



Course Syllabus - Instrumental Lessons of Double Bass  
Prof. Jose Saavedra Diaz  
College of Fine Arts  
Midwestern State University, Fain Fine Arts Center  
**AMUS 1371, 1372, 2371, 2371 & 3371 Section 2**  
Spring 2023

Contact information:

Jose Saavedra Diaz | 940-231-2607 | doublebassjose@gmail.com

Office Hours **online**, by appointment

ZOOM link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/6112273585>

Meeting ID: **611 227 3585**

## Course Goals

Upon successful completion of this course, students will:

1. Demonstrate the ability to understand and successfully apply technical skills on the double bass by
  - a. Demonstrating proper controlled technique in assigned technical exercises
  - b. Demonstrating proper controlled technique in the assigned musical repertoire
  - c. Demonstrate proper controlled technique in the assigned orchestral repertoire
  - d. Develop a solid musical sense of melody and rhythm
  - e. Being proficient at the performance of the double bass on the stage
2. Display appropriate interpretation skills in the preparation and performance of assigned musical repertoire by
  - a. Displaying the ability to memorize assigned repertoire, as applicable;
  - b. Integrating concepts related to musical style and interpretation in the preparation and performance of assigned musical repertoire
  - c. Applying the practice methods learned in lessons

## Required Materials

- Lesson Notebook
- You may need to purchase repertoire and method books during the semester as recommended by the instructor. Some music will be provided by the instructor. Students may purchase music at any music store of their choice. Suggestions for places to purchase music include [www.ovationpress.org](http://www.ovationpress.org), and [www.lemurmusic.com](http://www.lemurmusic.com). **THIS IS EQUIVALENT TO PURCHASING TEXTBOOKS FOR CLASS.**

## Grading

Students enrolled in applied lessons will be graded on the following criteria:

1. The student's weekly attendance and preparation; the practice methods applied during lessons are expected to be strongly reinforced with individual practice.
2. Active participation in extra bass-related activities such as lectures, concerts, recitals, webinars, discussions, studio class (notified in advance), and extra readings is a must to obtain full credit in the class.
3. Final jury performance at the end of the semester.

*If the above criteria are not met, the student's grade will be lowered.*

As music majors, you should spend a minimum of 8 hours per week practicing your instrument. Music minors should spend a minimum of 5 hours per week. More is even better. However, the quantity of practice is not nearly as important as the **quality** of your practice sessions.

A - 100-90%

B - 89-80%

C - 79-70%

D - 69-60%

F - 59-0%

## Lesson Attendance Policies

There is a "no-cut" policy for applied instrumental lessons. Students enrolled in applied lessons are expected to attend all lessons. If a student wishes to cancel a lesson, the teacher may make up the lesson at his/her discretion. Students wishing to cancel a lesson should notify the teacher at least 24 hours in advance (with exceptions of death in the family or serious illness). Students will be dropped and given a WF after three unexcused absences.

To avoid missing a lesson, students are allowed and encouraged to trade times with a colleague, with the instructor's approval. In the event that the instructor needs to cancel, or the student needs a reschedule due to a conflict with an ensemble of the university, an **online** make-up lesson will be scheduled.

Students are expected to show up prepared and warmed up for the lesson and should bring all appropriate music, instruments, and materials. Please knock at your time lesson on the dot.

## Conduct

The instructor expects students to behave professionally and to devote class time to class work. Instances of disruption and inattention may result in a reduction of the in-class work component of the student's grade or being asked to leave. Removal from the classroom will count as an unexcused absence.

## **Student Handbook**

Refer to: [Student Handbook-2021-22](#)

### **Academic Misconduct Policy & Procedures**

Academic Dishonesty: Cheating, collusion, and plagiarism (the act of using source material of other persons, either published or unpublished, without following the accepted techniques of crediting, or the submission for credit of work not the individual's to whom credit is given). Additional guidelines on procedures in these matters may be found in the Office of Student Conduct.

[Office of Student Conduct](#)

### **Desire-to-Learn (D2L)**

Extensive use of the MSU D2L program is a part of this course. Each student is expected to be familiar with this program as it provides a primary source of communication regarding assignments, examination materials, and general course information. You can log into [D2L](#) through the MSU Homepage. If you experience difficulties, please contact the technicians listed for the program or contact your instructor.

### **Change of Schedule**

A student dropping a course (but not withdrawing from the University) within the first 12 class days of a regular semester or the first four class days of a summer semester is eligible for a 100% refund of applicable tuition and fees. Dates are published in the [Schedule of Classes](#) each semester.

### **Refund and Repayment Policy**

A student who withdraws or is administratively withdrawn from Midwestern State University (MSU) may be eligible to receive a refund for all or a portion of the tuition, fees and room/board charges that were paid to MSU for the semester. HOWEVER, if the student received financial aid (federal/state/institutional grants, loans and/or scholarships), all or a portion of the refund may be returned to the financial aid programs. As described below, two formulas (federal and state) exist in determining the amount of the refund. (Examples of each refund calculation will be made available upon request).

### **Services for Students with Disabilities**

In accordance with Section 504 of the Federal Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, Midwestern State University endeavors to make reasonable accommodations to ensure equal opportunity for qualified persons with disabilities to participate in all educational, social, and recreational programs and activities. After notification of acceptance, students requiring accommodations should make application for such assistance through Disability Support Services, located in the Clark Student Center, Room 168, (940) 397-4140. Current documentation of a disability will be required in order to provide appropriate services, and each request will be individually reviewed. For more details, please go to [Disability Support Services](#).

### **College Policies**

Campus Carry Rules/Policies

Refer to: [Campus Carry Rules and Policies](#)

## **Smoking/Tobacco Policy**

College policy strictly prohibits the use of tobacco products in any building owned or operated by MSU TEXAS. Adult students may smoke only in the outside designated-smoking areas at each location.

## **Alcohol and Drug Policy**

To comply with the Drug Free Schools and Communities Act of 1989 and subsequent amendments, students and employees of Midwestern State are informed that strictly enforced policies are in place which prohibits the unlawful possession, use or distribution of any illicit drugs, including alcohol, on university property or as part of any university-sponsored activity. Students and employees are also subject to all applicable legal sanctions under local, state and federal law for any offenses involving illicit drugs on University property or at University-sponsored activities.

## **Campus Carry**

Effective August 1, 2016, the Campus Carry law (Senate Bill 11) allows those licensed individuals to carry a concealed handgun in buildings on public university campuses, except in locations the University establishes has prohibited. The new Constitutional Carry law does not change this process. Concealed carry still requires a License to Carry permit, and openly carrying handguns is not allowed on college campuses. For more information, visit [Campus Carry](#).

## **Active Shooter**

The safety and security of our campus is the responsibility of everyone in our community. Each of us has an obligation to be prepared to appropriately respond to threats to our campus, such as an active aggressor. Please review the information provided by MSU Police Department regarding the options and strategies we can all use to stay safe during difficult situations. For more information, visit [MSUReady – Active Shooter](#). Students are encouraged to watch the video entitled “*Run. Hide. Fight.*” which may be electronically accessed via the University police department’s webpage: ["Run. Hide. Fight."](#)

## **Grade Appeal Process**

Update as needed. Students who wish to appeal a grade should consult the Midwestern State University [MSU Catalog](#).

## **Notice**

Changes in the course syllabus, procedure, assignments, and schedule may be made at the discretion of the instructor.

## **Reference**

Bradetich, Jeff. *Double bass: the ultimate challenge*. Music For All to Hear Inc., 2009.

Brun, Paul. *A new history of the double bass*. 2000. Villeneuve d'Ascq: P. Brun Productions.