

**Texas A&M University – Commerce**  
**Department of Music**  
**Percussion Ensemble/Steel Band Syllabus**  
**MUS 100 – 012**

**Spring 2006 – Brian Zator, Director**

Brian\_Zator@tamu-commerce.edu

886-5299 – Room 125

Office Hours: Monday-Friday 9:00-10:00

P.E.: Tuesday & Thursday 2:00-3:30

Steel Band: Monday 6:40-8:00

**Purpose**

The purpose of percussion ensemble is to provide percussion students an opportunity to perform in professional level ensembles focusing on various styles of music and types of ensemble settings. Repertoire will consist of popular, historical, world, contemporary, and traditional musical styles. Students will also participate in ensembles ranging in size from 3 to 12 players in a group.

World music will be a primary focus in the Steel Drum Band and occasionally in the contemporary percussion ensemble. Members of the steel band will also be responsible for improvisation solos over basic chord progressions in various styles.

**Rehearsals**

Students will have opportunities to perform in ensembles of varying sizes, instruments and personnel. Rehearsals will allow student's time to listen for ensemble balance, articulation, timing and other general ensemble considerations. Students are expected to have their music prepared prior to rehearsal. Please check the bulletin board by room 128 for the rehearsal schedule.

The contemporary ensemble will rehearse on Tuesday and Thursday, while the steel band will rehearse on Monday. Additional rehearsals (dress rehearsal) may be scheduled, depending on the upcoming performance. Advanced notice will be given via the bulletin board and/or announcements at rehearsals.

**Sectionals**

Sectionals might be scheduled outside of the regular rehearsal times or during regular class times. If they are scheduled outside of class, advance notice and confirmation will be required of the instructor and students. Student-run sectionals can be scheduled at any time and are encouraged for individuals needing additional ensemble assistance.

**Requirement**

All students must become a member of the Percussive Arts Society by March 10<sup>th</sup>. This membership is required by PAS for the "Call for Tapes" competition. Membership applications can be picked up from Mr. Zator and "e-PAS" memberships fulfill this requirement.

## **Grading**

Each student's grade will be based on their preparation of his/her assigned parts during rehearsals and attendance.

Each student must submit any absence request at least **one week in advance**, except for emergencies, by **e-mailing** Mr. Zator. In the event of an absence, the student should **arrange for a sub** that is capable of contributing to the rehearsal in a positive manner.

Attendance:   missing 2 rehearsals – drop one letter grade  
                  missing 3 rehearsals – drop two letter grades  
                  missing 1 rehearsal not following procedure – drop one letter grade  
                  missing 2 rehearsals not following procedure – drop two letter grades  
                  missing any performance – grade of F

## **Events** (other events can be added throughout the semester)

### Percussion Ensemble:

Feb. 26, 27, 28 / March 2, 3 – Wind Ensemble & Percussion Ensemble Joint Concerts  
March 29, 30 – Percussion Ensemble Tour  
April 6, 7:30 pm – Percussion Ensemble concert at TAMU-C  
May 2 – Eisemann center concert  
May 4, 7:30 pm – Percussion Ensemble & Wind Ensemble joint concert at TAMU-C

### Steel Band:

February 18 – University Day  
March 30 – joint performance with Cedar Hill steel band  
April 6, 7:30 pm – Percussion Ensemble concert at TAMU-C  
May 27 – Paris HS prom (tentative)

## **Concert Attire**

All members of the Percussion Ensemble will wear black shoes, black socks, black pants, black belt, and a long-sleeve, button down, colored shirt with a collar. There will be several performances with an all-black attire.

Steel band members will wear a Hawaiian shirt, white t-shirt, and either khaki pants or khaki shorts, depending on the weather.

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## **University Mission Statement**

*Texas A&M University-Commerce nurtures and educates for success through access to academic, research, and service programs of high quality.*

## **Music Department Mission Statement:**

*The Music Department of Texas A&M University-Commerce promotes excellence in music through the rigorous study of music history, literature, theory, composition, pedagogy, and the preparation of music performance in applied study and ensembles to meet the highest standards of aesthetic expression.*

## **University Policies:**

*Students requesting accommodations for disabilities must go through the Academic Support Committee. For information, please contact the Director of Disability Resources & Services, Halladay Student Services Building, Room 303D, (903) 886-5835.*

*All students enrolled at the University shall follow the tenets of common decency and acceptable behavior conducive to a positive learning environment (Student's Guide Handbook, Policies and Procedures, Conduct).*