

MUSAP 210 BRASS TECHNIQUES
University of Washington – 2015-2016 Academic Year

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OVERVIEW:

To be a music teacher is to be a jack of all trades. In this course you will learn basic pedagogy for all brass instruments, including but not limited to: parts and assembly, embouchure, hand position, articulation, fingerings, characteristic tone, tuning, and recommended equipment. You will also choose trumpet or trombone as your primary brass instrument of study in order to transfer the pedagogy to practical use and to help you understand the frustrations of brass instruments and their solutions. Emphasis will be heavily on learning how to teach brass instruments as you learn to play. You will also compile a resource binder throughout the course.

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

This class has been designed to prepare you to teach any of the brass instruments and understand the skills and challenges of playing one of them. In order to do so, you will:

- Examine basic technique and fingerings of all brass instruments;
- Apply the abovementioned to one specific instrument (trumpet or trombone);
- Practice teaching this material in class, as well as preparing to teach techniques applicable to the ensemble setting;
- Identify successful habits and potential obstacles of brass playing;
- Review and evaluate literature appropriate for use in a variety of settings;
- Construct a resource binder for future use
- Develop playing proficiency on your specified instrument including embouchure, tone, fingerings, and articulation

GENERAL INFORMATION

- This is an interactive, experience-based course. Learning can only happen if you are present and prepared for the class meetings. This means that you will be expected to practice in order to develop playing proficiency on your chosen instrument.
- Assignments are due at the beginning of the class meeting on the due date unless otherwise stated. Late assignments will receive a 1-point deduction for each calendar day late beginning at the end of the class period. Absence is not an excuse.
- All written assignments should be typed and checked thoroughly for spelling, grammatical and structural errors. Notated musical materials should be in the neatest of manuscript or generated

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by a notation program. Assignments not meeting a high standard of presentation will be returned for revision and re-submission.

Week	Topics	Homework
1	Parts & assembly, embouchure, hand position, breathing	
2	Articulation, fingering charts	
3	Harmonic series, fundamental exercises	
4	Quiz (wk. 1-3), duets	
5	Duets cont., tuning, pitch tendency	
6	Care & maintenance, recommended equipment/accessories	
7	Brass parts band literature, solo repertoire	
8	Quiz (wk. 4-6), common student obstacles/solutions	
9	Brass ensembles, reference recordings, review for final	
10	Solo playing test, final exam	