

Sam Houston State University

Percussion Ensemble / Steel Band (ENS 118) – Spring 2008

Time and Rehearsal Schedule: Percussion Ensemble (T/TR - 2-3:30pm);

Steel Band (*T - 6:00-9:00pm; 7:00-9:00pm)

John Lane, Assistant Professor of Percussion

Office: MU 224 (office hours by appointment only – see schedule on office door)

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*See Important Performance Dates for explanation.

Objective:

The SHSU Percussion Ensemble and Steel Band provide the percussion student with a chamber ensemble experience unlike any other collegiate performing group. It is within this ensemble that the skills learned in applied study can literally be applied, through rehearsal and performance activities, in a chamber music setting. Through performances of new music, standard literature, historically important works, classical transcriptions, world music, and novelty works the student will be subjected to the most demanding and thorough musical training ever placed on the performing percussionist.

Grading:

Subjective assessments will be based on the following criteria (each section is weighted as 25% of the final grade):

Rehearsal Preparation:

- Parts must be practiced outside of rehearsal. Rehearsal does not substitute for practice.
- Multi-percussion set-ups must be assembled/planned prior to the first rehearsal.
- **Arrive early for rehearsal to set-up. Preparations for rehearsal must be complete before rehearsal is scheduled to begin.**

Attendance and Attitude:

- **Attendance Is Mandatory!** This is a performance-oriented ensemble and depends upon consistent attendance from each member. Only university or medically excused absences will be allowed. Advanced notification is required regarding any possible excused absence.
- **Unexcused absences can result in losing parts. One unexcused absence will lower the grade by one letter.** On the next unexcused absence the student's part will be assigned to another player.
- **A rehearsal schedule will be posted on the percussion board outside 220.**
- Students must possess a positive attitude and must exude professionalism during rehearsals and performances.
- Failure to attend a performance will result in failure of the class.

Performance in Rehearsal:

- All ensemble members should always be totally prepared; all instruments present, in working order, and properly tuned. All mallets and paraphernalia are the

responsibility of the performer, as are pencils, music markings, auxiliary equipment, tuning equipment, etc.

Concert Performance and Moving Equipment:

- Arrive at set times to:
 - A) Move/Load Equipment
 - B) Set-up carefully
 - C) Help others
- Active and full participation of equipment moves is required.

***IMPORTANT PERFORMANCE DATES – Spring 2008**

Steel Band Pedagogy/Rehearsals with Jeff Gleason

- 1) Tuesday, January 29, 6:00 - 9:00 p.m.
- 2) Tuesday, February 5, 6:00 - 9:00 p.m.
- 3) Tuesday, February 12, 6:00 - 9:00 p.m.
- 4) Tuesday, February 19, 6:00 - 9:00 p.m.

Friday, February 22, 8:00pm – Steel Band performs for MTO Coffee House

Wednesday, March 19, 12:00pm – Steel in the Pit, Farrington Pit Stage

Thursday–Saturday, April 16–19 – Contemporary Music Festival Events:

- 1) Friday, April 18 – Panel Discussion: Writing for Percussion (John Lane, Brandon Bell, and Stuart Gerber)
- 2) Saturday, April 19 – 8:30 – 10:30pm – Percussion Ensemble Dress Rehearsal
- 3) Saturday, April 19 – 11:00am – 1:00pm – Stuart Gerber, Percussion Clinic
- 4) Saturday, April 19 – 4:30pm – Faculty Percussion Recital (Lane/Bell/Gerber)
- 5) Saturday, April 19 – 7:30pm – Percussion Ensemble Concert

**Failure to attend the above events will result in failure of the class.*

General Requirements:

- The student is responsible for his/her own musical performance needs regarding sticks, mallets, black towels, etc...
- Music will be provided. Return of all music in original condition is required at the end of the semester. Failure to return music will result in an incomplete for the course until that music is returned (continued failure to return original music will result in the student being financially responsible for that music).
- **DO NOT** come to rehearsal without a pencil.
- Concert Dress: All Black, or as defined for the performance situation.

Americans with Disabilities Act

Student requests for accommodations must be initiated by the student. A student seeking accommodations should go to the Counseling Center and Services for Students with Disabilities (SSD) in a timely manner. Links to other SHSU Policies:

Academic Dishonesty: <http://www.shsu.edu/administrative/faculty/sectionb.html#dishonesty>

Student Absences on Religious Holy Days:

http://www.shsu.edu/~vaf_www/aps/documents/861001.pdf

Students with Disabilities:

http://www.shsu.edu/~vaf_www/aps/811006.pdf