

Syllabus for Percussion Practicum

Instructor: David Meade

Times: Thursday afternoons, 4:55 – 6:35 P.M. – Percussion Penthouse

Required Material: Sticks and pad and class workbook. The workbook will be supplied by Mr. Meade. The cost of materials is approximately \$65.00. Each student is required to have all materials at all classes.

Communication: My E-Mail address is probangernyc@yahoo.com

Overview:

This class is designed to introduce teachers to the techniques and methods used on the more common percussion instruments. Basic stick technique, exercises used to develop facility on all the instruments, and care and maintenance of instruments will be addressed.

Grade Information:

A mid-term and final test will assess what we have gone over during the semester. One excused absence will be permitted. Any others will affect your grade. Since this information is “hands on”, you cannot learn it from a book. Please be at all classes. Your exams will be both verbal and performance. Your efforts, enthusiasm and participation in class will also affect your final grade.

Supplies:

Sticks and a drum pad may be purchased at Guitar Center, located on 14th Street, between 5th and 6th Ave. Bring your student identification and ask to see Michael Yorky or Angelo Vasquez. They are available M.F. from 10:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M. Tell them you are students of mine at NYU and you will receive a discount. You will not receive a discount unless you see them first. Their office is located downstairs. Ask for a small “Vic Firth” practice pad and size 5A sticks.

This is an approximate schedule of what we will be covering. Adjustments will be made based on the particular class, holidays, and the finals schedule.

Class Schedule:

Week 1	Course overview Parts of a drum, how to change a drum head, fantasy drum set
Week 2	Snare Drum technique rudiments, rolls, interpretation, grip
Week 3	Snare drum (Cont.)
Week 4	Mallet instruments Marimba, Bells, Xylophone, Vibraphone, Chimes
Week 5	Mallet (Cont.) Small group playing & techniques
Week 6	Mallets (Cont.) Scales, sightreading
Week 7	Begin Tympani studies
Week 8	Auxiliary percussion Bass Drum, Triangle, Cymbals, etc.
Week 9	Ensemble playing
Week 10	Drum set Basic overview- four-way coordination – rhythms - application
Week 11	Drum set (Cont.)
Week 12	Ensemble playing
Week 13	Ensemble playing
Week 14	Review of covered material
Week 15	Final – Times to be arranged

Protocols for Use of Penthouse Percussion Studio

- 1). I will provide an official class list to the key assignment/key proctor. If you're not on the official class list, you may not use the facilities.
- 2). Students will present their NYU ID to key proctor who turns over key to upper level practice cubicle #5. There is no practice allowed during lessons or ensemble rehearsals on the main floor of the penthouse. Check the master schedule on the bulletin board for available times.
- 3). Student will return key to proctor and receive their NYU ID back.
- 4). There is no food or drink other than water allowed in cubicle #5. All instruments should be recovered and the room put back after rehearsal.
- 5). All basic rules of the penthouse apply. No smoking, alcohol, drugs, bringing friends in to hang out, going on the roof, etc. Please don't spoil rehearsal opportunities for others through your actions.
- 6). Do not play on or touch any instrument in any room without direction from me. Using the wrong mallets can damage an instrument. Use common sense at all times.