

**Course:** **MU2200–Percussion Techniques**

**Session:** **Winter 2010**

**Credit/Hours:** **3(3-0-0) 45 Hours**                      **Delivery Mode:** Lecture

**Transfer:** AU, AUC, CanUC, ConUC, KUC, UA, UC

**Pre/corequisite:** Ability to read music.

**Instructor:** Geoffrey Whittall; L119; 539-2823; gwhittall@gprc.ab.ca; www.fad.gprc.ab.ca/~Geoff/

**Calendar Description:** This course provides class instruction on percussion instruments with a focus on pedagogical preparation.

**Course Content:** This course will provide music education students with the information and skills required to teach percussion in a school setting. Topics will include general information about percussion, learning how to play and maintain percussion instruments, and ideas about teaching percussion to others. A number of Western percussion instruments will be studied in preparation for sharing the information with students. Sources of information about percussion such as reference works, periodicals, bibliographies, and organizations, will be discussed. This course will also cover administrative considerations that are unique to the percussion section of a (school) band.

There will be a performance exam at the conclusion of each of the segments covered in this course. Through the semester, you will need to show modest proficiency upon snare drum, xylophone/marimba, timpani, drumset, hand drums, and orchestral percussion. You will be required to listen to several recordings of percussion instruments; some very traditional, some ethnic, some avant-garde, and explain what you have heard. Assigned readings will be available on the library shelves, on reserve in the library, or handed out to you. One major paper is due in this course, a project that will help you in future sort your way through the confusing and often misleading advertising that is used in selling percussion equipment

**Evaluation:**

|                                            |     |
|--------------------------------------------|-----|
| Midterm                                    | 15% |
| Performance assessment                     | 25% |
| Quizzes, Listening and Reading Assignments | 15% |
| Term Project                               | 20% |
| Final Exam                                 | 25% |

It is a Fine Arts Department guideline that students will lose 10% a calendar day for submitting projects after the due date. After ten days, a grade of zero (0%) will be recorded. If students fail to complete and submit 85% of the graded requirements of the term mark, they will not be allowed to write the final exam, or complete the course. In such a case, the student will automatically receive a failing grade of F.

**Timeline:** The term project will be due one week before the last day of class.

**Required Materials:** Cook, Gary D. *Teaching Percussion*, 3rd Edition. New York: Schirmer, 2005.  
1 pair of 2B nylon tip wooden drum sticks *or*  
1 pr of nylon tip wooden drum sticks (any size) *and* 1 pr Vic Firth SD1 General drum sticks

**Additional Costs:**

**Attendance:** More than 20% absenteeism may constitute a failure except for medical or extenuating circumstances in which case a doctor's letter may be required.

**Plagiarism:** Plagiarism is cheating. The instructor reserves the right to use electronic plagiarism detection services. See P. 39-51 of the Calendar for more details, and for explanation of many other policies and regulations.

**Reviewed:**