

**Sam Houston State University**  
**Sam Houston Percussion Ensembles: Sam Houston Percussion Group,**  
**University Percussion Ensemble, Steel Band**  
**(MUEN 1118 and 3118) – Fall 2017**

Sam Houston Percussion Group (T/TR – 2:00-3:20pm)  
MUEN 1118 - 01  
MUEN 3118 – 01

University Percussion Ensemble (T/TR 7-9pm); Steel Band (W – 5:00-6:30pm)  
MUEN 1118 - 05  
MUEN 3118 - 05

Dr. John Lane, Associate Professor of Percussion; Director of Percussion Studies  
Office: MU 224 (office hours by appointment)  
Phone: (936) 294-3593  
Email: jwl002@shsu.edu

Dr. Brian Graiser, Adjunct Instructor of Percussion  
Office: MU 214  
Email: brian.graiser@shsu.edu  
Phone: (936) 294-1368

**Objectives for Chamber Percussion Ensembles (Sam Houston Percussion Group and University Percussion Ensemble):**

The Sam Houston Percussion Ensemble program provides the percussion student with a chamber ensemble experience unlike any of the other collegiate performing ensembles. It is within these ensembles that the skills learned in applied study can literally be applied through rehearsal and performance activities in a chamber music setting. Through performances of new music, standard literature, historically important works, classical transcriptions, world music, and novelty/theatrical works the student will be subjected to the most demanding and thorough musical training for a performing percussionist. Admittance to ensembles is by audition only.

**Objectives for Steel Band:**

Students will study and perform Caribbean, African, Pop, and music from the Americas. The course is designed to promote facility on steel pan and other percussion instruments, while emphasizing various musical genres and ensemble skills. Students will have the opportunity to improvise and learn soloing techniques appropriate to the literature selected. Rehearsals will be conducted as a professional working environment.

**Important Learning Objectives:**

- Developing creative capacities in performance
- Developing specific skills, competencies, and points of view needed by professionals in the field of chamber music performance.

- Acquiring skills in working with others as a member of a team.

### **Academic Community Engagement (ACE):**

Community engagement provides students with the opportunity to make their learning and performing more meaningful by enriching culture and education in our local community.

ACE Requirements:

- 9 documented hours of community engagement per student
- Written reflection about the experience

### **Grading:**

Subjective assessments will be based on the following criteria (each section is weighted as 20% of the final grade):

#### **Rehearsal Preparation:**

- Parts must be practiced outside of rehearsal. Rehearsal does not substitute for practice.
- **Arrive early for rehearsal to set-up.** Preparations/multi-percussion set up for rehearsal must be complete before rehearsal is scheduled to begin.

#### **Attendance:**

- **Attendance is mandatory.** These are performance-oriented ensembles and depend upon consistent attendance from each member. Only university or medically excused absences will be allowed. Advanced notification is required regarding any possible excused absence.
- Unexcused absences may result in losing parts.
- Each unexcused absence will lower the grade a full letter.
- Rehearsal Schedules:
  - A rehearsal schedule will be posted on the percussion board outside 220 or communicated via email.
- Failure to attend a performance or dress rehearsals will result in failure of the class.

#### **Performance in Rehearsal:**

- Students must possess a positive attitude and must show professionalism during rehearsals and performances.
- All ensemble members should always be prepared prior to rehearsal; all instruments present, in working order, and properly tuned. All mallets, music, etc... are the responsibility of the performer, as are pencils, music markings, auxiliary equipment, tuning equipment, etc.

#### **Concert Performance and Moving Equipment:**

- Active and full participation at equipment moves is required.

### **Steel Band Materials:**

- Mallets/Sticks – students are required to purchase their own pan mallets ([www.panyard.com](http://www.panyard.com))
- 3-ring binder with plastic sheet protectors

### **Other General Requirements:**

- The student is responsible for his/her own musical performance needs regarding sticks, mallets, black towels, etc...
- Music will be provided. Return of all music in original condition is required at the end of the semester. Failure to return music will result in an incomplete for the course until that music is returned (continued failure to return original music will result in the student being financially responsible for that music).
- Always bring a pencil to rehearsal.
- Concert Dress: All Black, or as defined for the performance situation.

### **IMPORTANT PERFORMANCE DATES:**

#### **Sam Houston Percussion Group –**

##### **Wed., Oct. 25:**

5:00-8:00pm - Dress Rehearsal - CH

##### **Thurs., Oct. 26**

6:30pm – Call time

7:30pm – SHPG Concert Performance

##### **\*\*Thurs., Nov. 9 – PASIC\*\***

12:00pm – Soundcheck

1:00pm – Focus Day Performance

##### **Sunday, Dec. 3**

3:00-6:00pm - Dress Rehearsals, as needed

7:30pm – Night of Percussion Concert

#### **University Percussion Ensemble & Steel Band**

##### **Sun., Oct 22**

3:00-6:00pm – Dress Rehearsal

7:30pm - Concert

##### **Sunday, Dec. 3**

3:00-6:00pm - Dress Rehearsals, as needed

7:30pm – Night of Percussion Concert

**Additional ad hoc performances may be required:** - events/gigs TBD, in addition to ACE activities, potential for collaborations with Library, etc...

#### **Americans with Disabilities Act**

Student requests for accommodations must be initiated by the student. A student seeking accommodations should go to the Counseling Center and Services for Students with Disabilities (SSD) in a timely manner. Links to other SHSU Policies:

Academic Dishonesty: <http://www.shsu.edu/administrative/faculty/sectionb.html#dishonesty>

Student Absences on Religious Holy Days:

[http://www.shsu.edu/~vaf\\_www/aps/documents/861001.pdf](http://www.shsu.edu/~vaf_www/aps/documents/861001.pdf)

Students with Disabilities:

[http://www.shsu.edu/~vaf\\_www/aps/811006.pdf](http://www.shsu.edu/~vaf_www/aps/811006.pdf)