Course Description
The purpose of this course is to provide music educators with basic information concerning teaching methods and performance techniques for musical instruments common to the percussion family. Students will follow a course of study that will enable them to teach beginning students at the elementary or secondary school levels and to continue to provide them with an accepted, organized approach to learning and developing percussion techniques and skills.

This course of study is designed to acquaint students with the history of each major instrument found in the percussion family, their acoustical properties and methods of sound production, and the idiosyncrasies of percussion music notation. It will provide future band and orchestra directors with a rudimentary technique on many of the instruments labeled percussion, concentrating on those that are most common to today’s elementary and high school band and orchestra literature.

Text and Materials
-Cook, Gary D. Teaching Percussion. Schirmer: 4th edition (Available at steveweissmusic.com or Amazon)
-One Pair of Innovative Percussion Lalo Davila Concert Snare Sticks (or equivalent)
-Reel-Feel 6” Practice Pad (Checked out from instructor)
-Three-ring binder with dividers for final project

It is expected you will bring these items to every class meeting. Student is responsible for ordering and obtaining materials in a timely manner. Failure to do so will result in a lowering of your participation grade.

Grading Policy
Grades will be determined as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade Description</th>
<th>Points</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mid-term Exam</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final Exam (cumulative, take home)</td>
<td>150</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Concert Attendance/Write up</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Three instrument quizzes (50 Pts Each)</td>
<td>150</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Purchase Order Project</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Website Reviews</td>
<td>(25 each) 50 Pts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Methods Binder</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td><strong>650</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

COURSE REQUIREMENTS
**Final Exam**
The final exam will consist of a cumulative take-home written portion and a playing portion. **The written portion is due Thursday, Dec. 14** by 5:00 pm. In the playing portion, a percussion ensemble piece will be provided in which each student will play all of the parts.

**Concert Attendance**
Each student is required to attend the SFA Percussion Ensemble Concert on **November 10th @ 7:30 PM**. A double spaced, two-page review of the concert, detailing the pieces performed, the instruments used, and the applicable pedagogical/performance techniques utilized is required. Additionally, briefly discuss a challenge that each particular piece may pose to percussion students (rhythmic, technical, conceptual, endurance, etc.) and how you might address it when teaching. **Please attach the program to the paper.**

**DUE NOVEMBER 29th**

**Purchase Order for a New Percussion Section**
Your band hall was destroyed in a fire! You have $30,000 to replace your percussion instruments. Please put together a list including brand names, model numbers, prices and estimated shipping costs, for the instruments you would buy (an online wish list or cart is ok). Consider instruments, cases, sticks/mallets/beaters, and any music. All of these are not required – what you buy is up to you, however, you are expected to write a short paragraph justifying your choices. Marching percussion should NOT be included in this assignment. For prices please consult any of the following common percussion distributors, you may need to contact them directly for any unlisted prices (just ask as an individual):

- Steve Weiss Music: [www.steveweissmusic.com](http://www.steveweissmusic.com)
- Lone Star Percussion: [www.lonestarpercussion.com](http://www.lonestarpercussion.com)
- Percussion Source: [www.percussionsource.com](http://www.percussionsource.com)
- Woodwind/Brasswind: [www.wwbw.com](http://www.wwbw.com)
- Interstate Music: [www.interstatemusic.com](http://www.interstatemusic.com)

**DUE NOVEMBER 6th**

**Website Reviews**
Throughout the semester you will review a number of different percussion-related websites that you will put into your final notebook. You will review 10 websites of your choosing, 5 due on each due date.

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 fill in the information for each company. A working knowledge of what each company 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
- Black Swamp
- Innovative Percussion
- Mike Balter Mallets
- Malletech
- Sabian
- Black Swamp
- Innovative Percussion
- Mike Balter Mallets
- LP (Latin Percussion)
- Row-Loft Productions
- Tap Space Percussion
- Honeyrock

**DUE OCTOBER 9th and NOVEMBER 27th**
**Methods Binder**
This is an organized notebook including all class notes, handouts, website reviews, tests, and other materials. The notebook should be turned in on the last day of class (December 6th). All notes should be separated in your notebook as follows: Snare Drum, Keyboard, Timpani, Accessories, Drumset, Marching Percussion, Concert/Website Reviews/Tests. 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 the final exam.

**Attendance**
Due to the practical nature of this course and the amount of information covered per class, attendance at every class meeting is expected. **TWO unexcused absences are allowed.** Any unexcused absence past two will result in a reduction of one letter grade per absence. Two tardies to class is considered an unexcused absence.

Excused Absences:
1. Serious Illness (must present a doctor’s excuse)
2. Illness or death of a family member
3. University-related trips
4. Major religious holidays
5. “Reasonable cause for non-attendance” as determined by the instructor

**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 (4-9.1)**
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, on 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

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 must contact the Office of Disability Services (ODS), Human Services Building, and Room
325, 468-3004 / 468-1004 (TDD) 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. Failure to request
services in a timely manner may delay your accommodations. For additional information, go to
http://www.sfasu.edu/disabilityservices/.

Office Hours
Office hours are by appointment. To schedule and individual meeting, please contact the instructor via
email
August

28 Introduction/Syllabus Review, Percussion Classifications, General Considerations

30 Snare Drum: Drumsticks, Grips, Snare Drum, Playing areas, Stroke: Singles, Doubles, Paradiddles, Rudiments p. 378 Read Ch. 2 pp. 22-44

September

4 Paradiddles, rolls, Style: Rolls, Notation (67-68), Flams/Drags (62-63), Sticking policies, Other drums, Rudimental vs. Concert read Ch. 2 pp. 44-61

6 Head Change, Special effects, Multiple Percussion, Discuss Playing Test

11 Snare Drum Playing
13 Review for playing and written test

18 **Snare Drum Playing Test**

20 Accessories: BD/Cymbals
    Read Ch. 6 pp. 215-231

25 Accessories: Triangle/Tambourine
    Read Ch. 6 pp. 231-237

27 Accessory Lab, Band Placements
    Read Ch. 6 pp. 237-251

October

2 Keyboard percussion: introduction to instruments and mallets
    Read Ch. 4 pp. 93-107

4 Strokes, playing areas, scales, rolls, general reading
    Read Ch. 4 pp. 107-127
9 Keyboard Percussion playing day
   Read ch. 4 pp. 127-156
   WEBSITE REVIEWS #1 DUE

11 Four mallet techniques (sign up for keyboard playing test time)

16 Midterm

18 Timpani Overview
   Read Ch. 5 pp. 157-172

23 Timpani
   Read Ch. 5 pp. 196-213

25 Timpani

30 Drumset Read Ch. 8 pp. 294-308

November

1 Drumset Read Ch. 8 pp. 308-328

6 World Percussion, Review for Timpani/Drumset Test
   PURCHASE ORDER PROJECT DUE

8 Timpani/Drum Set Test

10 SFA PERCUSSION ENSEMBLE CONCERT @ 7:30 PM in Cole

13 Marching Percussion Read Ch. 9 pp. 362-377

15 Marching Percussion Read Ch. 0 pp. 393-424

20 THANKSGIVING BREAK NO CLASS

22 THANKSGIVING BREAK NO CLASS

27 Marching Percussion, march in band hall day
   WEBSITE REVIEWS #2 DUE
29  Percussion Maintenance  
**CONCERT REVIEW DUE**  

December  

4  Percussion Ensemble  

6  Review for Final Exam  
**METHODS BINDER DUE**  

**Final Exam** Thursday, December 13th 8-10 AM **Written Exam due**  

_This syllabus may be modified at the discretion of the instructor. Changes will be discussed in class or via email._