

Dr. Michael Smith  
Office Hours: M, W, F 8:00-9:00 am, or by appointment

Office: JN195, x1179  
smitmi01@luther.edu

## **EDUC 260 – Low Brass Methods Syllabus**

### **Text:**

Whitner, Scott. *A Complete Guide to Brass: Instruments and Pedagogy*. 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition. New York: Schirmer Books.

### **Description:**

Low Brass Methods covers techniques of playing and teaching low brass instruments. It is designed to provide a fundamental background in low brass performance and pedagogy for music education students. Students will have hands-on experience playing and teaching trombone, euphonium, and tuba. Many of the handouts that we will be using in class can be found on the web at <http://academic.luther.edu/~smitmi01/Curriculum/methods.htm>

### **Grading:**

#### **Quizzes: 50%**

Includes all class work, article summary, and in-class assignments (playing quiz)

#### **Final Written/Playing Exams: 40%**

(1) Trombone Written Final, (2) Trombone Playing Final

(3) Tuba/Euph Written Final, (4) Euph Playing Final (in class), (5) Tuba Playing Final (in class)

#### **Notebook: 10%**

### **Written Quizzes:**

These will usually be announced. I reserve the right to give unannounced exams if the class attendance begins to drop.

### **Playing/Teaching Quizzes:**

These will be held in my office and in class (check your schedule for details).

In addition to the regular class meetings, I will provide individual and/or group instruction by appointment. Please remember: if you need help on anything, all you have to do is ask.

### **Attendance:**

This class moves along at a rapid pace. There is a lot of information to cover in a short period of time. To keep from falling behind, it is recommended that you attend all classes. Attendance will be taken, but will have no direct bearing on your grade unless you miss a quiz or exam.

You will be allowed to make up exams and quizzes only if you notify me of your absence 24 hours in advance of the class, and present me with a legitimate excuse. The only exceptions to this policy involve family and medical emergencies. Remember, it will be **YOUR** responsibility to contact me!  
You should make up any missed assignments and quizzes within 1 week of your return to campus.

### **Notebook:**

You should dedicate a 3-ring notebook for keeping materials organized. Bring this to every class meeting. The more detail you put into the notebook, the better off you will be when you need to access this information. Your notebooks should be comprehensive and logically organized (include table of contents and /or tabs) and should include all handouts and notes. You may include a brief outline of all materials covered in your text and in class. Your notebook will be graded on **content** and **organization**.