Course syllabus for students registered to study applied trumpet with Shawn Spicer

Instructor Information:
Shawn Spicer
53 Wortley Rd.
London, Ontario
519-438-4556
shawnkspicer@gmail.com (email is the best way to contact me)

All class correspondence will be made by email.

Course Objectives:
The aim of this course is to make students better trumpet players and musicians. This will be done by applying criteria that embodies complete musical competence. Types of skills that will be addressed include problem solving, performing, creativity and critical thinking. This will be engendered through application of technical studies, personalized routines, imitation, emulation, listening and practical interpersonal and performing experience.

Attendance:
Lessons will be scheduled on a week to week basis because of the variability of Shawn’s schedule. Any lessons cancelled by Shawn will be made up. Students are expected to give 24 hours notice when not able to make a lesson. Failure to give notice is an unexcused absence and will result in a mark of F for that lesson. Email will be the method of notification.

Marking:
I will give out letter grades for each lesson and use them to help guide me in your final mark. I am writing notes on each lesson and will give you a copy of the notes after the lesson so it is clear what the expectations are for the following week.

Here is my expectation for each letter grade.

A+ (90-100) - all material assigned is very well prepared - work on material is beyond expectations
A (80-89) - all material is well prepared
B (70-79) - all material is prepared with some lingering difficulties
C (60-69) - some material not prepared
D (50-59) - no material prepared - obvious lack of practice
F (under 50) - unexcused absence - 3 unexcused absences will generate a discussion about whether the course can be completed
I would like to give everybody an opportunity each year to take advantage of a coffee lesson – one time a year when the pressures of school are particularly heavy you can have a coffee with me and discuss trumpet playing and music (have some questions ready). This avoids wasting time teaching a lesson for which a student is not prepared and it prevents the student from getting a low mark due to not having time to prepare. This is optional and will only be allowed once a year.

FYI - all students get an A for their first lesson.

You can ask for your progress at any time.

A technique jury will be administered near the end of the fall semester. It will be worth 20 percent of you final lesson mark. The details of the jury will be distributed in a separate document.

Please consult the Music Performance Studies Handbook Applied Studies (Lessons) for further information on this course:


Other important information can be found here: