



Course Syllabus: Low Brass Chamber Ensemble **College of Fain**

Contact Information

Instructor: Christopher VIVIO
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Course Description

To introduce students to new chamber music literature, and to learn how to rehearse and to perform in small ensembles. To play in a chamber music ensemble effectively takes both individual and group practice time. It is necessary not only to have your part prepared, but also to listen carefully to the other players.

Course Outcomes

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

1. Gain performing experience with a brass choir or small brass ensemble (trio, quartet, quintet).
 - *Assessment Measure(s): Rehearsals and public concerts*
2. Develop familiarity with brass choir and small brass ensemble literature.
 - *Assessment Measure(s): Rehearsals and public concerts*
3. Resolve technical and non-technical problems with the performance of brass choir and small brass ensemble music.
 - *Assessment Measure(s): Rehearsals and public concerts*
4. Develop personal musical expression and satisfaction.
 - *Assessment Measure(s): Rehearsals, concentrated study and public performance*

Student Handbook

Refer to: [Student Handbook](#)

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Dishonesty: Cheating, collusion, and plagiarism (the act of using source material of other persons, either published or unpublished, without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 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](#)

Moffett Library

Moffett Library provides resources and services to support student's studies and assignments, including books, peer-reviewed journals, databases, and multimedia materials accessible both on campus and remotely. The library offers media equipment checkout, reservable study rooms, and research assistance from librarians to help students effectively find, evaluate, and use information. Get started on this [Moffett Library webpage](#) to explore these resources and learn how to best utilize the library.

Grading

Final grades will be based on the following criteria:

- **Attendance:** Consistent and punctual attendance at all scheduled rehearsals and performances is required.
- **Attitude:** A professional and collaborative attitude, demonstrating preparation and a willingness to contribute positively to the ensemble.
- **Achievement:** Demonstrated musical proficiency, progress, and preparedness in rehearsals and performances.

Outline of Topics

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- **A. Small Ensemble Participation:** The student will gain performing experience with a brass choir or small brass ensemble (trio, quartet, quintet), a foundation for any future efforts for any musician.
- **B. Brass Choir and Small Brass Ensemble Literature:** The student will develop familiarity with the best music literature available for brass choir and small brass ensembles.
- **C. Technical Development:** The student will gain an awareness of technical and non-technical problems with the performance of brass choir and small brass ensemble music with the intent of preparing the student for a similar teaching experience.
- **D. Musical Development:** The student will have the opportunity for personal musical expression and satisfaction through concentrated study, rehearsals, and public performance.
- **E. Public Performance:** The student will synthesize the development of musical and technical skills through literature to present a public concert.

AI Policy

We recognize that there are a variety of AI programs available to assist writers. AI programs are not a replacement for human creativity, originality, and critical thinking. Writing is a craft that you must develop over time to develop your own individual voice as a writer. However, within limited circumstances, and with proper attribution, AI programs may be used as a tool.

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 an 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 WATC. 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 prohibit 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 as 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 the 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.