

**TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY-KINGSVILLE**  
**APPLIED PERCUSSION SYLLABUS**

**Course Name and Number:**

Applied Percussion

MUSA 1110,1120,1130,1210,1220,1230,2210,2220,2230,2410,  
2420,3210,3220,3230,3410,3420,4120,4220,4230,4410,4420

**Instructor:**

John R. Fluman, Associate Professor, Percussion

**Course Objectives:**

At the successful completion of each semester, the student will demonstrate significant improvement in the various percussion performance areas studied for his/her level.

Demonstration of this improvement is accomplished through a juried performance exam administered by members of the Music Faculty at the end of each semester of study. The culmination of the successful completion of all Applied Music levels is demonstrated by a Senior Recital of 30-60 minutes. A pre-recital hearing is required and juried by a committee consisting of members of the Music Faculty. After successfully completing the pre-recital hearing, the Music Faculty committee will attend and approve/disapprove the Senior Recital.

1. Development of sight-reading skills on all percussion instruments.
2. Mallet Instruments:
  - a. Scales - two octaves; major, minor
  - b. Vibraphone pedaling and dampening
  - c. Development of 4-mallet technique
3. Timpani - basic tuning and mallet technique
4. Snare Drum - rudimental and orchestral techniques
5. Drum Set - limb coordination and knowledge of basic beats
6. Multiple Percussion - study of the genre as a musical and practical art
7. Practice and perform literature in all areas of percussion.
8. Develop advanced musical skills for practice and pedagogy.

**Contact Information:**

John R. Fluman, Associate Professor, Percussion

Bellamah Music Building, #109

Office Phone: 593-2670

Email: kfjrf00@tamuk.edu

**Office Hours:**

M-F 8:00-9:00 a.m., 4:00-5:00 p.m.

**Required Materials:**

Percussion students are required to purchase their own sticks and mallets for applied lessons and concert band. These are the minimum requirements for books and implements for each level of study. Students are encouraged to purchase additional materials in order to enhance their studies in percussion performance and pedagogy.

MUSA 1110,1120,1130,1210,1220,1230

**Method Books:**

*Portraits in Rhythm* - Anthony Cirone  
*Intermediate Snare Drum Studies* – Mitchell Peters  
*Advanced Snare Drum Studies* – Mitchell Peters  
*Fundamental Studies for Mallets* - Garwood Whaley  
*Fundamental Method for Mallets, Vol. 1* - Mitchell Peters  
*Intermediate Timpani Studies* – Mitchell Peters  
*Marimba: Technique Through Music* – Mark Ford

**Implements:**

2 pairs - medium yarn mallets w/birch handles  
1 pair - staccato timpani mallets  
1 pair - concert snare sticks  
1 pair - xylophone/bell mallets  
practice pad  
metronome  
mallet case or bag

**Additional Recommended Materials:**

*Four-Mallet Method for Marimba* - James Moyer  
*Modern School for Xylophone, Marimba, Vibraphone* - Morris Goldenberg  
*Fundamental Method for Timpani* - Mitchell Peters  
*Alfred's Beginning Drumset Method* - Feldstein/Black  
\*various solos for snare, mallet, timpani

1 pair - wire brushes  
set of triangle beaters  
1 pair - general timpani mallets  
2 pairs - hard yarn marimba mallets w/birch handles  
pitch pipe

MUSA 2210,2220,2230,2410,2420

**Method Books (in addition to above requirements):**

*The Solo Timpanist* - Vic Firth  
*The Solo Snare Drummer* - Vic Firth  
*Masterpieces for Marimba* - Thomas McMillan  
*Recital Solos for Snare Drum* - Garwood Whaley

Implements:

- 2 pair - vibraphone mallets
- 2 pair - soft yarn marimba mallets w/birch handles
- 1 pair - ultra-staccato timpani mallets
- 1 pair - cartwheel (soft) timpani mallets

Additional Recommended Materials:

*Method of Movement for Marimba* - Leigh Howard Stevens

*Instruction Course for Xylophone* - George Hamilton Green

*Advanced Funk Studies* - Rick Latham

*Studio/Jazz Drum Cookbook* - John Pickering

\*additional pairs of keyboard, timpani, vibe, snare, drumset sticks/mallets, method books, solos and recordings.

MUSA 3210,3220,3230,3410,3420

Method Books:

Assigned by Mr. Fluman

Implements:

As needed.

\*additional pairs of keyboard, timpani, vibe, snare, drumset sticks/mallets, method books, solos and recordings.

MUSA 4210,4220,4230,4410,4420

Method Books:

Assigned by Mr. Fluman

Implements:

As needed.

\*additional pairs of keyboard, timpani, vibe, snare, drumset sticks/mallets, method books, solos and recordings.

**Topical Course Outline:**

I. Freshman Level

Daily Routine:

- a. Keyboard: 2 mallet warm-ups, major and minor scales, arpeggios
- b. Snare Drum: PAS Rudiments
- c. Timpani: interval exercises, roll exercises, stroke exercises

Etudes, Technique Assignments:

- a. Cirone - *Portraits in Rhythm*
- b. Whaley - *Fundamental Studies for Mallets*
- c. *Fundamental Method for Mallets*, Vol. 1 - Mitchell Peters
- d. Peters - *Fundamental Studies for Timpani*

Solo Literature:

- Schinstine - *Southern Special Marimba Solos*  
Peters - *Fundamental Solos for Mallets*  
Firth - *The Solo Timpanist*  
Pratt - *14 Modern Contest Solos for Snare Drum*  
Whaley - *Musical Studies for the Intermediate Timpanist*  
Firth - *The Solo Snare Drummer*  
O'Reilly - *Solos for the Percussion Player*  
Class II and III solos from the Texas UIL Prescribed Music List

II. Sophomore Level

Daily Routine:

- a. Keyboard: 2 and 4 mallets warm-ups, major and minor scales, arpeggios, single alternating, double-vertical, single independent
- b. Snare Drum: PAS Rudiments
- c. Timpani: scales and intervals

Etudes, Technique Assignments:

- a. Goldenberg - *Modern Method for Mallets*
- b. Moyer - *Four-Mallet Method*
- c. Peters - *Fundamental Studies for Timpani*
- d. Cirone - *Portraits in Rhythm*
- e. Firth - *The Solo Snare Drummer*
- f. Goodman - *Modern Method for Timpani*

Solo Literature:

- a. Cirone - *Portraits in Rhythm*
- b. Freytag - *The Rudimental Cookbook*
- c. Whaley - *Recital Solos for Snare Drum*
- d. Goldenberg - *Modern Method for Mallets*
- e. Firth - *The Solo Timpanist*
- f. Davila - *Impressions on Wood*
- g. Firth - *The Solo Snare Drummer*
- h. Gipson - *Prayer*
- i. Larson - *Suite Mexicana*

j. O'Reilly - *Solos for the Percussion Player*  
Class I and II solos from the Texas UIL P.M.L.

### III. Junior Level

Daily Routine:

- a. Keyboard: 2 and 4 mallets warm-ups
- b. Snare Drum: PAS Drum Rudiments
- c. Timpani: scale, interval, and stroke exercises

Etudes and Technique Assignments:

- a. Stevens - *Method of Movement for Marimba*
- b. Moyer - *Four-Mallet Method*
- c. Green - *Instruction Course for Xylophone*
- d. Goldenberg - *Modern Method for Mallets*
- e. Cirone - *Portraits in Rhythm*
- f. Firth - *The Solo Snare Drummer*
- g. Goodman - *Modern Method for Timpani*
- h. Friedman - *Vibraphone Technique*
- i. Feldstein/Black - *Alfred's Beginning Drumset Method*

Solo Literature:

Abel - *2040's Sortie*  
Cirone - *Portraits in Rhythm*  
Benson - *Three Dances*  
Beck - *Sonata for Timpani*  
Frock - *Seven Solo Dances*  
Goodman - *Ballad for the Dance*  
Gomez/Rife - *Rain Dance*  
Gomez - *Etude in D minor*  
Gipson - *Monograph IV*  
Molenhof - *Music of the Day*  
Class I and II Solos from the Texas UIL P.M.L.

### IV. Senior Level

Daily Routine:

- a. Keyboard: 2 and 4 mallets warm-ups
- b. Snare Drum: PAS Drum Rudiments
- c. Timpani: scale, interval, and stroke exercises
- d. Drumset - jazz, rock, funk, latin exercises

## Etudes, Technique Assignments:

- a. Cirone - *Portraits in Rhythm*
- b. Firth - *The Solo Snare Drummer*
- c. Albright - *Contemporary Studies for Snare Drum*
- d. Friese/Lepak - *Timpani Method*
- e. Stevens - *Method of Movement for Marimba*
- f. Zeltsman - *4-Mallet Marimba Playing*
- g. Latham - *Advanced Funk Studies*
- h. Pickering - *Studio/Big Band Jazz Cookbook*

## Solo Literature:

Abe - *Frogs*  
Abe - *Michi*  
Gomez - *Gitano*  
Maslanka - *My Lady White*  
Huesgan - *Trilogy for Vibraphone*  
Houllif - *Estudios 1-6*  
Smadbeck - *Rhythm Song*  
Beck - *Three Movements for Five Timpani*  
Bergamo - *Four Pieces for Timpani*  
Beck - *Triptych Motif*  
Freytag - *Rudimental Cookbook*  
Markovich - *Tornado*  
Markovich - *Stamina*  
Goldenberg - *Studies in Solo Percussion*  
Latham - *Advanced Funk Studies*  
*Class I solos from the Texas UIL P.M.L.*

## Grading Scale:

100% - The student has prepared every item assigned and/or shows significant progress with material requiring more than one week to prepare.

90-99% - Most of the assigned material is prepared with some exceptions.

80-89% - Much of the material is prepared but more progress is needed to reach the goals set for the semester.

70-79% - Half of the material is not prepared satisfactorily. Much more effort is needed to accomplish the goals set for the semester

60-69% - Preparation is unsatisfactory and little progress has been made toward goals.

Students who are completely unprepared will forfeit that lesson and receive a grade of "0" for that lesson.

## Final Grade:

Lesson Preparation: 75%

Percussion Jury: 25%

At the successful completion of each semester, the student will demonstrate significant improvement in the various percussion performance areas studied for his/her level. Demonstration of this improvement is accomplished through a juried performance exam administered by members of the Music Faculty at the end of each semester of study.

**Attendance:**

Students are required to attend all lessons. If you are ill or unable to attend, please call me (593-2670) as soon as possible. Forgetting, sleeping in, or studying for another class are not acceptable reasons for missing a lesson. A doctor's excuse may be required if you are ill. Your final grade will be lowered one letter for every unexcused absence. There will be no make-up lessons given for unexcused absences.

**Disability statement:**

Students with disabilities, including learning disabilities, who wish to request accommodations in class, should register with the Services for Students with Disabilities (SSD) early in the semester so that appropriate arrangements may be made. In accordance with federal laws, a student requesting special accommodations must provide documentation of their disability to the SSD coordinator. For more information, call (361) 593-3024 or visit Life Services and Wellness.

**Academic misconduct statement:**

You are expected to practice academic honesty in every aspect of this course and all other courses. Make sure you are familiar with your Student Handbook, especially the section on academic misconduct.

Students who engage in academic misconduct are subject to university disciplinary procedures.

**Forms of academic dishonesty:**

- 1) Cheating: deception in which a student misrepresents that he/she has mastered information on an academic exercise that he/she has not mastered; giving or receiving aid unauthorized by the instructor on assignments or examinations.
- 2) Academic misconduct: tampering with grades or taking part in obtaining or distributing any part of a scheduled test.
- 3) Fabrication: use of invented information or falsified research.
- 4) Plagiarism: unacknowledged quotation and/or paraphrase of someone else's words, ideas, or data as one's own in work submitted for credit. Failure to identify information or essays from the Internet and submitting them as one's own work also constitutes plagiarism.
- 5) Please be aware that the University subscribes to the **Turnitin** plagiarism detection service. Your paper may be submitted to this service at the discretion of the instructor.

**Non-academic misconduct:**

The university respects the rights of instructors to teach and students to learn. Maintenance of these rights requires campus conditions that do not impede their exercise. Campus behavior that interferes with either

- 1) The instructor's ability to conduct the class
- 2) The inability of other students to profit from the instructional program, or

3) Campus behavior that interferes with the rights of others will not be tolerated. An individual engaging in such disruptive behavior may be subject to disciplinary action. Such incidents will be adjudicated by the Dean of Students under non-academic procedures.

**Sexual misconduct:**

Sexual harassment of students and employers at Texas A&M University-Kingsville is unacceptable and will not be tolerated. Any member of the university community violating this policy will be subject to disciplinary action.

**Six-drop policy:**

“If you are a freshman and you are enrolled in college for the first time Fall 2007 or later following graduation from high school, you are affected by this law. Senate Bill 1231 limits the number of courses that you may drop during your undergraduate career to six drops. If you need additional information on Senate Bill 1231 and how it affects you, please contact the Registrar’s Office in College Hall, Room 105.”