ANGELO STATE UNIVERSITY
DEPARTMENT OF VISUAL AND PERFORMING ARTS

Spring 2021 Syllabus
Low Brass Studio Instruction
MUAP: 1100-09Z, 1201-03Z, 1202-06Z, 2202-06Z, 3202-08Z, 4101-01Z, 1–2 credit hours

Dr. Mark Sweeney, Visiting Assistant Professor of Music
Office: Carr Education-Fine Arts Building 215
Phone: 325-486-6039 (office); 919-614-3298 (mobile)
Email: mark.sweeney@angelo.edu
Office Hours: virtual only, email to schedule

Meeting Times
Weekly individual lesson: as scheduled, 30/50 minutes, Carr 215*
Studio class (required for majors): M 4:00–4:50, 208
Low brass ensemble: T 6:30–7:20 PM, Carr 134

Course Description
The purpose of Low Brass Studio Instruction is to develop the student’s ability to perform and teach on their primary instrument as a soloist, in chamber ensembles, and in large ensembles through weekly lessons, rehearsals, studio classes, and daily individual practice.

Course Learning Outcomes
Students will:
- Develop a characteristic tone and technical facility on their primary instrument
- Learn to recognize and solve technical, musical, intonation, and ensemble problems through inquiry, individual practice, studio classes, and master classes
- Understand and appreciate the cultural, theoretical, and historical context of music performed
- Develop skills and artistry in expressing themselves through performing and teaching music of a variety of genres and eras
- Give respect freely to all members of the low brass studio and the department of VPA
- Earn respect through punctuality, preparation, professionalism, and attentiveness

IDEA Learning Objectives
- Develop specific skills, competencies, and points of view needed by professionals in the field most closely related to this course
- Develop creative capacities in music
- Gain a broader understanding and appreciation of music
Required Materials

Equipment

- A professional model tenor or bass trombone, euphonium, or tuba in excellent condition:
  - Tenor trombone: Large bore .547 with F attachment
  - Bass trombone: .562 bore with 2 valves, independent valves highly preferred
  - Euphonium: At least 4 valves, 4-valve compensating highly preferred
  - Tuba: At least 4 valves and at least full size (4/4 or greater), BBb or CC contrabass
- Metronome, tuner, pencil, and recording device
- Music binder/notebook and bag
- Breathing and/or buzzing practice aids as prescribed by instructor

Etude books/sheet music (for majors, to be purchased after first lesson)

Tenor trombone:
- Complete Method for Trombone and Euphonium, J.B. Arban, ed. Alessi/Bowman
- Complete Vocalises for Trombone, Marco Bordogni, ed. Mulcahy
- Introducing the Tenor Clef AND Introducing the Alto Clef, Reginald Fink
- School of Sight Reading & Style, Andre Lafosse (start with Book A)
- 70 Progressive Studies for the Modern Bass Trombonist, Lew Gillis

Bass trombone:
- Complete Method for Trombone and Euphonium, J.B. Arban, ed. Alessi/Bowman
- Complete Vocalises for Trombone, Marco Bordogni, ed. Mulcahy
- Introducing the Tenor Clef, Reginald Fink
- School of Sight Reading & Style, Andre Lafosse (start with Book A)

Euphonium
- Complete Method for Trombone and Euphonium, J.B. Arban, ed. Alessi/Bowman
- Complete Vocalises for Trombone, Marco Bordogni, ed. Mulcahy
- School of Sight Reading & Style, Andre Lafosse (start with Book A)
- 70 Progressive Studies for the Modern Bass Trombonist, Lew Gillis

Tuba
- Complete Method for Trombone and Euphonium, J.B. Arban, ed. Jacobs
- Complete Vocalises for Trombone, Marco Bordogni, ed. Jacobs
- 70 Studies, Vladislav Blazhevich (start with v. 1)
- Low Etudes for Tuba, Phil Snedecor (start with v. 1)

*MINOR LEVEL LESSONS* materials will be selected on an individual basis with the instructor

**You may be asked to order further materials as you progress. You must own all jury and recital music.
**Individual Lesson/Practice Content**
Appropriate weekly material will be determined by the instructor from fundamentals, scales, etudes, solo literature, and jazz techniques/transcriptions. Your daily practice should include work in each of the assigned areas and specifics will be listed in your weekly lesson slip. You should practice from 1½–3 hours per day, preferably broken into 30–45-minute sessions and with clear short-term and long-term goals. Ensemble and performance playing do not count as individual practice time.

**Grading**
50% Attendance: Your points as determined by the attendance policies, see details below
30% Lesson grade: Your progress in lesson materials as assessed by the instructor
10% Scale exam midterm: See below for details
10% Jury: If you are not assigned a jury, this percentage will be rolled into your lesson grade

**Attendance Policy**
Attendance to all studio-related activities is required. This includes individual lessons, low brass studio classes, and any required concerts and recitals (guest, faculty, or student) for which your instructor gives you at least two weeks’ notice. All recitals and concerts featuring low brass are required unless there is an excused absence cleared with the instructor beforehand.

Your attendance will be scored as following:

- Present and on-time: 2 points
- Present but tardy: 1 point
- Unexcused absence: 0 points
- Excused absence: 2 points, but makeup work may be required

Each student will be forgiven 6 points over the course of the semester. Excused absences are determined at the discretion of your instructor and are typically restricted to medically documented illness, a documented family emergency, or a documented school-sponsored event, i.e. band tour. The burden of proof is on the student and for an absence to be considered excused, you must notify both your instructor well in advance of the absence via email.

For individual weekly lessons, excused absences are limited to two per semester. If you are sick and unable to attend, please reschedule with your instructor at least one hour before your lesson time. Unexcused absences will result in a grade of 0 for that week’s lesson. Three or more unexcused absences in lessons will result in a non-negotiable 0% for the lesson portion of your grade.

**Studio Class**
Studio class will consist of student performances, special topic presentations, student research presentations, video masterclasses, and active listening, as detailed in the Studio Class Schedule below.
Recital Attendance
You are required to attend all studio low brass recitals, brass faculty recitals, brass guest artist recitals and masterclasses, wind ensemble, orchestra, and jazz band concerts. Every effort should be made to attend all faculty recitals, but only the brass faculty recitals are required (see attendance policy above).

Juries
Each student will prepare a jury piece with accompaniment (if necessary). If your piece requires accompaniment, you must practice with your accompanist first, then arrange to bring your accompanist to your lesson at least two weeks prior to your jury. It is your responsibility to arrange times that work for yourself, your accompanist, and the instructor. Treat these like a recital or professional competition for your preparation and performance. You are required to own a copy of your jury piece. Sign-up slots and jury times will be posted and communicated to you toward the end of the semester.

Scale Exam Midterm
The scale exam will be given during the normal lesson time on Midterm Week. 6 different scales/key combinations will be chosen at random from the levels below and performed from memory. A mistake in the scale counts as a strike and if a student has 3 strikes on any scale, they fail that scale. If the student strikes out on 2 of the 6 scales, they fail the scale exam. If a student fails a scale exam, they will repeat the exam the following week for no penalty and, for each of the following 5 weeks, 2% off their overall grade in the course.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Semester</th>
<th>Scales</th>
<th>Minimum Speed</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1st semester</td>
<td>Major</td>
<td>8th notes @ quarter = 72</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd semester</td>
<td>Major, natural minor</td>
<td>8th notes @ quarter = 84</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3rd semester</td>
<td>Major, natural minor, harmonic minor</td>
<td>8th notes @ quarter = 96</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4th semester</td>
<td>Major &amp; all minors</td>
<td>8th notes @ quarter = 104</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5th semester</td>
<td>Major, chromatic, all minors</td>
<td>8th notes @ quarter = 120</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| 6th semester | Major, chromatics, all minors, diminished 1 octave (HW and WH) | 8th notes @ quarter = 132       
  |                                                 | dim.: 8th notes @ quarter = 92 |
| 7th semester | Major, chromatics, all minors, diminished 2 octaves | 8th notes @ quarter = 144       
  |                                                 | dim./whole tone: 8th notes @ quarter = 104 |
| 8th semester+ | Major, chromatics, all minors, diminished 2 octaves, whole tone | 8th notes @ quarter = 152       
  |                                                 | All others: 8th notes @ quarter = 120 |
Studio Class Schedule

January  25  Syllabus
February  1  Student Performances
           8  Listening: *Berlin Recital* (2010), Stefan Schulz, bass trombone
           15 Student Performances
           22 Guest masterclass: Michael Davidson, trombone
March    1  Chamber Ensembles Rehearsals
           8  Scale midterm practice
           15 Guest masterclass: Mark Thiele, tuba/euphonium
           22 Listening: *Tuba Concertos* (2008), Øystein Baadsvik, tuba
           29 Recital Preview: Brayden Young*
April    5  Student Performances
           12 Recital Preview: Michael Bell*
           19 Chamber Ensembles Rehearsals
           26 Mock Juries/Student Performances
May      3  Mock Juries/Student Performances

Studio Important Dates

April/TBD  Brayden Young, *Junior Euphonium Recital*, Eldon Black Recital Hall*
April/TBD  Michael Bell, *Senior Tuba Recital*, Eldon Black Recital Hall*
April    27  *Low Brass Ensemble/Chamber Concert Recording Session*, 6:30 PM,
             Mayer Administration Building

Prerequisite Skills Test to Perform Junior or Senior Recital

Before performing the Junior Recital for BM - Applied majors (MUAP 3199) or the Senior Recital for BM - Teacher Certification majors (MUAP 4199), you must have departmental approval and pass a performance skills test. The skills test may be attempted any semester but is designed to be completed during the fourth semester of study (MUAP 2202). Students must declare that they will be attempting the skills test by the end of the fourth week of class in the semester they wish to complete it.
University COVID Policies/Statements

**Required use of masks/facial coverings by students in class at Angelo State University**

As a member of the Texas Tech University System, Angelo State University has adopted the mandatory *Facial Covering Policy* to ensure a safe and healthy classroom experience. Current research on the COVID-19 virus suggests there is a significant reduction in the potential for transmission of the virus from person to person by wearing a mask/facial covering that covers the nose and mouth areas. Therefore, in compliance with the university policy students in this class are required to wear a mask/facial covering before, during, and after class. Faculty members may also ask you to display your daily screening badge as a prerequisite to enter the classroom. You are also asked to maintain safe distancing practices to the best of your ability. For the safety of everyone, any student not appropriately wearing a mask/facial covering will be asked to leave the classroom immediately. The student will be responsible to make up any missed class content or work. Continued non-compliance with the Texas Tech University System Policy may result in disciplinary action through the Office of Student Conduct.

If you feel sick or have been traced to/exposed to a COVID case, please stay at home/in your dorm to quarantine and email me to let me know. All lectures will be uploaded to Blackboard this semester so you do not need to worry about a student asks for the ability to go “online” in courses where online sections are not available, we should let them do that. All tests and assignments will also be accessible and turned in on Blackboard to minimize exchanging papers and maintain social distancing.

If you feel uncomfortable with in-person instruction at any point for any reason, please email me and let me know.

These preventative mask, distancing, and sanitizing measures make a big difference in minimizing the virus’ spread, but they only work when everyone buys in and does their part. Please be vigilant and practice them outside of the classroom, as well, so we can keep our community and campus healthy and save lives.
University Syllabus Statements

Student Disability Services

ASU is committed to the principle that no qualified individual with a disability shall, on the basis of disability, be excluded from participation in or be denied the benefits of the services, programs or activities of the university, or be subjected to discrimination by the university, as provided by the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA), the Americans with Disabilities Act Amendments of 2008 (ADAA) and subsequent legislation.

Student Disability Services is located in the Office of Student Affairs and is the designated campus department charged with the responsibility of reviewing and authorizing requests for reasonable accommodations based on a disability. It is the student’s responsibility to initiate such a request by contacting an employee of the Office of Student Affairs, in the Houston Harte University Center, Room 112, or contacting the department via email at ADA@angelo.edu. For more information about the application process and requirements, visit the Student Disability Services website at https://www.angelo.edu/services/disability-services/. The employee charged with the responsibility of reviewing and authorizing accommodation requests is:

Ms. Dallas A. Swafford
(325) 942-2047
dallas.swafford@angelo.edu

Title IX

Angelo State University is committed to providing and strengthening an educational, working, and living environment where students, faculty, staff, and visitors are free from sex discrimination of any kind. In accordance with Title VII, Title IX, the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA), the Campus Sexual Violence Elimination Act (SaVE), and other federal and state laws, the University prohibits discrimination based on sex, which includes pregnancy, and other types of Sexual Misconduct. Sexual Misconduct is a broad term encompassing all forms of gender-based harassment or discrimination and unwelcome behavior of a sexual nature. The term includes sexual harassment, nonconsensual sexual contact, nonconsensual sexual intercourse, sexual assault, sexual exploitation, stalking, public indecency, interpersonal violence (domestic violence or dating violence), sexual violence, and any other misconduct based on sex.

You are encouraged to report any incidents involving sexual misconduct to the Office of Title IX Compliance and the Director of Title IX Compliance/Title IX Coordinator, Michelle Boone, J.D. You may submit reports in the following manner:

- Online: www.angelo.edu/incident-form
- Face to Face: Mayer Administration Building, Room 210
- Phone: 325-942-2022
- Email: michelle.boone@angelo.edu

Note, as a faculty member at Angelo State, I am a mandatory reporter and must report incidents involving sexual misconduct to the Title IX Coordinator. Should you wish to speak to someone in
confidence about an issue, you may contact the University Counseling Center (325-942-2371), the 24-
Hour Crisis Helpline (325-486-6345), or the University Health Clinic (325-942-2171). For more
information about resources related to sexual misconduct, Title IX, or Angelo State’s policy please visit:
www.angelo.edu/title-ix.

**Academic Integrity**
Students are expected to maintain complete honesty and integrity in all work. Any student found guilty
of any form of dishonesty in academic work is subject of disciplinary action and possible expulsion from
ASU.

**Plagiarism**
Plagiarism is a serious topic covered in ASU’s Academic Integrity policy in the Student Handbook.
Plagiarism is the action or practice of taking someone else’s work, idea, etc., and passing it off as one’s
own. Plagiarism is literary theft.

In your discussions and/or your papers, it is unacceptable to copy word-for-word without quotation
marks and the source of the quotation. It is expected that you will summarize or paraphrase ideas giving
appropriate credit to the source both in the body of your paper and the reference list.

Papers are subject to be evaluated for originality via Turnitin. Resources to help you understand this
policy better are available at the ASU Writing Center.

**Copyright Policy**
Students officially enrolled in this course should make only one printed copy of the given articles and/or
chapters. You are expressly prohibited from distributing or reproducing any portion of course readings
in printed or electronic form without written permission from the copyright holders or publishers.

**Incomplete Grade Policy**
It is policy that incomplete grades be reserved for student illness or personal misfortune. Please contact
faculty if you have serious illness or a personal misfortune that would keep you from completing course
work. Documentation may be required. See ASU Operating Policy 10.11 Grading Procedures for more
information.

**Student Absence for Observance of Religious Holy Days**
A student who intends to observe a religious holy day should make that intention known in writing to
the instructor prior to the absence. See ASU Operating Policy 10.19 Student Absence for Observance of
Religious Holy Day for more information.

**General Policies Related to This Course**
All students are required to follow the policies and procedures presented in these documents:

- Angelo State University Student Handbook
- Angelo State University Catalog