



**University of Iowa
College of Liberal Arts & Sciences
School of Music
David Gier, Director - 132 CSM5
Applied Trombone Lessons - Fall 2012**

Instructor:

Dr. David Gier

Office: CSM 5

Phone: 319.335.1601

david-gier@uiowa.edu

Instructor:

Dr. Jonathan Allen

Office: 3756 UCC

Phone: 319.335.1655

jonathan-allen@uiowa.edu

Teaching Assistant:

Nathaniel Lee

Office: 3732 UCC

Phone: 757.869.9643

nathaniel-lee@uiowa.edu

Prerequisite

Satisfactory audition and approval of the instructor are required for all private trombone instruction.

Course Descriptions

025:056 Lower Level Trombone

025:134 Upper Level Trombone

025:279 Graduate Major Trombone

Students enrolled in these courses (2 semester hours) will receive one 50 minute lesson per week, usually totaling 14 per semester.

025:033 Secondary Performance Instruction for Majors

025:059 Performance Instruction for Non-Majors

Students enrolled in these courses (1 semester hour) will receive one half-hour lesson per week. Dr. Allen strongly recommends that non-majors be enrolled concurrently in an ensemble.

Course content includes trombone performance and pedagogy. Materials are drawn from selected standard solo and study literature, based on the needs and abilities of each student, as determined by the instructor. (See attached "Recommended Course of Study.") Each lesson will include time spent on the student's growth as a performer and as a pedagogue. Areas of inquiry will include musicianship, technical command, stage presence, teaching approaches to fundamental techniques (posture, breathing, embouchure formation and function, slide technique, register development, etc.), and professionalism.

Course Goals

During the course of the semester the student will:

- improve musical perception, technical facility, and expressive capabilities;
- broaden knowledge of repertoire and study materials;
- grow as a performing musician through regular public performances, and;
- learn about a variety of pedagogical approaches, and demonstrate the ability to diagnose technical and musical problems, and then articulate appropriate and effective pedagogical solutions, both in the lesson and in Trombone Seminar.

Grading

The final lesson grade is a compilation of your weekly lesson grade (60%), Seminar grade (20%), and Jury grade (20%). Plus and minus grading is used.

Weekly Lesson Grade Weekly lessons will be graded on the following criteria:

1) Attendance Trombone study requires faithful attendance at lessons and regular practice on given assignments. It is the responsibility of the student to notify the instructor **at least 24 hours in advance** if he or she must miss a lesson due to a conflicting university engagement. Please email, or call. If you are sick on the day of your lesson, please call as soon as you can. Any unexcused absence will result in the deduction of one full letter grade from the final grade. (For example, a final grade of A would be lowered to a B, an A- to a B-, a B+ to a C+, etc.) The instructor is not obligated to make up lessons missed if there is no legitimate reason provided for the absence. Lessons will be made up in the case of illness or an excused absence. If the instructor must miss a lesson because of a professional or personal conflict, the lesson will be made up as soon as possible, at the student's convenience. Calling at the lesson time or just before it asking to reschedule is not acceptable.

2) Preparation and Professionalism Conscientious practice of all assigned study materials and completion of listening assignments will weigh heavily in the weekly grade. Students will be responsible for obtaining required music in a timely fashion and are expected to purchase their own copies of the standard study material and solo

repertoire, including all works performed in public. Being prepared means working daily on fundamentals and assigned music.

In order to calculate the weekly lesson grade, I will ask these questions:

- 1) Has the student worked throughout the week to learn the assigned material?
- 2) Has the student prepared with attention to both technical and musical detail?
- 3) Is the student on time?
- 4) Does the student have all of their materials (i.e. music, mutes, etc.?)
- 5) Has the student marked breaths, decided on phrasing, worked out alternate positions, etc.?
- 6) Has the student done the recommended listening?
- 7) Has the student acquired the assigned materials in a timely way?

3) Investment and Commitment

- 1) Does the student ask questions?
- 2) Does the student show initiative?
- 3) Does the student take advantage of opportunities?

Jury Guidelines and Grading All students enrolled for credit (including those in 025:059) will perform a jury at the end of the semester. It is the student's responsibility to secure the services of an accompanist for the jury, if required by the instructor. Students who perform degree recitals (for credit) during the semester are not required to play a jury. Non-major juries will be held during finals week. Non-majors will be required to play a mid-semester jury, as well. University regulations require that students be allowed to make up examinations which have been missed due to illness, mandatory religious obligations, other unavoidable circumstances, or University-sponsored activities; if you are unable to perform a jury for one of these reasons, you are responsible for contacting the brass faculty in a timely fashion, and scheduling an alternative jury time before the end of finals week.

Proficiency Exams In order to be allowed to enroll in upper level trombone, students must successfully pass a proficiency exam. Proficiency exams are taken as part of a student's jury, normally at the end of the fourth semester. The exam includes excerpts, sight-reading in tenor clef (for tenor trombone players), sight-reading 8vb (for bass trombonists), and scales and arpeggios. Details are available from Dr. Allen.

Seminar Expectations and Grading Seminar provides opportunities for you to perform in front of your peers, receive constructive criticism and encouragement, participate in discussions relevant to trombone performance, and profit from hearing new repertoire, musical ideas and pedagogical approaches. All students are required to contribute to the class discussion! Majors are **required** to attend and participate in the weekly studio class, and all others enrolled in lessons are encouraged to do so as well. All majors are required to perform in seminar twice each semester. Graduate students will be required to present one topic each semester, chosen in consultation with Dr. Allen.

Those presenting recitals are encouraged to use a portion of one seminar prior to the recital date to perform and discuss one of the recital pieces. *Majors who are absent without prior excuse will have their final grade lowered by one-half of a letter grade.* Seminar meets Thursdays, from 12:30 to 1:20 in UCC Chamber Room 2.

In order to calculate your Seminar Performance/Participation Grade, I will ask the following:

1. Has the student prepared properly?
2. If required, has the student secured a pianist, rehearsed adequately, etc.?
3. Does the seminar performance exhibit the result of a sustained effort?
4. Is the student working “at level” with regards to both technique and musical expression?
5. Does the student make observations and offer criticism/commentary?

Additional Studio Requirements

Accompanists It is the student’s responsibility to obtain the services of an accompanist for studio classes, recitals, juries, etc., as required by the instructor, and to coordinate schedules so they can be available for lessons, dress rehearsals, and performances. Those preparing recitals should plan to have the accompanist come to your regularly scheduled lesson time at least one month prior to the recital date. Failure to have accompaniment available for ample rehearsal time, as described above, will result in a re-scheduling of the performance within the semester. If rescheduling is not possible, the performance or jury will be canceled, and the student’s final grade will be appropriately altered.

Required Recital/Event Attendance Your attendance will be **required** at designated peer recitals and guest artist events throughout the semester. These events will be posted.

Recital Recording Policy All students performing degree recitals will be required to have the recital recorded professionally. Two copies should be produced: one copy should be given to Dr. Allen, one copy is for your personal records.

CLAS Teaching Policies & Procedures

Administrative Home

The College of Liberal Arts and Sciences is the administrative home of this course and governs matters such as the add/drop deadlines, the second-grade-only option, and other related issues. Different colleges may have different policies. Questions may be addressed to 120 Schaeffer Hall, or see the CLAS Academic Policies Handbook at <http://clas.uiowa.edu/students/handbook>.

Electronic Communication

University policy specifies that students are responsible for all official correspondences sent to their University of Iowa e-mail address (@uiowa.edu). Faculty and students should use this account for correspondences ([Operations Manual, III.15.2, k.11](#)).

Accommodations for Disabilities

A student seeking academic accommodations should first register with Student Disability Services and then meet privately with the course instructor to make particular arrangements. See www.uiowa.edu/~sds/ for more information.

Academic Honesty

All CLAS students have, in essence, agreed to the College's [Code of Academic Honesty](#): "I pledge to do my own academic work and to excel to the best of my abilities, upholding the [IOWA Challenge](#). I promise not to lie about my academic work, to cheat, or to steal the words or ideas of others; nor will I help fellow students to violate the Code of Academic Honesty." Any student committing academic misconduct is reported to the College and placed on disciplinary probation or may be suspended or expelled ([CLAS Academic Policies Handbook](#)).

CLAS Final Examination Policies

The final examination schedule for each class is announced around the fifth week of the semester by the Registrar. Final exams are offered only during the official final examination period. **No exams of any kind are allowed during the last week of classes.** All students should plan on being at the UI through the final examination period. Once the Registrar has announced the dates and times of each final exam, the complete schedule will be published on the Registrar's web site.

Making a Suggestion or a Complaint

Students with a suggestion or complaint should first visit with the instructor (and the course supervisor), and then with the departmental DEO. Complaints must be made within six months of the incident ([CLAS Academic Policies Handbook](#)).

Understanding Sexual Harassment

Sexual harassment subverts the mission of the University and threatens the well-being of students, faculty, and staff. All members of the UI community have a responsibility to uphold this mission and to contribute to a safe environment that enhances learning. Incidents of sexual harassment should be reported immediately. See the UI [Comprehensive Guide on Sexual Harassment](#) for assistance, definitions, and the full University policy.

Reacting Safely to Severe Weather

In severe weather, class members should seek appropriate shelter immediately, leaving the classroom if necessary. The class will continue if possible when the event is over. For more information on Hawk Alert and the siren warning system, visit the [Department of Public Safety website](#).