

Classical Bass Performance Studies

Instructor: Tyler Abbott
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Office Hour: Tuesday 1-2pm
Various Course Numbers/2-4 credits

Purpose

The primary focus of Classical Bass Lessons is to prepare the student to be a professional bassist and to study and perform the solo repertoire needed to pass the School of Music's degree requirements. This is will accomplished by studying exercises that develop the student's technique, solo repertoire, and orchestral excerpts.

Lessons

Students will have weekly lessons at a time decided by the student and the instructor. Students registered for 2 credits will receive 30-minute lessons. Those registered for 4 credits will have hour lessons.

Attendance at performance class is required of all students taking lessons, and participation is figured into the student's grade. Class will meet Tuesdays from 2-3:50pm in room 178, except for times that the entire string department is scheduled in Beall Hall, at which time class will meet just after Beall Class gets out. The content and schedule of Performance class is discussed on a separate sheet.

As part of applied string study, several topics of string pedagogy will be addressed in both lessons and performance classes, including but not limited to: teaching the proper right and left hand form to a beginning student, overall body posture including balance and alignment, etude and exercise literature available for the instrument and how it can be used, as well as negative habits to watch for in developing string players.

Required Materials

Metronome, Practice/Lesson Journal (3-ring binder), Tuner, SD Card and USB reader, recording device, Double Bass Technique Primer and Warm-up Workbook by Tyler Abbott. Appropriate excerpt, etude and method books.

Practice Time

The student is required to keep track of his/her practice time, to be figured into their final grade. The student must turn in his/her practice log to the instructor's box (or front desk) on or before the final day of classes. *The practice log must be signed by the student.* Those taking 2 credits and hoping for an "A" are required to practice at least two hours per day, for five days per week; those taking 4 credits, 3 hours. For a 9-week term, the minimum practice requirements are as follows:

Grade	2 credits	4 credits
A	90	135
B	75	108
C	60	90
D	45	68

Lesson Grading

The student will be graded each week as if an assignment was given in an academic class. Grades will be assigned on the instructor's assessment of the progress made toward goals stated in the previous lesson. At the end of the term, the lowest grade will be dropped. **It is the responsibility of the student to contact the instructor in the event that a lesson cannot be made at least 24 hours before the lesson time, or the**

absence will be considered unexcused. Unexcused absences will be assigned 0%. Two unexcused absences in a row or three total in a term will result in a failing grade.

At times, the student will be given “unconventional” assignments such as recording an etude or solo piece, listening to a recording by a specific performer and taking notes, or doing some other type of research. The completion of these tasks is figured into that week’s lesson grade. Students are required to record (audio or video) each lesson and review it before the next lesson.

Please come into each lesson *warmed up* and *in tune* (at A=440). Also, have all of your materials ready when you walk in the door, including your lesson journal.

Lesson Content/Journal

Prior to or on the first meeting of the term, the student is required to fill out the **CLASSICAL BASS STUDIES TERM PROGRESS RECORD AND EVALUATION** and to fill out the **Weekly Assignment Log** to each lesson, along with any other notes or required material, bound in a journal. This journal will reflect the content of lessons by documenting the weekly technical goals and progress made. If the assignments are not written down in the lesson, it is the responsibility of the student to fill them out in the Log. It should be bound, organized chronologically, and quickly accessible.

Evaluation

On the student’s jury (Fall/Spring Term) or last day of classes (Winter Term), the student is to chronologically order his/her **Weekly Assignment Logs** and staple them together, with the **Term Progress Record** as a cover sheet. The student will be evaluated based on the following formula, though the instructor reserves the right to move grades upward if he feels the calculated grade does not reflect the student’s level of progress or commitment. In winter term, when there is no jury or recital, the student’s performance in performance class will take its place.

Lesson Grades	80%
Performance Class Attendance	10%
Jury/ Recital (in F/W) or P.C. (F) Performance	10%

Accompanist Information

The bass studio is assigned an accompanist available to play for master classes, String Area Recitals, and performance class (occasionally). *It is the responsibility of the student to schedule rehearsal time with the accompanist*, preferably during lesson time. The student should contact the instructor with the scheduled time if the student wishes for the instructor to be present at the rehearsal.

OTHER:

Students should be aware that the School of Music and Dance desires to discourage any sort of action that makes an individual feel uncomfortable or unwelcome. Students with concerns related to discrimination, bias, or sexual harassment are encouraged to contact the following office or offices should you wish to report such an incident and get help in resolving the incident.

- *Affirmative Action and Equal Opportunity Office, 474 Oregon Hall, (541) 346-3123*
- *Bias Response Team, 164 Oregon Hall, (541) 346-1139*
- *Conflict Resolution Services, 164 Oregon Hall, (541) 346-0617*
- *Counseling Center, 210 Health and Counseling Center, (541) 346-3227*
- *Student Advocacy, 334 EMU, (541) 346-1141*

If you are registered with the Office of Disability Services, you should make an appointment with the instructor as soon as possible to discuss any course accommodations that may be necessary. To request disability accommodations, register for services at the Office of Disability Services.

- *Office of Disability Services, 164 Oregon Hall, (541) 346-1155*