

Percussion Methods Syllabus

Instructors: James Abate (330) 746-4538. Dr. Glenn Schaft - (330) 742-3643. YSU Percussion Majors may assist with class instruction as part of their pedagogy requirement.

Office hours: Mr. Abate's office hours posted on room 2240. Dr. Schaft's office hours posted on room 2234.

Required texts and supplies:

1. Teaching Percussion; Second Edition, by Gary Cook. Available at YSU Bookstore. Bring text to every class period. Text also functions as an indispensable workbook and reference source for your teaching career.
2. Course Syllabus - Dr. Glenn Schaft. Available from Dr. Schaft. Place in your three-ring notebook. Bring to every class period. Cost to be announced.
3. The Band Director's Guide To Marching Percussion - Dean Moore. Available from Dean Moore or your instructors. Cost to be announced.
4. A 3-Ring notebook (1.5 inch) to organize syllabus, class notes, handouts, and your practice log. Bring to every class period.
5. A YSU practice pad will be signed-out and must be returned at the final class period in the same condition they were issued. Students are financially responsible for damage or loss. One pair of concert snare drum sticks will be issued, are covered by the course fee, and are your property. Bring pads and sticks to class as requested.
6. Metronome. Bring to class as requested.

Course content and objectives:

1. The course objectives are to develop fundamental concepts of percussion equipment and its organization, performance skills, and pedagogical skills applicable in K-12 school music programs. Course topics include organization of the school percussion program, teaching rhythm, equipment selection and maintenance, sound production concepts, fundamental instrumental techniques, and pedagogical techniques and methods of private and group instruction. Instruments studied include concert snare drum, marching percussion, keyboard percussion, orchestral accessories, Latin percussion, timpani, and jazz drum set.
2. Develop, through individual practice and classroom demonstrations and practice, fundamental instrumental techniques.
4. Study the organizational skills and information required to develop a quality percussion program, including instrument purchasing, maintenance, inventory, storage, and transport.

Grading criteria and policy:

The course (and final grade) consist of four general components: class work, performance critiques, lesson observation, and a lecture presentation.

1. Class grade (60%). Includes attentiveness, participation in class discussions, reading and outlining all reading assignments, notebook organization, and playing of instruments.

Class notebooks will be collected during the last class period, graded, and returned at the final exam period. Collect (in your notebook) information about appropriate instructional materials for beginning, intermediate, and advanced K-12 students. Organize your notebook in the following chronological order: syllabus, class and reading notes, and handouts. All materials should be dated upon receipt. Class notes should be legible and written in an outline format.

2. Performance critiques (10%). Performance Critiques. Due last class period. Each student must attend two performances (utilizing percussion) and write a critique of each. Critique format is typed, 2 pages, single-spaced, 10 point font. The first page is a cover sheet listing who, what, when, where, selections performed, and the second page is a critique/analysis. If programs were issued, staple them to the cover sheet. If a program was not issued please attach an admission ticket to the cover page. Performances may be selected from: YSU Symphonic Wind Ensemble, Concert Band, Jazz 1 or 2, Jazz Combos 1, 2, or Latin Combo, Percussion Ensemble, or Marching Band. Other performances may suffice pending instructor approval, in advance. Permission is typically granted for professional orchestras, chamber music ensembles, percussion groups, etc. pending the instructors' approval. Your instructor will announce approved events in class.

3. Lesson observation report (10%). Each student is required to observe one fifty minute applied percussion lesson taught by Dr. Schaft and write a report describing his/her experience. The purpose is to observe and comment on the pedagogical techniques and methods employed by an experienced percussion instructor working with a college freshman or sophomore percussion major.

Make an observation appointment with Dr. Schaft. Observations must be completed no later than week 8 of the semester. An observation report is due the first class period of week 9. The report format is typed, minimum one page, single spaced, 10 point font. Heading must include percussion student name, lesson date, and a description/analysis of the pedagogical issues covered.

4. Lecture Demonstration (20%). Each student is required to present a lecture during the final exam period on a topic of their choice. The purpose is to provide students an opportunity to gain experience teaching a group of beginning percussionists - in this case your colleagues.

A typed topic proposal must be submitted to the instructor by the end of the 12th week of classes and must be approved by the instructor. The lecture proposal should include the title and an outline of the lesson plan. A more complete typed outline of the lesson plan must be submitted immediately preceding your presentation. All reference sources should be cited in a bibliography. Lectures will vary in length depending on the number of students enrolled in the course. Generally, each student will be allotted 10-15 minutes. Lectures should be rehearsed and timed accurately so as not to exceed the allotted time. Distribution of your lesson plan to everyone in the class is required.

5. Grades of "incomplete": An "incomplete" will only be issued by mutual agreement of the professor and student. An incomplete is understood to indicate that the student was passing the course, but due to circumstances beyond their control was unable to complete course requirements. The incomplete will be changed to a traditional letter grade following completion of required materials. An incomplete not rectified by the end of the following semester will be changed to an "F".

6. Missed Assignments. Students missing an assignment must provide appropriate documentation to justify the absence or missed work. Upon verification that the absence was

justified, a make-up assignment will be scheduled. It is the students responsibility to make-up all missed work.

Attendance Policy:

1. Attendance and punctuality is expected and no credit is issued for such a basic necessity. However, grades are reduced for lack of punctuality or attendance.

2. In order for an absence (excluding serious illness or family emergency) to be excused, a written request must be submitted with the appropriate documentation.

Each unexcused absence will lower your final grade by five percent.

3. Three tardies equal an absence. Not only does tardiness reduce your education, but it interrupts the attention and learning of your colleagues. Further, it is not indicative of a dedicated and disciplined aspiring educator. If you have a legitimate reason for being late please speak to the instructor immediately following that class period. They will notify you if it is excused or not.

Semester Calendar Overview:

Weeks 1-2. Review Syllabus,
Lecture - Overview of the State of Music Education and Pedagogical Techniques and Methods.
Lecture - Percussion Instrument Classification, Sound Production Concepts.
Lecture - Percussion Program Instrument Selection and Organization.
Lecture - Teaching Rhythm.

Weeks 3-5. Snare drum.

Weeks 6-7. Marching Percussion.

Weeks 7-8. Timpani.

Weeks 9-11. Mid-term indication of class grades. Lesson observation reports due.
Orchestral Accessory instruments.

Week 12. Keyboard percussion.

Weeks 13-14. Drum Set in the school Jazz Band.

Week 15. Review, make-up, and discussion of your questions and concerns.

Final Exam Week. Final Exam Period. Lecture Presentations.