



Studio Syllabus

Private study of [advanced] principles and techniques of brass performance

Requirements Overview

The student is expected to maintain the highest standards of musicianship at all times. Students will receive one lesson per week; review of progress with further assignments will be made weekly. The student is expected to prepare the lesson material at a high level for each lesson. Daily practice is mandatory for high-level performance; practice rooms are available for use by students in the Carr Education-Fine Arts Building. [The ASU Bulletin recommends at least 9 hours of private practice per week per one-hour lesson.] The student is also encouraged to develop a consistent practice routine which includes all facets of performance as well as assignments from the instructor. The student is required to obtain assigned materials needed for private instruction as well as procure other materials which would benefit overall musicianship and performance. Plan for financial commitments to pay for music, recordings, accompanist fees, and equipment/accessories.

Objectives

- Develop specific skills, competencies, and points of view needed by music professionals
- Develop creative capacities in music performance
- Gain a broader understanding and appreciation of appropriate musical idioms

Expected Outcomes

Upon mastering all private lesson and studio materials, the student should achieve the following:

- Demonstrable technical and analytical skills appropriate to professionals in the music field

Evaluated in weekly lesson and final jury

- Successful practice techniques and the knowledge to continue improvement

Evaluated from practice charts

- Broader musical experience and expanded repertoire

Evaluated in weekly lesson and final jury

- Successful performance of scales (all must have good sound, intonation, articulation):

MUS 1000 Level: ♯ = 84 (by mid-term) and ♯ = 96 (by end of term)

Evaluated in mid-term scale jury; end-of-term scale jury; final jury

MUS 2000 Level: ♯ = 108 (by mid-term) and ♯ = 120 (by end of term)

Evaluated in mid-term scale jury; end-of-term scale jury; final jury

- Progress in ability to sight read

Evaluated in weekly lesson and final jury

Grading

Students are graded each week at the private lesson on level of preparation and performance. Other factors involved with grading are:

- Attendance in weekly lessons
- Level of participation/attendance in Studio Classes
- Regular completion of weekly Practice Chart
- Mid-term and end-of-term scale reviews
- Performance at student recitals
- Performance at Jury at end of semester

The student will be required to prepare a number of major etudes/solos. The level of preparation, amount of pieces prepared along with attendance will be the major factors in the semester's grade. The following chart outlines the grading:

- A — 7 major etudes/solos with good attendance throughout the semester
- B — 6 major etudes/solos with good attendance throughout the semester
- C — 5 major etudes/solos with good attendance throughout the semester
- D — 4 major etudes/solos with good attendance throughout the semester

Note: weekly studio grades account for 2/3 of final grade; the remaining 1/3 from the faculty at the end-of-semester Jury. The student will be involved in regular self-evaluation as well. To receive a passing grade, the student must perform a jury at the end of the semester. *Maximum effort is expected for a maximum grade—don't expect a maximum grade for a minimum effort.*

Evaluation Criteria for all juries (regular and level-change) include:

- Tone *Characteristic of instrument; throughout entire range; good control throughout*
- Rhythm *Correct performance of rhythms; strict observance of pulse*
- Articulation *Correct observance of printed articulations; good coordination of fingers and tongue*
- Intonation *Perform in tune with self and accompaniment*
- Musicianship *Perform in manner appropriate to style/period; observance of dynamics; good phrasing*

Attendance

Attendance is required at private lessons and the Studio Classes. All excused absences must be cleared at least one day ahead with the permission of the instructor. Emergency situations will be taken into account and lessons missed by the emergency will be made up. Lessons missed by unexcused absence will not be made up. Missed lessons will reflect negatively on the student's weekly grade; for each unexcused absence, the student's grade will be drop one letter grade.

Practicing

The student should plan on practicing 2-3 two hours per day. Daily practice should consist of:

- Warm-up and daily routine
- Scales, arpeggios
- Etudes (lyrical and technical)
- Studies on technique, articulation, flexibility, etc.
- Solo and ensemble repertoire, jazz repertoire, orchestral repertoire
- Reading, sight reading, transposition

Studio Curriculum

A suggested course of study for one's entire studio curriculum is outlined in the CURRICULUM STUDY GUIDE. It lays out scale, etude, technique, and other ancillary studies necessary to successfully progress through an eight-semester college career. A list of required and suggested music is also given; see the LIST OF ETUDES/METHODS. Finally, a list of MINIMUM SCALE REQUIREMENTS provides a time frame to master all scales and arpeggios throughout a four-year course of study. Related areas of study are also offered which cover transposition, orchestral excerpts, jazz styles, improvisation, etc. All of this material can be found on my website (www.angelo.edu/faculty/jirish)

Studio Class

A Studio Class will be held regularly. Attendance and participation in this class is mandatory for majors but encouraged for all. This affords an opportunity to work on aspects related to ensemble sections, perform before one's peers, and focus on skills unique to the instrument. A schedule of studio classes will be kept on the brass bulletin board and/or near my office; check my web site (STUDIO CALENDAR) for more information on studio class dates.

Schedule of Important Studio Events

A list of important events for all members of the studio will be furnished. Please refer to it often for information, dates, and times for master classes, recitals, concerts, and crucial studio deadlines. Vital details on the performances of guest artists, special musical events, local music activities, etc. will also be found. **OFFICE HOURS** will be found on the Schedule posted on my door.

Student Recitals

• Departmental Recitals

All students will also prepare a work for the Departmental Student Recital once per semester (except first-semester Freshmen). This includes a work from the standard repertoire and be no more than seven minutes in length.

• Juries

All students are required to perform a jury at the end of each semester. The jury will consist of prepared work(s) with accompaniment (when applicable). The faculty will grade the student's performance. The student will be responsible for material studied throughout the semester at the jury: the jury panel will select works for the student to perform at the jury.

• Senior Recital

After entering the Upper Division (3000 Level), B.M. students will be required to perform a Senior Recital. This will include a recital of compositions:

- 30 to 60 minutes in total length
- one work which will be performed from memory
- one piece must be a multi-movement composition

About one month before the proposed recital, the student will perform the recital repertoire before an applied faculty committee. The student is responsible for coordinating the availability of the applied faculty committee for both the jury hearing and the Recital before any further planning takes place. The decision of that committee from the recital jury hearing will determine whether the Senior Recital will take place as scheduled. The Senior Recital should not be scheduled on the weekend. **NOTE:** It is the responsibility of the student to schedule the recitals. It is also the responsibility of the student to find an accompanist and schedule rehearsals accordingly; at least one rehearsal with accompaniment should be during the weekly lesson prior to the performance for coaching by the instructor.

Advancement to Upper Levels

Note: Upon successful acceptance into the Music program, beginning Freshmen are entered at the 1000 Level of study.

• Sophomore: 2000 Level

Students completing two long semesters of 1000 Level must present and pass a performance examination in order to progress to 2000 level of studio instruction. Components of the examination will include: scales and arpeggios, a prepared work, and sight-reading. **Students must attempt and pass all components of the exam with a grade above a C in a jury presentation.** If a student does not pass one component, he/she must retake all components of the exam. **The student will have only 2 attempts to pass this exam.**

Criteria for each component for this exam will be as follows:

Scales: all major and minor scales with arpeggios including a chromatic scale—one octave—performed by memory. Rhythm, tempi, articulation, register, and octave as deemed appropriate for the instrument by the studio teacher.

Prepared Piece: performance of a solo (with accompaniment when appropriate) or etude at an appropriate level. Memorization optional.

Sight-reading: the reading at sight of a work or section of a work that is idiomatic to the instrument and level appropriate.

• Upper Division: 3000 Level

Students completing at least two long semesters of 2000 Level study must present and pass a performance examination to progress from 2000 to 3000 level of studio instruction. Components of the examination will include: scales, arpeggios, a prepared work, and sight-reading. **Students must attempt and pass all components of the exam with a grade above a C in a jury presentation.** If a student does not pass one component, he/she must retake all components of the exam. **The student will have only 2 attempts to pass this exam.**

Criteria for each component for this exam will be as follows:

Scales: all major and minor scales with arpeggios including a chromatic scale performed by memory through the practical range of the instrument. Rhythm, tempi, articulation, and register as deemed appropriate for the instrument by the studio teacher.

Prepared Piece: performance of a solo with accompaniment (when appropriate) memorized; the work must be at a level of a UIL class 1 (one) or higher in difficulty.

Sight-reading: the reading at sight of a work or section of a work that is idiomatic to the instrument and level appropriate.

Refer to the ASU Music Student Handbook for more details.

Financial Commitments

Plan on budgeting for music, recordings, or equipment/accessories as you would any other class. Students are expected to purchase (NOT copy) their own music and recordings; photocopies of published music is not acceptable—nor legal. Library holdings are only a temporary solution until your own music is in hand. A list of materials for the studio can be found on the studio web site. The student will also need to pay accompanying fees for recital/jury performances.

Academic Integrity

Angelo State University expects its students to maintain complete honesty and integrity in their academic pursuits. Students are responsible for understanding the Academic Honor Code, which is contained in both print and web versions of the Student Handbook. Any student found guilty of any form of dishonesty in academic work is subject to disciplinary action.

ADA Statement

Persons with disabilities which may warrant academic accommodations must contact the Student Life Office, Room 112 University Center, in order to request such accommodations prior to any accommodations being implemented. You are encouraged to make this request early in the semester so that appropriate arrangements can be made.

Important Final Thoughts

The extent that the student desires to grow as a musician/performer is not limited to any policies or requirements of the school but his/her own determination and willingness to succeed through hard work. You are your best teacher; I am a guide, resource, and/or help in many different ways, but you are the only one responsible for what goes on in the practice room and for all music preparation required of you. My goal as a teacher is to help each student become a well-rounded, highly proficient musician. Following the guidelines set forth in this syllabus and in our private lessons will be the first steps to meeting the minimum requirements needed to satisfy the Division and University policies. How well you perform on your instrument is up to you. You must take credit for your success or failure. I will be a vital part of your growth, but ultimately it is the student who must take responsibility for the outcome of your efforts. I have a great deal of pride and commitment to my students and will work very hard to create a positive, successful studio environment for which to learn and grow. Review the Music Division Student Handbook for further information on policies and requirements.

Typical Semester Calendar Studio Class and Important Dates

Week 2	Studio Class
Week 5	Studio Class
Week 6	Guest Artist Master Class
Week 8	Studio Class Mid-term Scales
Week 9	Guest Artist Master Class/Recital
<i>Week 10</i>	<i>Last day to drop a class</i>
Week 12	A Night of Brass ASU Brass Ensembles in Concert
Week 13	Jury Pieces/Scale Review
Week 14	Mock Jury
Week 15	Level Change Juries
Week 15	Brass Juries