Without medical documentation, a mark of zero will be assigned.

Suggestions for receiving an outstanding final grade:

1. Attend regularly
2. Bring a music stand, a textbook, a pencil to every class
3. Be prepared by completing the readings and videos for each class.
4. Practice regularly
5. Prepare for the final written test in each quarter. This mark is significant.
6. Seek help well before the final tests if you are having difficulty.

PREREQUISITES:
"Unless you have either the requisites for this course or written special permission from your Dean to enrol in it, you will be removed from this course and it will be deleted from your record. This decision may not be appealed. You will receive no adjustment to your fees in the event that you are dropped from a course for failing to have the necessary prerequisites."

SCHOLASTIC OFFENCES:
“Scholastic offences are taken seriously and students are directed to read the appropriate policy, specifically, the definition of what constitutes a Scholastic Offence, as found at: http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/scholastic_discipline_undergrad.pdf

MENTAL HEALTH DISTRESS:
“Students that are in emotional/mental distress should refer to Mental Health@Western http://www.uwo.ca/uwocom/mentalhealth/ for a complete list of options about how to obtain help.”
SCHEDULE OF CLASSES AND EVALUATIONS

FALL TERM FIRST QUARTER
1. Sep 8  - Introductions, course outline
2. Sep 13 - How brass instruments work, parts of instrument, air and breathing
3. Sep 15 - Posture, embouchure, mouthpiece buzzing
4. Sep 20 - First notes, fingerings/slide positions
5. Sep 22 - Articulation
6. Sep 27 - First Playing Test
7. Sep 29 - Harmonic series, lip slurs
8. Oct 4  - Instrumental techniques
9. Oct 6  - Instrument Specifics
FALL STUDY BREAK – OCT 9-13
11. Oct 20 - Instrument Specifics
13. Oct 27 - Second Playing Test

FALL TERM SECOND QUARTER
1. Nov 1  - Posture, embouchure, mouthpiece buzzing
2. Nov 3  - First notes, fingerings/slide positions, articulation
3. Nov 8  - Harmonic series, lip slurs
4. Nov 10 - Project Due
LAST DAY TO DROP 1ST TERM HALF COURSES – NOV 12
5. Nov 15 - Instruments & accessories for your classroom; standard instruments, mutes, mouthpieces
6. Nov 17 - Third Playing Test
7. Nov 22 - Tuning and intonation
8. Nov 24 - Transposition, clefs
9. Nov 29 - Brass chamber music
10. Dec 1  - Playing Test Preparation
11. Dec 6  - Final Playing Test
SCHEDULE OF CLASSES AND TESTS

WINTER TERM FIRST QUARTER
1. Jan 10  - Posture, embouchure, mouthpiece buzzing
2. Jan 12  - Review first notes
3. Jan 17  - Articulation
4. Jan 19  - Harmonic series, lip slurs
5. Jan 24  - Instrumental techniques
6. Jan 26  - First Playing Test
7. Jan 31  - Instrumental techniques
8. Feb 2   - Advanced techniques; multiple tonguing, range
9. Feb 7   - Instrumental techniques
10. Feb 9  - Basic Maintenance
11. Feb 14 - Playing test preparation
12. Feb 16 - Second Playing Test

WINTER STUDY BREAK – FEB 19 - 23

WINTER TERM SECOND QUARTER
1. Feb 28  - Posture, embouchure, mouthpiece buzzing
2. Mar 2   - Review first notes
3. Mar 7   - Project Due
4. Mar 9   - Articulation and harmonic series review
5. Mar 14  - Instrumental techniques
6. Mar 16  - Third Playing Test
7. Mar 21  - Alternate Fingerings and blowing against the grain
8. Mar 23  - Instrumental techniques
9. Mar 28  - Brass Chamber Music
10. Apr 4  - Playing test preparation
11. Apr 6  - Final Playing Test