

# MUAP 1001 – 5001-219 Applied Trombone Syllabus

## Fall 2023

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If Texas Tech University campus operations are required to change because of health concerns related to the COVID-19 pandemic, it is possible that this course will move to a fully online delivery format. Should that be necessary, students will need to have access to a webcam and microphone for remote delivery of the class. Additionally, students will need to have access to

- Flipgrid
- Audacity
- Headphones

**Communication Policies:** Most communication, other than in person or posted announcements, will be done via e-mail, phone or posted.

- **Email Guidelines:** Students are expected to check their TTU Email accounts frequently. The TTU Email Network is the primary means of official communication. When a reply is requested by Mr. Decker, response is expected **within 48 hours**.
- **Cell Phone Usage:** It is further agreed that students will not engage in any cell phone usage during class. All cell phones must be set to silent during lessons/class. **Unauthorized use may result in a point deduction for that class period.**

### **Course Information**

- Course Number: MUAP 1001 – 4002-219
- Meeting Place: Room 003; Classes scheduled by appointment – each class will be 50 minutes in length.
- Labs: Studio Class, Tuesdays, 5:00 – 5:50
- Prerequisites: Current Membership in Iota Tau Alpha, Trombone Service Fraternity
- Textbooks and Workbooks assigned individually.
- Supplies needed: Trombone in good working condition, **straight mute, breath builder, breathing bag**, Practice Journal, “Intonation Repair Tool”
- Metronome and recording device- apps can be used for these purposes.
- Face Coverings; Face coverings are optional, recommended and welcome.
- Bell Covers: You may use a bell cover if you wish. The acquisition of bell covers is the student’s responsibility.

**Virtual Platforms:** Students are expected to have access to and monitor the following sites:

- [www.flip.com](http://www.flip.com) – lesson and studio class recording submission
- [www.jamestdecker.com](http://www.jamestdecker.com) – lesson notes summary and study resources
- [www.blackboard.ttu.edu](http://www.blackboard.ttu.edu) – Applied Lesson Portal – syllabi, assignment specifics, announcements and web site listing

**Class Schedule:** Lessons will begin on the first day of classes, Thursday, August 24<sup>th</sup>. Studio classes will take place on a weekly basis, beginning on Thursday, August 29<sup>th</sup> at 5:00pm and continuing through Tuesday, December 5<sup>th</sup>.

**TTU Academic Calendar:**

[2023-2024 Official Academic Calendar | Office of Official Publications | Academic Calendars | Official Publications | TTU](#)

**Course Purpose:**

The purpose of this course is to help students become more technically and musically advanced instrumentalists on the trombone. The secondary purpose is to familiarize the student with styles of music, artists of both the tenor and bass trombones and the proper performance approach as soloist and in ensembles of various sizes and styles.

**Course Modes of Delivery:** Applied lessons and the delivery of information may take place in up to three different formats: in person learning, virtually through Zoom or an equivalent video conferencing technology, or, on rare occasions, asynchronously. Further details are outlined in the **Applied Trombone Policies and Procedures**, referred to later in this syllabus.

**Course Expectations:**

**Pedagogical Knowledge:** Upon completion of this course, students will demonstrate a fundamental understanding of the pedagogy of their performance medium.

**School of Music Performance Attendance Policy:** “All School of Music undergraduate music majors enrolled in applied lessons are expected to experience a broad range of repertory through attendance at the many performance events offered each semester. Examples include recitals, guest artist concerts, ensemble concerts, chamber music concerts, opera and music theatre productions, Lubbock Symphony Orchestra, Presidential Lecture and Performance Series events, and the like.”

- Students will be expected to attend 2 Large Ensemble Concerts, 2 Chamber Music Concerts, 3 of other various concerts during the semester. A brief written summary and a scan of the program attended must be submitted to earn credit for each event.
- Further details can be found on the following document: [PDF Concert.Attendance.Fall.2023.pdf](#)

**Required Event Attendance:** Students will be required to attend all studio sponsored events, such as faculty recitals, guest artist recitals and masterclasses, and studio member degree recitals. Absences from Required Events must be requested in advance to have the opportunity to be excused. A 200 or more-word synopsis of the event will be required to receive full attendance credit.

- **The List of Required Studio Sponsored Events can be accessed by clicking on the following link:** [Events | School of Music | TTU](#)
- **Carol of Lights is a required event and will be accounted for accordingly.**

- Events may be added to this list with greater than 3 weeks' notice.

Details of all events policies can be found here:  [Concert.Attendance.Fall.2023.pdf](#)

**Sight Reading.** Upon completion of this course, students will demonstrate the ability to sight read at a level of skill relevant to professional standards for the particular music concentration.

### Expected Learning Outcomes\*\*

Upon Completion of the Course, the student will be able to:

- Perform as a trombonist in a wide variety of styles and ensemble contexts.
- Understand how to critically assess themselves and other instrumentalists to help themselves and others in the studio to achieve higher artistic levels.
- Create efficient and effective practice sessions.
- Demonstrate the ability to sight read at a level of skill relevant to professional standards for the particular music concentration.
- Demonstrate a fundamental understanding of the pedagogy of their performance medium.

### Methods of Assessment of Learning Outcomes

- Weekly lesson assessment and grading:
  - ✓ **Level of preparation**, as determined by the instructor, for each assignment.
    - **Students must be warmed up before their lesson no matter when the lesson takes place.**
    - **The student must have all materials, including music, breathing devices and accessories at hand.**
    - The student must demonstrate the study of assigned readings, PDF's or videos.
  - ✓ **Random in-lesson** assessments to measure learning of reading assignments, videos or concepts taught in previous lessons.
  - ✓ Level of competency and improvement as demonstrated through technical fundamental assessment, etudes, solos, and, in some cases, excerpts.
  - ✓ The Applied Lesson Grading Template for undergraduates can be found by clicking the following link:  
<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1TTTZFO5kmgp7mW4Hyi6060M2OMr1Z-5m0uj0PvowfVs/edit?usp=sharing>
  - ✓ Grading adjustments
    - Inadequate warm-up prior to lesson – 10% grade deduction for that lesson
    - Missing materials – 10% grade deduction for that lesson
    - Non-completion of study assignments – 10% grade deduction for that lesson
- Attendance of significant concerts/recitals
- Participation in chamber music, trombone choir and/or trombone ensembles
- Progress as shown through jury, recital, or solo performances.

## Evaluation and Grading Criteria

**A Jury/Recital Grade of 70 or above is required to pass the course. The grade of the jury/recital will be the final grade for the course if it is below 70. If the grade is 70 or above, the following grading formula will apply:**

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- 40% Lesson Attendance, Preparation and Punctuality/
- 10% Morning Routine Attendance and Participation
- 10% Technical Assignment Completion -grading details: [Technical.Fall.2023.doc](#)
- 10% Non-Studio Event Attendance – grading details: [PDF Concert.Attendance.Fall.2023.pdf](#)
- 30% Recital/Jury Exam Performance
- **A = 92 – 100, A - = 90 – 91.9; B+ = 88 – 89; B = 82 – 87.9; B - = 80 – 81.9; C+ = 78 – 79; C = 72 – 77.9; C - = 70 – 71.9; D+ = 68 – 69.9; D = 62 – 67.9; D - = 60 – 61.9; F < 60**

### Grade Adjustments:

Anyone who does not attend a Required Studio/ITA Sponsored Event or submit a make-up assignment for that event will have **10 points deducted from their final grade.**

Anyone who does not participate in an all-trombone ensemble will have **10 points deducted from their final grade.**

### Recital Hearings

All undergraduate degree recitals require a recital hearing, normally held two to three weeks before the recital date. The hearing panel will consist of three faculty members from the student's area of study with a majority vote required to pass. Each area and studio have specific requirements and policies for the hearing and students should consult their course syllabus (MUAP 3190 for Junior Recitals, MUAP 4190 for Senior Recitals) or the course instructor for complete information.

### Juries

All music majors enrolled in Applied Music must pass jury examinations as prescribed by the faculty of their division. Students should consult their Applied Music course syllabi or instructors for complete jury requirements. Normally, all music majors will perform either a jury or degree recital in each semester of Applied Music enrollment

### Class Attendance

- ✚ **Lesson Absences:** Every private lesson is considered an appointment between two individuals. Students are expected to contact the instructor in **advance of their scheduled lesson time** to let him know that they will be absent from a lesson. The expected mode of notification is email. For an absence to be excused, the student must notify the instructor in advance and the absence must be due to illness or injury, death in the family, the observance of a religious holy day, or official university business (choir tour, band trips, etc.)

1. **Your personal health and safety are of our greatest concern. If you are not feeling well, please contact your instructor via email and let him know of your illness. In this case, the modality of the lesson may be switched to virtual, using Zoom, FaceTime, or Google Duo.**
2. **Lessons cancelled by the student will not be made up.**
3. **Lessons cancelled by Mr. Decker, or the Instructor of Record may be made up, provided that the student requests and schedules the lesson with the instructor.**
4. **Everyone is expected to have at least 12 graded lessons on record.**
5. **A student may receive a zero for not notifying the instructor of an absence in advance of a scheduled lesson.**

✚ **Tardiness to Lessons:** Tardiness for lessons will be considered when issuing the daily lesson grade

✚ **Performance/Studio Class Attendance:** Performance classes will be factored into the weekly lesson grade of the student.

- **Lateness – Deductions for lateness will be made at the discretion of Mr. Decker**
- **Unexcused absences from Performance/Studio Classes will result in a 10 point deduction from the student’s weekly applied lesson grade.**
- **To access the performance class schedule, click on the following link:**  
<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1o6ukueZQQ5sfEovUxzIPKjYrw2gJWc0L0lii-39JCTo/edit?usp=sharing>

**Applied Trombone Policies/Procedures: Students need to familiarize themselves with the Applied Trombone Policies/Procedures document [Trombone Policies.Procedures.F23.doc](#) which gets into greater detail as to day-to-day expectations of members of the Trombone Studio.**

*\*\*Course outcomes for non-Core Curriculum courses are determined by the faculty member and must be listed along with the means that will be used to assess them. New faculty should consult their faculty mentor or other senior faculty for assistance in developing appropriate course outcomes and assessments.*

**Absence due to officially approved trips-**The Texas Tech University Catalog states that the person responsible for a student missing class due to a trip should notify the instructors of the departure and return schedule in advance of the trip. The student may not be penalized and is responsible for the material missed. (p. 48)

*\*\*Course outcomes for non-Core Curriculum courses are determined by the faculty member and must be listed along with the means that will be used to assess them. New faculty should consult their faculty mentor or other senior faculty for assistance in developing appropriate course outcomes and assessments.*

**Please refer to the following Texas Tech University Operating Policies and Procedures (OP) for further information.**

<http://www.depts.ttu.edu/opmanual/>

**Links to Required and Recommended Syllabus Language:**

<https://www.depts.ttu.edu/tlpdc/RequiredSyllabusStatements.php>

<https://www.depts.ttu.edu/tlpdc/RecommendedSyllabusStatements.php>