

West Texas A&M University
Department of Music Tuba and Euphonium Studio
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Technique Syllabus: Tuba

Below are listed the technique requirements for each semester of Applied Tuba study at West Texas A&M University (WTAMU). These assignments will be played weekly at the beginning of the private lesson, and will be graded at straight percentage of accuracy. Grading will be by the scale for all scales and arpeggios and by the line for all daily routines and exercises (i.e. Clarke and some Arban). Grading will be by the measure for etudes and solos. Where tempo markings are indicated playing at a slower tempo will result in a minimum 10% grade reduction. All scale and arpeggio assignments are two octaves minimum, with students encouraged to play three octaves where possible. All scales and arpeggios, Bach Cello Suites and other assignments as indicated must be performed from memory. The midterm and final assignments will each account for 5% of the semester grade, with the remaining assignments constituting 10% of the semester grade. Please note that some of these exercises are very long and extremely difficult. Many of them will take more than one week to prepare adequately. Be sure to look ahead, particularly for the Clarke, Arban, Bach Cello Suite and Bell Scales assignments.

Required Materials:

Students should begin to amass these materials as soon as possible as practice from these methods is beneficial at any level. It is **IMPERATIVE** that students **OWN** each book before a required study is due. Playing from borrowed or photocopied music or not playing due to not having the music will result in a grade of “0” for that week. Not all books will be used in every semester. All books are available from local or internet music stores

- Vladislav Blazhevich: 70 Studies for BB flat Tuba, Volume 1. Published by Robert King/Alphonse LeDuc. About \$8-10 and available at many music stores (used for Texas All-State Auditions).
- Marco Bordogni: Complete Solfeggi for Tuba. Published by Encore Music. About \$35 and available at many music stores (used for Texas All-State Auditions). www.encoremupub.com.
- Arban: Complete Method for Tuba. Edited by Dr. Jerry Young. Published by Encore Music Publishers. About \$57 and available from the Encore website at www.encoremupub.com.
- Phil Snedecor: Low Etudes for Tuba. Published by PAS Music. About \$12-15 and available from many online retailers including Robert King at www.rkingmusic.com.
- Kopprasch: 60 Selected Studies for BB flat Tuba. Published by Robert King/Alphonse LeDuc. About \$8-10 and available at many music stores (used for Texas All-State Auditions).
- Herbert L. Clarke: Technical Studies for Trombone (or tuba). Published by Carl Fischer. about \$12-15 and available at many music stores. The Baritone BC/Trombone version should be read

down one octave. New (2007) tuba and euphonium edition: Published by Really Good Music and edited by Dr. Jerry Young. Available from www.reallygoodmusic.com for \$25.

- The Bell Scales. Revised by Abe Torchinsky. Published by Encore Music Publishers. About \$14 and available from the Encore website at www.encoremupub.com.
- Johann Sebastian Bach: The Six Suites for Solo Cello. Preferred editions are the G. Henle or Barenreiter urtext editions. About \$25-40 and available at better music stores or online at www.ghenle.com or www.barenrieter.com.
- (Optional) Theo Charlier: 36 Études Transcendantes for Trumpet. Published by Alphonse Leduc. About \$35-50 and available at many music stores or online from Robert King. Tubists read down two octaves.

Warm-Up Routines

All students are expected to find or develop a daily routine for warm-up and continued development of technical skills. The following are suggestions of fine warm-up routines for tuba—others may be as good or better but require approval from Dr. Lewis. Four of these are required for the 3001-3002 level and will need to be learned from memory. Those who learn them early (before the junior year) will be at a distinct advantage and will develop technical skills more quickly.

- 20-Minute Warm-Up Routine by Michael Davis and published by Hip-Bone Music. \$24.95 from www.hip-bonemusic.com. Includes play-along CD with Gene Pokorny.
- The Brass Gym. Developed by Patrick Sheridan and Sam Pilafian and published by Focus on Music. \$29.95 from www.patricksheridan.com or www.breathinggym.com (includes play-along CD)
- Roger Bobo: Mastering the Tuba (complete book). Published by Editions BIM. \$32 from www.Editions-bim.com.
- James Stamp: Warm-Ups and Studies (for Trumpet). Published by Editions BIM. \$23 from www.Editions-bim.com (includes play-along CD's in B flat and C).
- Also Sprach Arnold Jacobs: A Developmental Guide for Brass Wind Musicians. Compiled by Bruce Nelson and published by Polymnia Press. \$23 from www.windsongpress.com.
- The Bell Scales. See listing above.

MUAP 1053 Semester 1

Week 1: All major scales (MEMORIZED) in quarter notes at quarter equals 120

Week 2: Blazhevich #11

Week 3: Rochut #4 8vb

Week 4: All minor scales (MEMORIZED) in quarter notes at quarter equals 120

Week 5: Clarke 1st Study and Etude I

Week 6: (Midterm): All major and minor scales (MEMORIZED) in eighth notes at quarter equals 80

- Week 7: Blazhevich #20
- Week 8: Bordogni #5 loco and first 18 measures 8vb
- Week 9: Bach: Suite 1 (G Major): Menuett I and II, 8vb (MEMORIZED)
- Week 10: Clarke Second Study and Etude II
- Week 11: Snedecor I
- Week 12: (Final): All major and minor scales (MEMORIZED) in eighth notes at quarter=92

MUAP 1053 Semester 2

- Week 1: Bell Scales: Any six keys (student's choice)
- Week 2: Blazhevich #17
- Week 3: Bordogni#1 loco and 8vb
- Week 4: Snedecor IV
- Week 5: Clarke 3rd Study and Etude III
- Week 6: (Midterm): All major, minor and chromatic scales (MEMORIZED) in eighth notes at quarter=104
- Week 7: Blazhevich #19
- Week 8: Arban Interval, Flexibility, and Technique #1
- Week 9 Bach: Suite 4 (E flat Major): Courante, 8vb (or transposed to key of student's choice) (MEMORIZED)
- Week 10: Clarke 4th Study and Etude IV
- Week 11: Snedecor XVIII
- Week 12: (Final): Complete Bell Scales at quarter equals 80

MUAP 1053 Semester 3

- Week 1: Clarke 1st Study, Etude I, 2nd Study, Etude II
- Week 2: TMEA All-State Etudes (see www.tmea.org for specific etudes)
- Week 3: Complete Bell Scales at quarter equals 80
- Week 4: Clarke 3rd Study, Etude III, 4th Study, Etude IV
- Week 5: Snedecor XIII
- Week 6: (Midterm): Complete Bell Scales at quarter equals 80 (MEMORIZED)
- Week 7: Blazhevich #35
- Week 8: Arban The Art of Phrasing #90, #135
- Week 9: Bach: Suite 4 (E flat Major): Two Bourrées (loco, 8vb, or transposed) (MEMORIZED)
- Week 10: Kopprasch #11, #14
- Week 11: Clarke 5th Study and Etude V
- Week 12: (Final): Complete Bell Scales at quarter equals 92 (MEMORIZED)

MUAP 1053 Semester 4

- Week 1: Clarke Study and Etude of student's choice (MEMORIZED)
- Week 2: Arban Characteristic Study #1
- Week 3: Snedecor X
- Week 4: Clarke 6th Study and Etude VI
- Week 5: Kopprasch #54
- Week 6: (Midterm): Completed Bell Scales at quarter equals 96 (MEMORIZED)
- Week 7: Bordogni#11 loco and first 28 measures 8va

Week 8: Clarke 7th Study and Etude VII

Week 9: Bach: movement of student's choice (both Menuets or Bourrées if chosen)
(MEMORIZED)

Week 10: Blazhevich of Student's Choice

Week 11: All major pentatonic scales (MEMORIZED) in eighth notes at quarter equals 92

Week 12: (Final): Complete Bell Scales at quarter equals 96 (MEMORIZED)

MUAP 3053 Semester 1

Week 1: Warm-Up of student's choice (Stamp, Bobo, Jacobs, Bell or other substantial routine)

Week 2: Arban Characteristic Study #9

Week 3: Warm-Up from Week 1 from memory

Week 4: Clarke: 2 studies of student's choice

Week 5: Snedecor of student's choice

Week 6: (Midterm) Warm-Up from week 1 and 3 from memory

Week 7: Warm-Up of student's choice (must be different than weeks 1, 3, and 6)

Week 8: Complete Bell Scales at quarter equals 96 (MEMORIZED)

Week 9: Bach: Suite II Prelude in key of student's choice (MEMORIZED)

Week 10: All octatonic scales (MEMORIZED) in quarter notes at quarter equals 96

Week 11: All fully diminished seven arpeggios (MEMORIZED) in quarter notes at quarter equals 96

Week 12: (Final) Warm-Up from week 7 from memory

MUAP 3053 Semester 2

Week 1: Warm-Up of student's choice (different from MUAP 3001 Warm-Ups)

Week 2: Arban Characteristic Study #11

Week 3: Warm-Up from Week 1 from memory

Week 4: Clarke: 2 studies of student's choice

Week 5: Snedecor of student's choice

Week 6: (Midterm) Warm-Up from week 1 and 3 from memory

Week 7: Warm-Up of student's choice (must be different than weeks 1, 3, and 6)

Week 8: Complete Bell Scales at quarter equals 100 (MEMORIZED)

Week 9: Bach: Suite I Courante in key of student's choice (MEMORIZED)

Week 10: All octatonic scales in eighth notes at quarter equals 96 (MEMORIZED)

Week 11: All fully diminished seven arpeggios in eighth notes at quarter equals 96
(MEMORIZED)

Week 12: (Final) Warm-Up from week 7 from memory

MUAP 3053 Semester 3-6053

Week 1: Complete Bell Scales at quarter equals 96 (MEMORIZED)

Week 2: (Fall Semester): ATSSB or TMEA All-State Etudes (student's choice) (Spring Semester): UIL Level I solo of student's choice

Week 3: Snedecor of student's choice

Week 4: All octatonic scales in sixteenth notes at quarter equals 80 (MEMORIZED)

Week 5: Koppasch of student's choice

Week 6: (Midterm): Arban Characteristic Study or Charlier Etude (15vb) of student's choice

Week 7: Bordogni of student's choice loco, 8vb and 8va by phrase (register blending)

Week 8: Clarke Study and Etude of student's choice (MEMORIZED)

Week 9: Bach: Prelude or Courante from any cello suite (MEMORIZED) OR one movement from Flute Partita in A Minor (15vb) (MEMORIZED)

Week 10: Arban: Interval, Flexibility and Technique of student's choice

Week 11: Any three WTAMU Technique Exercises

Week 12: (Final): All octatonic scales and dim7 arpeggios in sixteenth notes at quarter equals 92 (MEMORIZED)