



Applied Percussion Lessons

Spring 2026

Course Syllabus

Course Information

Instructor: Tyree Hastings
Course No.: MUAP xx57
Email: thastings@uttyler.edu
Phone: 509.981.8054

Office #: FAC 2220
Office Hours: By Appointment
Meeting Time: TBD
Location: FAC2220

Course Description:

The purpose of applied lessons is to develop a well-rounded musician in the area of percussion. This includes technical development, development of musical expression and interpretation, pedagogical considerations, sight-reading, and stylistic considerations. Additional areas explored could include instrument construction and maintenance, composing and arranging, and repertoire analysis. This will be accomplished through the in-depth study of keyboard percussion instruments, snare drum, timpani, drum set, and excerpts.

Course Objectives:

Upon successful completion of this course, the student will be able to demonstrate the following learning outcomes:

1. Demonstrate proficiency on a variety of instruments through the study of etudes, solos, and orchestral literature
2. Enhance reading at sight on a variety of percussion instruments
3. Analyze, interpret, and discuss a variety of percussion topics
4. Develop sound pedagogical ideas and principles for effective teaching
5. Develop goal setting and planning skills through application
6. Establish a professional portfolio

Required Course Materials:

1. All sticks/mallets required to perform assigned pieces
2. All printed music, assigned repertoire/etudes
3. Pencil
4. Metronome
5. Recording device

Lesson Expectations:

Lessons will take place in FAC2220, the percussion practice module, or FAC2007. Lessons will last 55 minutes. Missed lessons will be made-up if the lesson was missed at the fault of the instructor, or the lesson was an excused absence. Students are expected to practice 2 hours a day. Each semester, we will pick 2 instruments to study. During that semester, we will work to pass off the required materials. The goal is to pass off all materials by the end of your third year. Transfer students will perform an abbreviated curriculum as deemed beneficial. The last year or two will be focused on preparing for your recital and future career. Students are expected to be prepared to start their lesson at their assigned time. Depending on material, you may need to arrive early to set up instruments. All material assigned from the previous week may be covered in each lesson. Sight reading will be performed in each lesson as well. All students have the option to record their lesson.

Preparation and Practice:

Students are expected to practice a minimum of two hours per day with one day off per week. As a student you should schedule your practice sessions as part of your regular schedule and be consistent. You will progress more quickly if you are organized with meaningful and measurable goals in your practice routine.

Studio:

Every week, we will meet as a studio and discuss topics not covered in regular lessons. During this time, students may perform for each other, rehearse in groups, or work to maintain percussion equipment. Attendance at studio times will be considered part of the lesson grade for the semester. Studio time will take place at 12:30 pm on Thursdays.

Recital:

Recital repertoire must be approved by Professor Hastings. The material will consist of literature at an appropriate level for a senior undergraduate percussionist. You must perform on Marimba, Timpani, and snare drum or multi-percussion. You may also choose to perform on vibraphone and/or drum set. One piece must be an ensemble selection.

Materials:

Aside from method books and sheet music, you should collect an assortment of mallets and instruments. You must have a pair of drum set sticks, concert snare sticks, bell mallets, xylophone mallets, a set of four marimba mallets, a set of four vibraphone mallets, a medium pair of timpani mallets, and a staccato pair of timpani mallets. You may want to collect many more pairs of mallets than this to expand your articulation and color palette. If you plan to gig, you will need to acquire your own instruments such as a drum set, concert snare drum, and a tambourine.

Attendance Policy:

Attendance at every lesson is expected. Each student will receive 14 individual applied lessons throughout the semester. 24-hour notice is required if you have to miss your lesson as part of a non-emergency excused absence. If you must be absent, you will be considered excused for the following reasons: Illness, death in the family, or an approved, university sponsored event. The exception to the 24-hour notification would be in the case of an emergency or illness. Any other reasons will be considered an unexcused absence. Each unexcused absence will result in the reduction of your final grade in the course. Three or more unexcused absences will result in an automatic F in the course. **Failing to attend a jury at the end of the semester will result in a failing grade.**

Grading:

Lesson Prep: 60%

Studio Class Participation Thursdays @ 12:30 pm: 20%

Jury: 20%

AI Technology

UT Tyler is committed to exploring and using artificial intelligence (AI) tools as appropriate for the discipline and task undertaken. We encourage discussing AI tools' ethical, societal, philosophical, and disciplinary implications. All uses of AI should be acknowledged as this aligns with our commitment to honor and integrity, as noted in UT Tyler's Honor Code. Faculty and students must not use protected information, data, or copyrighted materials when using any AI tool. Additionally, users should be aware that AI tools rely on predictive models to generate content that may appear correct but is sometimes shown to be incomplete, inaccurate, taken without attribution from other sources, and/or biased. Consequently, an AI tool should not be considered a substitute for traditional approaches to research. You are ultimately responsible for the quality and content of the information you submit. Misusing AI tools that violate the guidelines specified for this course (see below) is considered a breach of academic integrity. The student will be subject to disciplinary actions as outlined in UT Tyler's Academic Integrity Policy.

You can use AI programs (ChatGPT, Copilot, etc.) in this course. These programs can be powerful tools for learning and other productive pursuits, including completing assignments in less time, helping you generate new ideas, or serving as a personalized learning tool. However, your ethical responsibilities as a student remain the same. You must follow UT Tyler's Honor Code and uphold the highest standards of academic honesty. This applies to all uncited or improperly cited content, whether created by a human or in collaboration with an AI tool. If you use an AI tool to develop content for an assignment, you must cite the tool's contribution to your work.