



Guidelines for the Study of Tuba and Euphonium

(Syllabus for Tuba and Euphonium Private Lessons)

J.D. Salas

Instructor of Tuba and Euphonium Studies

Stephen F. Austin State University

Rm. 259 – Tom & Peggy Wright Music Building

Office: 936-468-4107

salasjd@sfasu.edu

This information is meant to be an outline of what is expected as a tuba/euphonium student at Stephen F. Austin State University, and also serves as a contract between the student and professor regarding the grading policies of this course.

Required Equipment

- Original copies of all music, if available.
- Metronome (i.e. Seiko DM-10 or Seiko DM-20)
- Battery powered tuner (i.e. Boss TU-12H)
- Mouthpiece(s) properly suited to your instrument(s)
- 3-ring Binder with clear sheet protectors, and set of dividers (studio notebook)
- Pocket Music Dictionary

Recommended Equipment

- Your own tuba(s) or Euphonium
- Briefcase for carrying music, metronome and equipment

At the beginning of each semester and as often as necessary thereafter, specific goals for direction and improvement will be discussed and established with each student. The material assigned reflects individual technical and musical proficiency as well as necessary areas of improvement. Lesson assignments will be primarily drawn from the following areas:

- Scales and Arpeggios
- Interpretive and Technical Studies
- Performance Repertoire: Solo Literature, Chamber Music Literature, Large Ensemble Literature (Orchestral and Band Excerpts)

Required Texts

The following books will provide the basis of your lesson materials. Additional study material may be required dependant on individual lesson needs. Every student should have all the assigned materials by the third lesson.

Tuba

- Blahzevich, *70 studies for Bbb Tuba Vol. I & II*
- Bordogni, *Bel Canto Studies for Bbb Tuba*
- *Arban's Complete Method for Tuba or Trombone*

Euphonium

- *Arban Complete Method for Trombone*
- Tyrell, *44 Progressive Studies for Trombone*
- Rochut, *Melodius Etudes for Trombone*

Practice Recommendations

A minimum of 3 hours practice time daily is recommended for all undergraduate music majors. Graduate students are required to practice at least 3 to 5 hours per day. It is recommended that you divide your practice requirements into 3 separate sessions and each session should cover every aspect of your lesson assignment.

Practice Journal

Every student is encouraged to maintain a practice journal. This journal should contain a log of each practice session including time rehearsed, and materials practiced. Please refer to the SFA Tuba-Euphonium Studio Website for a Practice Journal Template.

**STUDENTS WILL BE DISMISSED FOR LACK OF LESSON PREPARATION
AND GIVEN A LESSON GRADE OF "F" !!**

Studio Notebook

Each student is expected to provide and maintain a studio notebook. Notebooks will be reviewed periodically and a grade will be issued at the end of the semester. This notebook should be in the form of a three-ring binder with dividers to separate the different sections.

The contents of the notebook are as follows:

- Tuba-Euphonium Studio Syllabus
- Master Class Notes and Handouts
- Programs of Brass & Percussion Recitals and Events
- Lesson Assignment Sheets

Lesson Attendance Policy

It is the responsibility of the student to notify the instructor of an absence at least 24 hours in advance. My number and email address is listed on the first page so there should be no excuses. For each un-excused absence, a student's grade will be dropped 2/3 of a letter grade (i.e. A- to B). The maximum number of un-excused absences may not exceed 3 lessons or else the student will be refused further admission to lessons and receive a failing grade for the semester.

Scale Exam Requirements

Students who have not completed the upper level requirements will take the scale exam at the end of each semester. The scale patterns for the exam will be set at the beginning of the semester and are to be memorized.

There will be an additional Scale Exam beyond what is required by the School of Music. This exam will take place during mid-term week. For students who have successfully completed the upper level requirements the scales covered will include: Maj. in 3rds, 4ths, Whole-tone, Diminished, and Chromatic Scales

Recital Attendance Policy

ALL TUBA & EUPHONIUM STUDENTS ARE REQUIRED TO ATTEND ALL BRASS RELATED ACTIVITIES. NO EXCEPTIONS!!!

Attendance will be taken at each event for a grade. A schedule of events will be posted for your scheduling purposes.

Required Attendance Events for Spring 2008

(To Be Updated as Needed)

Guest Artist Master Class – Dr. Skip Gray, tuba

February 8, 2008

Music Recital Hall

1-3pm

Guest Artist Recital – Dr. Skip Gray, tuba

February 9, 2008

Cole Concert Hall

7:30pm

Senior Music Performance Recital – Trevor Culp, tuba

April 6, 2008

Cole Concert Hall

6:00pm

Studio Performances

All tuba & euphonium undergraduates are required to have one solo performance per semester. This can be fulfilled in the form of a joint recital or studio recital.

Components of the Semester Grade

- Average of weekly lessons, and scale grades 45%
- Lesson, Master Class, Ensemble and Recital Attendance 10%
- Studio Notebook 10%
- Midterm Scale Exam 10%
- Final Jury 25%