

**ESU LOW BRASS ENSEMBLE**

**COURSE # 391B/691B**

**Dr. Jeffrey P. Hodapp – Director**

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**Rehearsals: Monday evenings 7:00 – 8:30, BH 134**

**Objective:** The main emphasis of this course is to explore and perform music written specifically or transcribed from other idioms for brass instruments. Due to the size of the brass choir, often only one person will be playing a particular part. Participants are expected to achieve a greater level of independence and to perform at a higher level of artistry than in other ensembles. This type of playing demands individual practice outside of regular rehearsals.

**Outcomes:** Persons participating in this ensemble will expended the requisite effort (practice time) to perform the music correctly and artistically.

**Grading:** As this course meets only once per week, it is imperative that each member attend 100% of the time. Due to our rehearsal schedule, two weeks time may pass between rehearsals on a particular piece of music. If a rehearsal is missed, crucial information will also be missed.

**Grading in this course:** Is based upon the following criteria:

50% - Attendance at rehearsals and performances

40% - Individual preparation (practice)

10% - Collegial work ethic

**Grade Scale:**

90%-100%      A – Excellent

80%-89%      B – Above Average

70%-79%      C – Average

60%-69%      D – Below Average

0%-59%      F – Failing

	Attendance 50%	Preparation 40%	Collegiality 10%
Excellent 90-100	100% Attendance at rehearsals & performances	Excellent preparation for rehearsals – readily incorporates elements rehearsed/discussed	Assumes a leadership role & works well with others within the ensemble
Above Average 80-89	Rarely misses rehearsals – 100% attendance at performances & is always on time	Practices assigned music the majority of the time. Adequate preparation	Able to work with fellow musicians
Average 70-79	Seldom misses rehearsals – 100% attendance at performances – is often late to rehearsals	Occasionally practices music. Chronically in need of more preparation for rehearsals	Is able to work with fellow musicians in most situations
Below Average 60-69	Often misses rehearsals and is seldom on time for them	Rarely practices music (evidence: continually needs to be reminded of musical aspects previously presented and/or has difficulty executing parts correctly)	Has trouble working with fellow musicians in an ensemble situation
Failing 0-59	Often misses rehearsals. Rarely on time. Missed performance	Shows complete and utter lack of attention to music outside of class	Cannot function as a working member of the ensemble
Score			

Welcome back! I hope you had an enjoyable break and are ready to resume our work where we left off last semester. I've purchased some really good music for this ensemble and it should be lots of fun to put it together. I would like to feature this group on a couple of pieces at the ESU Brass Day (see below). We have only three (3) rehearsals including tonight before this gig, so we've got our work cut out for us. The rest of the particulars can be found below. Let's see if we can improve on all that we were able to accomplish last semester!

**CONCERT DATE: TUESDAY APRIL 2<sup>ND</sup> 7:30 PM – ATH, with a dress rehearsal the night prior (MONDAY APRIL 1<sup>ST</sup> 7:00 – 8:30 PM)**

**ADDITIONAL CONCERT DATES:** We will be performing the Andriessen on two additional concerts this semester:

- Chamber Winds, Brass, and Percussion (5 March) – Dress rehearsal = 4 March, 4:00-11:00 p.m. – NOTICE we will play Nelhybel *Ludus* on this gig as well.
- ESU Percussion Ensemble Concert (9 April) – Dress Rehearsal = 8 April, 4:00-11:00 p.m.

**THIRD ANNUAL BRASS DAY AT ESU:** On FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 13<sup>th</sup> from 12:00-6:00 p.m., as was the case in past years, Brass Day is open to middle school and high school students from around the state of Kansas. We will need logistical assistance on that day as well as your performance expertise. There will be a final concert at 4:30 that day, featuring the FHBQ and the ESU Brass Day Mass Brass Choir (of which you will be a member). You will get a T Shirt and some pizza.

**ATTENDANCE:** Since we meet only once weekly, it is imperative that each and every member be present for all rehearsals. Please take whatever steps are necessary to ensure your presence at all rehearsals. Additionally, you are required to attend our guest recital:

- Saturday 14 February: Mr. Dean A Somerville – tuba, Dr. Sarah Kahl – piano, & Dr. Jeffrey P. Hodapp – tuba/euphonium: in recital – Heath Recital Hall 7:30 p.m.

**PRACTICE: PLEASE SPEND SOME TIME WITH THIS MUSIC BETWEEN REHEARSALS!** It is impossible for us to adequately prepare if we deal with our music only in rehearsal. If you spend a little of your practice time on these pieces during the week, you will remember more of what was discussed in rehearsal and we will be able to do more music and perform it at a higher level too!

**ADA statement:** Emporia State University will make reasonable accommodations for persons with documented disabilities. Students need to contact the Director of Disability Services and the professor as early in the semester as possible to ensure that classroom and academic accommodations are implemented in a timely fashion. All communication between students, the Office of Disability Services, and the professor will be strictly confidential.