

# PERCUSSION ENSEMBLE SYLLABUS - FALL 2017

Department of Music | College of Fine Arts and Communication  
University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point

## MUSIC 138/238/338/438

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**Instructor:** Professor Brian Baldauff

**Class Time:** T/TH 3:30-4:45

**Office:** NFAC 316

**Credit Hours:** 1

**Phone:** 715-346-2459

**Class Location:** NFAC 241

**Email:** brian.baldauff@uwsp.edu

**Office Hours:** See posted faculty schedule or by appointment.

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### COURSE DESCRIPTION

Rehearsals will be utilized for instruction in both percussion performance techniques and chamber percussion skills encompassing the various styles of the avant-garde, standard works, marimba band, commercial/jazz transcriptions, arrangements, and world percussion. Participating membership and exact instrumentation will vary according to the specifications of each work studied and/or performed.

### COURSE OBJECTIVES

The percussion ensemble provides the percussion student, through rehearsal and performance activities, a chamber ensemble experience comprised of a wide range of repertoire and performance mediums. Development of chamber ensemble skills is at the core of the course objectives, in addition to gaining knowledge of selected percussion ensemble repertoire. The student should develop an understanding of and an ability to apply appropriate and/or correct performance techniques upon all pertinent percussion instruments, many of which are not utilized in any other ensemble. Individual organizational skills and stage presence will be subject to review and examination as necessary.

### REQUIRED EQUIPMENT

- The student is responsible for his or her own musical performance needs regarding sticks, mallets, black towels, and other paraphernalia.
- No text will be required.
- UWSP or the instructor will provide all music. All music and its physical condition are the direct personal and financial responsibility of the student.
- Attire for all UWSP percussion ensemble performances will be one of two options: 1) concert black (black pants and black dress shirt) or 2) black pants and solid color shirts. Both options require black shoes AND black socks. Females are allowed to wear black dresses, or can wear pants. The instructor reserves the right to change the dress code and/or revoke the choice of any student. If you are wondering if something is acceptable, it probably isn't.

## EVALUATION PROCEDURES

In general, subjective assessment will be made by the instructor regarding preparation, performance competency, attitude, and attendance. More specifically, evaluation criteria will be based upon, but not limited to, the following:

Grade Categories	Description of the Requirements	Weight
Rehearsal Preparation	<u>Practice individual parts outside of rehearsal.</u> All ensembles require concentrated individual preparation. The quality of any ensemble is only as good as the weakest individual performance.	35%
Rehearsal Set-Up	Arrive a MINIMUM of 30 minutes ahead of rehearsal times for set-up and warm-up. The conductor's downbeat will take place at the designated rehearsal time. Preparations for rehearsal must be complete by this time. Proper warm-up on all instruments to be played is very important and is considered the responsibility of each member.	10%
Performance in Rehearsal	All ensemble members should always be totally prepared; all instruments in working order, and properly tuned. All mallets and paraphernalia are the responsibility of the performer, as are pencils, music markings, auxiliary equipment, tuning equipment, etc. All talking in rehearsals should pertain only to immediate ensemble requirements.	25%
Special Requirements	Designed multiple set-ups are the responsibility of each performer. Diagram when necessary and try to be consistent in set-ups. (It is a good idea to recheck for possibilities of improved set-ups as the music becomes more familiar and comfortable.) Individual set-ups are first priority, but offer to help individuals with larger or more complex set-ups.  Maintain detailed lists of all needed equipment and mallets for each work to be performed. Do not find yourself in performance with instruments or mallets missing.	10%
Concert Performance and Equipment Moving	Arrive at set times to:  1. Move/Load Equipment 2. Set-Up Carefully 3. Help Others 4. Then Warm-Up a Little (after everyone is set)  Active and full participation returning and putting equipment away is <b>required</b> .	20%

## ADDITIONAL POLICIES

- Attendance and Participation: **Attendance is MANDATORY.** Any unexcused absences will lower your **final letter grade by one full letter** for each absence. An unexcused absence from a concert or dress rehearsal will result in a grade of F for the semester.  
If an excused absence is necessary, make sure that:
  1. You email Mr. Baldauff at least 24 hours in advance.
  2. The folder with your music arrives at the rehearsal.
  3. A competent substitute replaces the absent player, if possible, and this player has the appropriate mallets, instruments, and knowledge of the necessary set-up.
- Concert Dates: The dates for the 2 fall concerts are **Thursday, October 26th and Thursday, December 14th, both at 7:30 pm.** The dress rehearsals will take place on **Wednesday, October 25th and Wednesday, December 13th, beginning at 6:00 pm.** It is your responsibility to keep these dates open and not accept conflicting commitments. If additional performances are scheduled throughout the semester, they will be discussed and posted. Every attempt will be made to accommodate the schedules of the members. It is the performer's responsibility to make every effort to attend all additional rehearsals and performances.
- Attend all rehearsals and concerts. Do not accept commitments that conflict with scheduled rehearsals and concerts. Percussion ensemble is chamber music that requires careful balance of parts and an understanding of the moment-by-moment role and function of each individual part. This can only be accomplished by the prepared presence of all ensemble members.
- Part Assignments: Every effort will be made to distribute parts fairly with regard to the performance abilities of each member of the ensemble. Part assignments will also be made with recognition of the individual potential for personal and musical success and needs for growth. Part assignments can and will be reassigned when preparation criteria are not met within a reasonable period of time.

## TECHNOLOGY AND COMMUNICATION

Technology	Expectations for Use
<b>Email and Mobile (text) Communication</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Your UWSP email address will serve as the primary source of email contact. Please plan to forward this account if you are using another email client.</li> <li>• Occasionally, communication will need to happen through text messaging. Please be sure that your mobile information is correct on the studio roster and follow general principles of etiquette regarding time of day and reasonable amount.</li> </ul>

Technology	Expectations for Use
<p><b>Basecamp and Microsoft OneDrive</b></p>	<p>All students are expected to download these apps to their mobile devices and personal computers. Please visit <a href="http://www.basecamp.com">www.basecamp.com</a> to find the appropriate download. This software will be used to communicate meeting times, and as an online forum for scholarly discussion and organizational planning. OneDrive can be found through the Office suite of apps available for free through the University. Visit your myPoint page for access. Here is a general breakdown of use:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Basecamp will be used as a studio communication tool. Rehearsal and meeting schedules will be communicated and decided through discussions and posts. All pertinent studio documents will be stored on this site.</li> <li>• OneDrive will be used for sharing lesson reports and audio recordings of lessons. Students might be asked to share audio or video recordings prior to their lesson.</li> </ul>

### ADA STATEMENT AND INFORMATION

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal law requiring educational institutions to provide reasonable accommodations for students with disabilities. For more information about UWSP's policies, visit: <http://www.uwsp.edu/disability/Pages/facultylawAndPolicy.aspx>

If you have a disability and require classroom and/or exam accommodations please register with the Disability and Assistive Technology Center at the beginning of the course and then contact me. I am happy to help in any way that I can. For more information, please visit the Disability and Assistive Technology Center, located on the 6th floor of the Learning Resource Center (the Library). You can also find more information here: <http://www.uwsp.edu/disability/Pages/default.aspx>

### ACADEMIC HONESTY AND INTEGRITY

Academic integrity is central to the mission of higher education in general and UWSP in particular. Academic dishonesty (cheating, plagiarism, etc.) is taken very seriously. Don't do it! The minimum penalty for a violation of academic integrity is a failure (zero) for the assignment. For more information, see the Student Academic Standards and Disciplinary Procedures section of the Community Rights and Responsibilities document, UWSP Chapter 14. This can be accessed by viewing page 11 of the document at: <http://www.uwsp.edu/dos/Documents/CommunityRights.pdf>.

**\* Please Note, this syllabus may be modified at any time at the discretion of the instructor. Changes will be discussed in lessons, studio class, and/or via email.**