

Syllabus - - MUSIC 407b

revised 1-7-17

This syllabus attempts to conform to the HSU required syllabus template of Spring 2008. Numbering is by Cline, for explanatory use in class.

This Syllabus is subject to revisions/adjustments issued in class. Students enrolled in the class are responsible for all information contained here, any revisions/adjustments issued in class, portions of the University Catalog, and other policies of the Department of Music.

Music 407b BRASS ENSEMBLE

SPRING SEMESTER 2017

- 1.) Trumpet Consort von Humboldt, Thu 7pm – 9, in preparation for Historic Brass Symposium, NYC, July 2017.
- 2.) Brass Quintet performing 19th century music for appearance at Fort Humboldt, late April 2017.
- 3.) Humboldt Bay Brass Band is now Fall - only ... next season is Fall 2017.

Dr. Gilbert Cline **Office: Room 125** (from F '14, Dr. C is at HSU only on T, W, Th)

1 - Contact information: Campus Phone: (707) 826-5441 Email: gdc1@humboldt.edu

Office hours & days: _____ (set in Week #2 due to scheduling of TBA classes)
(Now that I'm on a 50% timebase, my HSU days are Tue/Wed/Thu -- no Mon or Fri: so plan ahead for "service!")

- 1.2 At office hours knock on the door if closed -- done only to block out noise from adjacent practice rooms. If no answer, I'm probably on the phone; or, look for a note explaining my location or schedule for the hour.
- 1.3 Outside of class, and e, you may leave a paper note in the Department Office in my mail box, or in the drop box outside that door, if after hours. Don't leave notes on my office door -- not a safe place.
- 1.4 Email contact is fine for simple questions. For consultation about grades, points, and so forth see me in person. I'll check email most days, but "no guarantee" for immediate response, since I'm now semi-retired from HSU.

2 - Course description: "Study / perform instrumental ... chamber music of all periods."

- 2.1 Pre-req : IA (instructor approval) -- HSU sometimes allows students to freely enroll, without a permission number; however, Mus407b is always by audition / invitation / approval -- based on balance of instrument needs in the brass ensemble(s) planned for the semester. Because small brass ensembles are fairly elite groups -- there might be only one group -- there is usually no audition, since the playing skills of those around are pretty well-known. So if you want to be considered for Mus 407b- Brass, contact Dr. Cline. If you're not known to us, it makes sense to have a short audition / interview.
- 2.2 Current research-exploration brass projects include the all-brass (with percussion) format of British Brass Bands. Humboldt Bay Brass Band meets Thursday evenings for 10-12 weeks, (from 2014) each Fall semester. Highly versatile, HBBB plays a wide variety of music: antiquity, medieval, renaissance, baroque, classical / 19th century Americana, to many genre of the 20th century, and including recently composed music. Another research group is Trumpet Consort von Humboldt, which performs on historically accurate reproductions of baroque, natural trumpets. HSU brass groups have performed at state and national conferences, California missions and cathedrals, and carillon towers at Stanford and Berkeley. Three audio CDs, with full liner notes, have been made of HSU brass ensembles.
- 2.3 Spring Semester groups may include a pre-planned ensemble, or late-formed ensemble(s), which respond to performance opportunities recently offered, or Music Majors needing M407b enrollement.
- 2.4 The most common chamber brass ensemble is the brass quintet; HSU has excellent libraries for this. Music majors may check out sheet music from our outstanding in-house Music Library. Each summer HSU hosts the Brass Chamber Music Workshop, two 1-week intensive sessions... highly recommended.

3 - Course Goals and Objectives

(DEFINITION: Goals are of a broad and far reaching nature; more general than objectives, they can be suited to a lifetime of study. Objectives are specific, and are the way by which one proceeds toward Goals!

3a GOALS for Music 407B - (Upon successful completion of this course, you should :)

- 3a.1 Perform some of the great musical compositions in brass music, 1500 to the present.
- 3a.2 Listen to some of the great musical compositions (1500 to the present) and current performers.
- 3a.3 Learn about the innovators and the musicians of the various brass instruments.
- 3a.4 Learn how the brasswinds are played, learn how to practice, and learn how to improve.
- 3a.5 To understand how some musicians become so good, so artful, and so meaningful.

3b OBJECTIVES for Music 407B - Upon successful completion of this course, you should (be able to) :

- 3b.1 Perform some of the great musical compositions in brass music, 1500 to the present.
- 3b.2 Listen to some of the great musical compositions (1500 to the present) and critique your own rehearsals and performances.
- 3b.3 Demonstrate certain music jargon, including terms relating strictly to musical performance and also other terms relating to the ways in which musicians work with each other.
- 3b.4 Trace the roots of the brasswinds, and demonstrate some understanding of historical context.
- 3b.5 Identify representative brass artists, and use the better as models.
- 3b.6 Identify representative brass ensembles, and use the better ones as models.
- 3b.7 Improve concepts, understanding, and proficiency at : intonation and chord tuning, transposition, clef reading, phrasing, ensemble blend, vibrato, and other ensemble awareness and protocols.
- 3b.8 Form a preference for a style (or styles) of music and for specific artists.

3c FORMAT and expectations for rehearsal and for individual practice :

- 3c.1 Two-hour rehearsal, weekly, for Humboldt Bay Brass Band. All rehearsals required attendance.
- 3c.2 50-minute coached session, weekly, for other brass ensembles. All sessions required attendance.
- 3c.3 Class is letter-grade basis, using pluses/minuses. Self-Evaluation typically done at end.
- 3c.4 You **MUST** be enrolled in Music 407b. Do not drop without notice / consultation.
- 3c.5 Daily practice of the ensemble music is required. Unlike other ensembles having up to four hours of weekly rehearsal, smaller more elite ensembles require (even more) prior preparation.
- 3c.6 Arrive early to rehearsal, prepared (well - practiced). Remain silent and pay attention. Listen attentively -- Listen with your ears. Regarding any talking in rehearsal, in most situations you are to say nothing in return; chatter reduces the most effective rehearsal time.
- 3c.7 Warm-up, tune, and then focus your attention. Have pencil, mutes / accessories ready.
- 3c.8 High standards of conduct and attention are expected in rehearsal. Do not waste time. If you have a question, raise your hand. Avoid ANY / ALL chit-chat and socializing.
- 3c.9 Use of HSU-owned instruments and accessories: by authorized permission, for use in these HSU ensembles, with student responsibility / liability, subject to grades withheld / financial restitution; with all items returned when directed / called and a minimum at semesters end.

3d UNIVERSITY OBJECTIVES, Music 407B - Now termed “**Student Learning Objectives**” (SLOs) by HSU, 2014.
“Upon successful completion of this course: ...

1. Students will be able to perform at least one piece in a concert, tour, studio recital, or Friday Noon recital.
 2. Students will demonstrate appropriate skills in rhythmic accuracy, intonation, balance, blend, dynamics, and phrasing.
 3. Students will demonstrate the ability to independently diagnose problems, make musical judgments, Implement rehearsal strategies, and collaborate in making decisions regarding musical phrasing, dynamics, articulations, and other expressive dimensions of musical performance.
 4. Students will demonstrate understanding of aspects of musical performance that distinguish chamber music from large-group experiences (absence of a conductor, one-player-per-part independence, reduced amount of block scoring, soloistic writing, and frequent two-or three-part texture) and will be able to implement strategies to address these issues in rehearsal and performance.
1. Students will rehearse chamber music from a variety of composers and style periods, and will perform at least one piece in a concert, tour, studio recital, or Friday Noon recital.
 2. Students will practice and refine skills in rhythmic accuracy, intonation, balance, dynamics, and phrasing.
 3. Students will rehearse for two hours per week, one of which will be without faculty coaching. In rehearsals without a coach, students will build diagnostic skills and implement their own rehearsal strategies.
 4. Students will collaborate in making decisions regarding musical phrasing, dynamics, articulations, and other expressive dimensions.
 5. Students will explore aspects of musical performance that distinguish chamber music from large-group experiences, absence of a conductor, including one-player-per-part independence, reduced amount of block scoring, soloistic writing, frequent two- or three-part texture, and apply them in rehearsal and performance.

4 - Pre- and co-requisites: by IA.

5 - Minimum grade needed for the course to count toward the major: Music majors should be aware of revisions ongoing, and consult both the latest Music Major Handbook and the University Catalog

6 - Required and recommended texts, readers, or other reading materials for this course include:

- 6.1 All sheet music is issued, and in folios marked HSU Music. RETURN the folio and all contents.
- 6.2 Do not store sheet music from other ensembles, or lesson materials, in this folio.

7 - This course contributes to student skills and knowledge relevant to HSU Learning Outcomes: (*HSU Language*)

- HSU graduates will have demonstrated:

1. Effective communication through written and oral modes.
2. Critical and creative thinking skills in acquiring a broad base of knowledge and applying it to complex issues.
3. Competence in a major area of study.
4. Appreciation for and understanding of an expanded world perspective by engaging respectfully with a diverse range of individuals, communities, and viewpoints.

- HSU graduates will be prepared to:

5. Succeed in their chosen careers.
6. Take responsibility for identifying personal goals and practicing lifelong learning.

8 - Course Requirements:

8a - ATTENDANCE AND RELATED POLICIES :

- 1- **Attend all sessions.** Attendance is mandatory and expected, not optional.
- 2- **Arrive before the appointed time**, and be warmed up. (On time = Late. Late = fired !)
- 3- Always be prepared for each session. **Practice on the days before each class session / rehearsal**, even if it seems an "assignment" has not been made. Do not wait for weeks to learn your part.
- 4- **Practice frequently and regularly.** Rehearsals (in class) are Rehearsal, not (individual) practice.
- 5- **Absences** may result in a grade of U --unofficial withdrawal-- and being disinvited from a concert, the ensemble during the semester, and from future ensembles.
- 6- **Cell / smart phones / devices MUST be turned off, dead off** -- no vibrate mode. If one goes off, do not answer, or LOOK at it. Absolutely no such devices on a music stand. Absolutely no texting.
- 7- **If you have a genuine reason for not attending**, leave word with me by email (or by phone.) For medical absence, you may provide a physician's note. If you have CAUSE (a legal term) for missing class, describe that in writing, with your signature. Do not just use email alone.

9a - GRADED elements in Mus 407b

- 1- **Practice / reparation, weekly.** Daily practice baseline is one hour; 1.5 - 3 hrs for advanced players.
- 2- **Performance(s) / Concert(s) / Tours.**
- 3- **Self-evaluation Form** at semester end with feedback.

9b - FINAL POSTED GRADES - The marks "U" and the "I" often are confusing, so the text for 1- and 2- below is from HSU regulations, here for clarification:

- 1- "U" = "UNAUTHORIZED withdrawal" ... means the student did not complete the course and did not formally withdraw from the course. The U grade is equivalent to the F grade.
- 2- "I" = "INCOMPLETE" ... when a student cannot complete the course due to "unforeseen but fully justified circumstances." An "I" mark must be requested by the student; the professor must be contacted and agreeable; certain records are kept. Circumstances must be justified -- for "cause" -- ["personal convenience" is not "cause."] If you stop attending class, miss quizzes, miss assignments or so forth toward the end of the semester, you run the risk of a mark of U or F, being disinvited from class, and not being allowed to perform on concert(s) and so forth.
- 3- You must request, in writing, an INC mark and describe the situation; do not assume that I know the reason. If you stop attending class, miss rehearsals, miss performances, you will be disinvited from class, and not be allowed to participate in the future.
- 4- If you fail to turn in your sheet music folio or such, grade is not posted.

- 10 - **GRADE ERROR?** If you believe your posted grade is in error, contact me and we'll discuss it.
- 11 - **POLICIES ON DUE DATES** -
Practice frequently and regularly. Daily & weekly. Rehearsals are for rehearsal, not practice.
- 12 - **FINAL EXAM POLICIES** -
1- The Final Exam is the main last performance of the semester. Normally for Mus 407b there is no meeting during Finals Week. If there does happen to be such as session, do not let others, such as family and friends, make travel plans (especially reservations) for you -- inform people of your obligations.
2- If you miss a performance, certainly without explanation, expect a grade of F to be posted.
3- INC marks are rare, and issued only for cause. (A form, initiated by the student, is required.)
- 13 - **TIME EXPECTATIONS** - Typical expectations at HSU and other universities, on the expected time that students will need to spend studying/doing coursework outside of class, is two hours of time outside class for every hour of lecture/seminar. Music ensembles are not typical! **Practicing an hour a day basically just maintains basic levels of proficiency and conditioning; two hours a day average is needed to steadily improve; and three hours a day (alternating with two hours daily, in a "periodized" athletic manner, for brass), is the norm in order to keep up with the rest of the world - - and to prevail!**
- 14 - **Students with Disabilities:** Persons who wish to request disability-related accommodations should contact the Student Disability Resource Center, 826-4678 (voice) or 826-5392. Accommodations may take up to several weeks to arrange.
- 15 - **Add/Drop policy:** Students are responsible for knowing University policy & procedures for dropping or adding classes.
- 16 - **Emergencies :** Review the evacuation plan for the classroom (posted on orange signs), and review Campus Emergency Preparedness
http://studentaffairs.humboldt.edu/emergencyops/campus_emergency_preparedness.php for information on campus **Emergency Procedures.** During an emergency, information at: 826-INFO or Emergency Conditions
16.1 **Rally Points :** Balabanis Quad if exiting E or S ... **Sundial if exiting West.**
16.2 E.A.P. --- grassy area north of Library Circle (OR, Redwood Bowl if directed).
- **THE BIG 3** --
(1) **EARTHQUAKE:** duck & cover, then go to Rally Point, then go to EAP if directed to.
(2) **FIRE/ALARM:** get out of the room and building calmly, closing doors & windows.
(3) **GUNSHOT/CRIMINAL:** get away ... no Rally Point or EAP ...
- 17 - **Attendance and disruptive behavior:** Students are responsible for knowing policy regarding attendance and disruptive behavior: Class Attendance and Disruptive Behavior
- 18 - **THE FOUR RULES OF ANYTHING!** (from another source. VERY useful!)
1 - **PAY ATTENTION** make sure you do so in class!
2 - **REMAIN CALM** aka : stay cool. (**in rehearsal, be SILENT**)
3 - **ACCEPT WHAT HAS HAPPENED** eg: car accident, mid-term review, etc.
4 - **DO WHAT NEEDS TO BE DONE** universal advice!
- 19 - **ACADEMIC ADVICE !** Below for Music Ensembles. [*Other classes in parenth.]*
A - **Listen with your ears!** (not your mouth...) - **Maintain eye contact.** - **Pay attention.**
B - **Don't allow others to distract you.** - **If others talk (run their mouth) / distract, ignore them.**
C - Have a pencil in rehearsal. Make marks on your music: 1.) reminders; 2.) uses brain cells !
D - **Don't be a flake.** - **Attend all sessions; not OK to "just miss one."** **Every musician in an ensemble is important ... so attend, practice, listen, and study (recordings; books!)**
E - **Asking questions can be an art. Be thoughtful, and helpful.**
- 20 - **PHYSICAL INJURY CONSIDERATIONS in the Brass Studio** (NASM suggestion) -- Injuries to brass players are rare, but consideration includes : 1- hearing impairment due to high db / use of ear plugs;
2- teeth / orthodonture; 3- embouchure (lips); 4- lead in the instruments; 5- lubricants used;
6- brass players historically not at risk of hands, fingers, & neck injury encountered by other musicians, but we will discuss ergonomics and posture.
- 21- **HSU asks to review :** <http://www2.humboldt.edu/academicprograms/syllabus-addendum-campus-resources-policies>

21 - HSU Music Department Ensemble Requirements (effective Fall 2010)

Trumpet, Trombone

General or Composition Option :

- Play trumpet or trombone in an ensemble every semester during which you take studio lessons.
- Complete at least 5 semesters of a conducted Ensemble (Symphonic Band, Humboldt Symphony, or Intermediate Orchestra)
- Complete at least 1 semester of Jazz Combos, A.M. Jazz, or Jazz Orchestra
- Complete at least 1 semester of Chamber Music (preferably) or Jazz Combos, A.M. Jazz, or Jazz Orchestra
- Complete a minimum of 8 semesters of Ensemble participation

Performance Option :

- Play trumpet or trombone in an ensemble every semester during which you take studio lessons.
- Complete at least 7 semesters of a conducted Ensemble (Symphonic Band, Humboldt Symphony, or Intermediate Orchestra)
- Complete at least 4 semesters of Chamber Music, Jazz Combos, A.M. Jazz, or Jazz Orchestra
- Complete a minimum of 12 Ensemble courses.

Music Education Option :

- Complete at least 4 semesters of a conducted instrumental Ensemble (Intermediate Orchestra, Symphonic Band, Humboldt Symphony)
- Complete at least 1 semester of a jazz ensemble
- Complete at least 1 semester of chamber music
- Complete at least 2 semesters of a vocal ensemble
- Complete a minimum of 8 semesters of Ensemble participation

Recommended :

- A conducted ensemble on your instrument every semester
- At least 1 semester of chamber music and/or jazz ensembles
- At least 1 semester of Intermediate Orchestra on a "Families" instrument
- At least 4 semesters of vocal ensembles (with as much variety as possible)

Horn

General or Composition Option :

- Play horn in an ensemble every semester during which you take studio lessons.
- Complete at least 5 semesters of a conducted Ensemble (Symphonic Band, Humboldt Symphony, or Intermediate Orchestra)
- Complete at least 2 semesters of Chamber Music
- Complete a minimum of 8 semesters of Ensemble participation

Performance Option :

- Play horn in an ensemble every semester during which you take studio lessons.
- Complete at least 8 semesters of a conducted Ensemble (Symphonic Band, Humboldt Symphony, or Intermediate Orchestra)
- Complete at least 4 semesters of Chamber Music
- Complete a minimum of 12 Ensemble courses.

Music Education Option :

- Complete at least 4 semesters of a conducted instrumental Ensemble (Intermediate Orchestra, Symphonic Band, Humboldt Symphony)
- Complete at least 1 semester of a jazz ensemble
- Complete at least 1 semester of chamber music
- Complete at least 2 semesters of a vocal ensemble
- Complete a minimum of 8 semesters of Ensemble participation

Recommended :

- A conducted ensemble on your instrument every semester
- At least 4 semesters of chamber music and/or jazz ensembles
- At least 1 semester of Intermediate Orchestra on a "Families" instrument
- At least 4 semesters of vocal ensembles (with as much variety as possible)