

COURSE SYLLABUS
MORAVIAN COLLEGE DEPARTMENT OF MUSIC
MUSIC 131.1 - BRASS TECHNIQUES
September 2015
Lawrence Wright
610-428-3045 Laright@gmail.com
Music Center Hours by appointment

GOAL OF COURSE- Brass techniques prepares the student to teach and demonstrate brass instruments at an elementary level, and to communicate the fundamentals of effective musical performance on brass instruments. The course also aids in the preparation of conductors, composers, and arrangers for dealing with various aspects of brass literature and performance.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

- 1) The ability to demonstrate an elementary level of performance on the trombone, trumpet, and french horn. A student already proficient on one of these instruments will be expected to complete the student competencies on a fourth brass instrument of the instructor's choosing.
- 2) A knowledge of tone production, playing position, care and use of the other brass instruments.

COURSE CONTENT

- 1) Laboratory playing experience on brass instruments from selected methods books, technical studies and ensembles.
- 2) Lectures and readings on various topics such as methodology, teaching techniques, history and current performance practice for brass instruments.

STUDENT COMPETENCIES

By the conclusion of the course the student should be able to demonstrate:

- 1) Proper assembly, basic playing position, care and maintenance procedures for brass instruments.
- 2) The ability to perform assigned material with acceptable tone on at least three brass instruments.
- 3) The ability to articulate verbally and in writing an understanding of the techniques necessary for successful performance and pedagogy on brass instruments.

GRADING

- 1) 60% of the final grade will be determined by playing and written finals on the trombone, trumpet, and french horn.
- 2) 20% of the final grade will be determined by playing quizzes on assigned practice material.
- 3) 20% of the final grade will be determined by notes on reserves readings. The lesson number of the assignment and the title and page numbers of each source must be included in reserve notes.
- 4) **A cumulative failing grade on written tests will result in course failure.**
- 5) **Each unexcused absence will deduct one percentage point from the student's final grade. Unexcused tardiness exceeding five minutes will deduct one percentage point from the final grade.**

REQUIREMENTS

- 1) Regular and punctual attendance.
- 2) Outside self directed practice as needed to complete student competencies.
- 3) Timely submission of notes from reserve readings.
- 4) **Detailed note taking during all class sessions.**
- 5) A cumulative passing grade in written assignments.

TEXTS

Provided by instructor
Library reserve readings

Syllabus may be subject to change.

Students who wish to request accommodations in this class for a disability should contact Elaine Mara, Assistant Director of Academic and Disability Support, located in the lower level of Monocacy Hall, or by calling [610- 861-1401](tel:610-861-1401). Accommodations cannot be provided until authorization is received from the Academic Support Center.