Course Syllabus
Music 131.1: Brass Techniques
Lawrence Wright
Music Center
Hours by appointment

GOAL OF COURSE- Brass techniques prepares the student to understand, demonstrate and 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 trumpet, trombone, 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.
3) An understanding of brass pedagogy.
4) The ability to effectively communicate the knowledge gained through course objectives 1 and 2 above.

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 any given excerpt from a first year method book on at least three brass instruments.
3) The ability to function in an elementary level ensemble on a brass instrument.
4) The ability to articulate, verbally and in writing, an intellectual understanding of the fundamental techniques necessary for successful performance on brass instruments.
GRADING
Grading will be based on the instructor's evaluation of the student's achievement in two categories of performance:
1) Written and playing examinations at the end of the study period for each instrument, which will collectively count 60% of the final grade.
2) Weekly playing quizzes on material assigned for practice since the previous playing quiz, plus occasional written assignments, which collectively count 40% of the final grade.

REQUIREMENTS
1) Regular and punctual attendance.
2) Outside self directed practice as needed to complete student competencies.
3) Completion of outside reading assignments.
5) Maintenance of an up to date note book.

TEXTS
1) Accent on Achievement, Horn in F, Book 2
   Reilly and Williams

2) Essential Elements, Bb Trumpet, Book 1
   Rhodes

3) Essential Elements, Bb Trumpet, Book 2
   Rhodes

4) Standard of Excellence, Trombone, Book 1
   Pearson