

Fayetteville State University
College of Arts and Sciences
Department of Performing and Fine Arts
MUSI 115- 01 Percussion Ensemble
Fall 2009

I. Locator Information:

Instructor: **Dr. Don N. Parker**

Course # and Name: **MUSI 115-01 Percussion Ensemble**

Semester Credit Hours: **1-credit**

Day and Time Class Meets: **MW 2:00 – 2:50 pm**

Total Contact Hours for Class: **1 hrs.**

Email address: **dparker@uncfsu.edu**

Office Location: **Rosenthal Room 112**

Office hours: **TBA**

Office Phone: **910-672-1253**

The following statement should appear on the first page of each course syllabus:

FSU Policy on Electronic Mail: Fayetteville State University provides to each student, free of charge, an electronic mail account (username@uncfsu.edu) that is easily accessible via the Internet. The university has established FSU email as the primary mode of correspondence between university officials and enrolled students. Inquiries and requests from students pertaining to academic records, grades, bills, financial aid, and other matters of a confidential nature must be submitted via FSU email. Inquiries or requests from personal email accounts are not assured a response. The university maintains open-use computer laboratories throughout the campus that can be used to access electronic mail.

Rules and regulations governing the use of FSU email may be found at
<http://www.uncfsu.edu/PDFs/EmailPolicyFinal.pdf>

II. Course Description: This course is designed to offer the student percussionist (music major or non-music major) practical experience in the playing of percussion instruments in a variety of chamber music setting. This course is designed to explore the traditional, contemporary, and world music literature for percussion ensemble. Open to all students following audition and permission of the instructor.

III. Disabled Student Services: In accordance with Section 504 of the 1973 Rehabilitation Act and the Americans with Disabilities Act (ACA) of 1990, if you have a disability or think you have a disability to please contact the Center for Personal Development in the Spaulding Building, Room 155 (1st Floor); 910-672-1203.

IV. Textbook: There is no required text. Music to be performed will be provided by the director according to the student's playing level.

V. Student Learning Outcomes – Upon completion of this course, students will be able to:

1. gain practical experience in the playing of percussion instruments in a variety of musical settings.
2. perform in at least 4 out of 6 major areas of percussion (Snare Drum, Keyboard Percussion, Timpani, Small Percussion (Cym. & Bass Drum), Drum Set, Ethnic Percussion/ Electronic Percussion.
3. improve techniques used to perform mallet, ethnic, and contemporary percussion ensemble literature.
4. observe trends in percussion performance.
5. understand the process necessary to successfully organize, rehearse, and perform in a percussion ensemble.
6. recognize a wide variety of musical styles in the percussion idiom. Student arrangements will be explored once the instructor selects a format.
7. encourage a high performance level, individual responsibility, versatility, and good stage presence. Improvisation will be a high priority in regards to performing.
8. supplement the percussion experiences that are currently offered by the Music Area.

VI. Course Requirements and Evaluation Criteria

Course Requirements

1. All students will be assigned a folder for keeping the music being rehearsed, performed, or read in the ensemble. The folders are to be maintained in an organized fashion. Folders and parts are the responsibility of each individual to whom they were assigned. Players will be charged for missing parts and/or folders.

2. **All students must prepare their parts prior to rehearsal. Remember the scheduled time to meet is for rehearsing not practicing your part! If additional time is needed, plan your schedule ahead of time.**
3. All students are required to attend additional rehearsals when given advance notice of a week. If there are conflicts, please contact the director.
4. All students need to have the equipment and accessories needed for each rehearsal and performance in advance. This will allow for maximizing the rehearsal time and the performance experience.
5. All students are required to dress appropriately for performances as approved by the instructor. This will be adhered to strictly.
6. All students are required to turn in a class schedule and as well as contact information for potential travel and emergencies at the first meeting.
7. **All Percussion majors are strongly encouraged to join the Percussive Arts Society.** This organization is a great source of past, present, and future information in terms of education, music industry trends, and employment opportunities (networking). It pays off to be a part of professional organizations early in your studies.

Grading Scale

The following is the grading scale used for this course, which corresponds with the Fayetteville State University guidelines:

92-100	A
83-91	B
73-82	C
63-72	D
Below 630	F

Class

40% Attendance/Preparation (rehearsals and scheduled sectionals)

40% Performance

10% Equipment Maintenance Grade

(Ensemble & Practice Room Equipment and Instruments)

10% Attitude

Grading in relation to rehearsals and performances:

1. Missed rehearsal may result in a lowered grade in the ensemble.

This is at the discretion of the ensemble director.

2. Unexcused absence from a performance will result in dismissal from the ensemble.

Attendance Policy: Students are required to attend all rehearsals and performances. Additional on-campus and off-campus performances may be scheduled during the semester. All students must be on time for all rehearsals and performances. "On times" means set up warmed up, seated, and ready to play; in other words be early! I realize the difficulty in being warmed up if you have a class immediately before rehearsal, but please understand the importance of "moving quickly" to rehearsal. Please refer to the *Revision of Grades – Student Responsibilities* concerning changes in academic grading policy.

Important Notice: I also suggest that all percussion ensemble members bring a date book to rehearsals and performances for scheduling performance dates (future and last minute opportunities).

Please note: If these evaluation criteria must be revised because of extraordinary circumstances, the instructor will distribute a written amendment to the syllabus.

VII. Academic Support Resources – Use of Blackboard and Fine Resource Lab

VIII. Course Outline and Assignment Schedule

Schedule of Performances for Fall 2009

Rehearsal schedule will be posted weekly with the pieces to be rehearsed. This will allow for the necessary equipment set-up to take place prior to the rehearsal.

Performance dates for the ensemble will be determined prior to beginning of each semester. Any additional performances will be accepted based upon the availability of time and personnel to perform as well as the opportunity the event presents for the students.

1) **Fourth Friday** –TBA

October (tentative) Downtown Fayetteville

2) **Chamber Music Night**

Thursday, Nov. 3, 2009 7:00 p.m. (Seabrook Auditorium)

3) **Open House w/ Office of Student Affairs and Alumni Office or Admissions** TBA

4) **H.S. Recruiting Performance** (TBA)

(E.E. Smith, Westover H.S. Douglas Byrd, 71st High School and others will be consider)

IX. Teaching Strategies

Group rehearsing is the main instructional method. Lecture, demonstration of musical styles, recommended concert performances and master classes, and music listening are also a part of the instructional method.

Note: Students are encouraged to travel to other universities to hear artists or ensembles. Occasionally FSU Faculty will arrange for trips to clinics/concerts depending on the interest and preparation exhibited by students.

X. Bibliography

Available recordings, scores, and reference materials in Fine Arts Resource Library

Available recordings, scores, and reference materials in Charles Chesnutt Main Library