Percussion Ensemble
MUEN.1139/3139/5139.010

Name: Dr. Brad Meyer
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Office: M124A
Office Hours: by appointment
Department: Music
Class meeting time and place: M/W/F 2-2:50pm in room M124

Course Description:
The Percussion Ensemble is designed to enhance and develop the musical attributes and education of the performing percussionist within a chamber music setting. It is within this ensemble that the advanced level of applied study through the undergraduate curriculum can literally be “applied” to an ensemble performance practice on a regular basis. Through performances of contemporary literature, classical transcriptions, jazz pieces, world music, and novelty works the student will be subjected to a thorough cross-section of percussion ensemble literature.

Text and Materials:
- Black dress pants
- Purple button-up shirt
- Black shoes & socks

Outside Rehearsals:
Several pieces that are smaller in size (trios, quartets, quintets, etc.) will be required to rehearse outside normal class hours. These ensembles will be designated by Dr. Meyer during the first week of the semester, and will need to schedule as a collective group at least one 1-hour “outside of regular class time rehearsal” (a.k.a – “outside rehearsal”) each week. These rehearsals are vital to achieving the quality of music product that is expected at the college level. Each group needing a weekly outside rehearsal will need to send Dr. Meyer a picture via text with the group’s participants as well as a brief summary of important issues (if anyone was missing/absent from rehearsal, if anyone was not prepared for rehearsal, what was worked on in rehearsal, any trouble areas that should be focused on in the in-class rehearsals, etc.)
  - Unexcused Absence for an Outside Rehearsal:
    - One Letter Grade Drop per offense
  - Unexcused Tardy for a Rehearsal:
    - Half a Letter Grade Drop per offense
  - Unprepared for an Outside Rehearsal:
    - Half a Letter Grade Drop per offense
* The only weeks that an outside rehearsal is not required is during the Thanksgiving Holiday Week (Fall) and the Spring Break Week (Spring). These rehearsals should continue until the percussion ensemble concert has been given.

Course Requirements:
Students will be required to perform on at least one concert during the semester. Assignments will consist of weekly learning goals that will culminate in one or two concerts during the semester. Dr. Meyer will make part assignments at the beginning of each recital period, and give weekly goals for the group to attain. There will also need to be at least one weekly “outside rehearsal” for each group that is to be set-up independently of the scheduled Percussion Ensemble rehearsal times (MWF @ 2-2:50pm). Undergraduate students (MUEN.1139 and MUEN.3139) will be expected to play on 1-2 pieces during the semester, whereas graduate students (MUEN.5139) will be expected to play on 3-4 piece during the semester.

Course Calendar:
MUP 139/339/539.010 “Percussion Ensemble” (1 credit) meets three times a week for 50-minutes and is 15-week class. Students will need to attend rehearsal as scheduled, usually consisting of one to two in-class, 50-minute rehearsals, as well as any “Outside Rehearsals” that may be needed. Students are expected to practice for at least 15-minutes a day on their music outside of any in-class rehearsals or “Outside Rehearsals.” Students will learn about historic and modern percussion ensemble music and will advance in their chamber-group rehearsal skills and performance skills.
The Class Calendar (a.k.a. “the purple sheet”) and Semester Events Calendar can be found on the bulletin board outside of room m124. Below are the required events for the semester:

- 11/3: Percussion Ensemble Dress Rehearsal #1, Cole @ 7pm-10pm
- 11/4: Percussion Ensemble Dress Rehearsal #2, Cole @ 4:30pm-7:30pm
- 11/4: Percussion Ensemble CONCERT, Cole @ 7:30pm

Grading Policy:
Assuming attendance is perfect, grading will be based on the following:

- Music Preparation: Music should be learned at tempo by the second rehearsal of each piece. Failure to have individual part learned at tempo by the second rehearsal of a piece will result in One Letter Grade Drop per offense
- Set-up Preparation: Rehearsal starts at 2:00 therefore you should be set up at 2:00 (or as close as possible with regards to previous classes). This includes having all the materials you need for that day’s rehearsal.

Attendance Policy:
Attendance is mandatory. This is a performance organization that depends on the consistent attendance of its members, therefore only excused absences, at the discretion of the instructor, will be allowed (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). Two or more unexcused absences will result in losing parts and ultimately, with repeated offenses, failing the course

- Unexcused Tardy at Rehearsals: = Half a Letter Grade Drop per offense
- Unexcused Absence at Rehearsal: = One Letter Grade Drop per offense
- Unexcused Absence or Tardy at a Dress Rehearsal or Performance: = Automatic Failure of Class
- Unprepared for an Outside Rehearsal: = Half a Letter Grade Drop per offense

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, 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/.

Mask/Cloth Face Coverings
Masks (cloth face coverings) must be worn over the nose and mouth at all times in this class and appropriate physical distancing must be observed. Students not wearing a mask and/or not observing appropriate physical distancing will be asked to leave the class. All incidents of not wearing a mask and/or not observing appropriate physical distancing will be reported to the Office of Student Rights and Responsibilities. Students who are reported for multiple infractions of not wearing a mask and/or not observing appropriate physical distancing may be subject to disciplinary actions.


SFASU values students’ mental health and the role it plays in academic and overall student success. SFA provides a variety of resources to support students mental health and wellness. Many of these resources are free, and all of them are confidential.

On-campus Resources:
SFASU Counseling Services
www.sfasu.edu/counselingservices
3rd Floor Rusk Building
936-468-2401

SFASU Human Services Counseling Clinic
www.sfasu.edu/humanservices/139.asp
Human Services Room 202
936-468-1041

Crisis Resources:
Burke 24-hour crisis line 1(800) 392-8343
Suicide Prevention Lifeline 1(800) 273-TALK (8255)
Crisis Text Line: Text HELLO to 741-741