

Low Brass Course of Study

by Paul Garza

Overview

The material contained below serves as a typical outline of etudes, solo repertoire, and general requirements for college aged low brass students. While an individualized course of study is important for every student, these are simply representative of the typical student rather than a rigid requirement. All solos and etudes fall within my suggested repertoire, but those marked with an asterisk are especially important for all low brass majors to familiarize themselves with. Orchestral excerpts will typically be introduced around the student's junior year,

General Requirements

The following will typically be required of all students

- A comprehensive daily routine appropriate for the student's level
- Weekly listening assignments meant to broaden the student's knowledge of literature and style
- Trombone and Euphonium players should be familiar with reading tenor clef/B-flat Euphonium parts by the end of their first year, and should be proficient at the end of their second year.
- Tenor trombone players should begin a study of alto trombone as early as their junior year, and are expected to know the basics of the instrument before they graduate.

Books

- Arban, ed. Alessi/Bowman or ed. Jacobs/Young- The Arban Method
- Clarke – Technical Studies
- Farkas – The Art of Brass Playing
- Snell – The Art of Practice
- Vernon – A Singing Approach to Playing the Trombone

Scale Requirements

Learning musical coherency and fluency requires an in-depth knowledge of scales and keys. The requirements below reflect an emphasis on having students learn to play in and navigate within keys rather than simply learning scales.

	First Semester	Second Semester
Freshman	All major scales and arpeggios two octaves	All major and natural minor scales and arpeggios two octaves
Sophomore	All major and minor scales two octaves	All major and minor scales two octaves, one melody to be played in any major key
Junior	All major and minor scales two octaves, two major melodies to be played in any key	All major and minor scales, three major melodies to be played in any key
Senior	All major and minor scales two octaves, three major melodies and one minor melody to be played in any key	All major and minor scales two octaves, three major melodies and two minor melodies to be played in any key

Etude Books

The following texts will comprise the majority of a student's course of study. Many of these books have been used for decades, and all have some unique aspect that makes them worth studying. No matter the chosen studies, the general focus for each text should always be two-fold: achieving higher levels of technical mastery (time, tuning, tone, etc.), and expanding musicianship. Etude books listed for lower levels should not be seen as "lesser" in anyway, but instead as more accessible to younger students. Often, books introduced in the first year will be used throughout the student's course of study.

Tenor Trombone Etude Books

Rudimentary/Pre-College

Edwards	<i>Simply Singing for Winds</i>
Fink	<i>Studies in Legato</i>
Hering	<i>40 Progressive Studies</i>
Voxman/Gower	<i>Rubank Advanced Method Vol. I and II</i>

Freshman

Bordogni/Rochut	<i>Melodious Etudes for Trombone, book 1</i>
Edwards	<i>Lip Slurs</i>
Fink	<i>Introducing the Tenor Clef</i>
Kopprasch	<i>60 Selected Studies, Book 1</i>
Mueller	<i>Technical Studies</i>
Tyrell	<i>40 Progressive Studies</i>
Voxman	<i>Selected Studies</i>

Sophomore

Blume	<i>36 Studies</i>
Fink	<i>Introducing the Alto Clef</i>
Schlossberg	<i>Daily Drills and Technical Studies for Trombone</i>

Junior

Blazhevich	<i>School for Trombone in Clefs (Clef Studies)</i>
Bordogni/Rochut	<i>Melodious Etudes for Trombone, book 2</i>
Kopprasch	<i>60 Selected Studies, Book 2</i>
Tyrell	<i>Advanced Studies for BBb Bass</i>

Senior/Graduate

Bach	<i>Cello Suites</i>
<u>Bitsch</u>	<i>15 Rhythmic Etudes</i>
Kahila	<i>Advanced Studies in Alto and Tenor Clef</i>
Maxted	<i>20 Studies</i>

Bass Trombone Etude Books

Rudimentary/Pre-College

Edwards	<i>Simply Singing for Winds</i>
Fink	<i>Studies in Legato</i>
Hering	<i>40 Progressive Studies</i>
Voxman/Gower	<i>Rubank Advanced Method Vol. I and II</i>

Freshman

Aharoni	<i>New Modern Method for Bass Trombone</i>
Bordogni/Rochut	<i>Melodious Etudes for Trombone, book 1</i>
Edwards	<i>Lip Slurs</i>
Fink	<i>Introducing the Tenor Clef</i>
Gillis	<i>70 Progressive Studies</i>
Kopprasch	<i>60 Etudes op. 5 for Bass Trombone</i>
Tyrell	<i>Advanced Studies for BBb Bass</i>
Voxman	<i>Selected Studies</i>

Sophomore

Blazhevich	<i>70 Studies for Tuba, Vol. I and II</i>
Faulise	<i>The F and D Bass</i>
Grigoriev	<i>24 Studies</i>

Junior

Aharoni	<i>The Non-Classic Bass Trombone</i>
Brubeck	<i>Stereograms vol. I, II, and III</i>
Gallay	<i>40 Preludes. 30 Studies</i>
Kopprasch	<i>60 Etudes for BBb Tuba (Op. 6)</i>

Senior/Graduate

Bach	<i>Cello Suites</i>
Bach/Bixby/Bobo	<i>Bach for the Tuba</i>
<u>Bitsch</u>	<i>14 Rhythmic Etudes</i>
Kahila	<i>Advanced Studies in Alto and Tenor Clef</i>
Maenz	<i>20 Studies, 12 Special Studies for Tuba</i>
Snedecor	<i>Low Etudes for Tuba</i>

Tenor Trombone Solo RepertoireFreshman

Barat	<i>Andante et Allegro, Introduction and Dance</i>
Boda	<i>Sonatina</i>
Galliard	<i>Sonatas 1–6</i>
Guilmant	<i>Morceau Symphonique*</i>
Marcello	<i>Sonata in F-major*</i>
Nux	<i>Concert Piece</i>
Rimsky-Korsakov	<i>Concerto*</i>
Saint-Saens	<i>Cavatine*</i>
Vaughan-Williams	<i>Six-Studies in English Folk Song Suite*</i>

Sophomore

Bernstein	<i>Elegy for Mippy</i>
Bozza	<i>Homage a Bach</i>
Defaye	<i>A la Maniere de Bach/Debussy/Schumann/Stravinsky/Vivaldi</i>
Handel	<i>Concerto in F-minor</i>
Larsson	<i>Concertino*</i>
Marcello	<i>Sonata in E-minor, Sonata in A-minor</i>
Pryor	<i>Blue Bells of Scotland*, Thoughts of Love, Fantastic Polka</i>
Serocki	<i>Sonatina</i>
Weber	<i>Romance*</i>

Junior

Bozza	<i>Ballade</i>
David	<i>Concertino*</i>
Dutilleux	<i>Chorale, Cadence, et Fugato</i>
Grondahl	<i>Concerto*</i>
Hindemith	<i>Sonate</i>
Jacob	<i>Concerto</i>
Jongen	<i>Aria et Polonaise</i>
Jorgenson	<i>Romance</i>
Salzedo	<i>Piece Concertante</i>
Sulek	<i>Sonata*</i>
Wagenseil	<i>Concerto (alto) *</i>

Senior/Graduate

Albrechtsberger	<i>Concerto (alto)</i>
Arnold	<i>Fantasy</i>
Bach	<i>Cello Suites</i>
Bourgeois	<i>Concerto</i>
Casterede	<i>Sonatina*</i>
Creston	<i>Fantasy</i>
Crespo	<i>Improvisation no. 1*</i>
Defaye	<i>Deux Dances</i>
Demeij	<i>T-bone Concerto</i>
Haydn	<i>Concerto (alto)</i>
Martin	<i>Ballade*</i>
Milhaud	<i>Concertino d'Hiver</i>
Mozart	<i>Concerto (alto)</i>
Peaslee	<i>Arrows of Time</i>
Ropartz	<i>Piece in Eb*</i>
Rota	<i>Concerto</i>
Tomasi	<i>Concerto*</i>

Bass Trombone Solo Repertoire

Freshman

Galliard	<i>Sonatas 1–6</i>
Guilmant	<i>Morceau Symphonique (for Bass Trombone)</i>
Hindemith	<i>Drei Leichte Stücke</i>
Jacob	<i>Cameos</i>
Lieb	<i>Concertino Basso</i>
Marcello	<i>Sonata in F-major*</i>
Saint-Saens	<i>Cavatine (for Bass Trombone)</i>
Sachse	<i>Concertino in F Major</i>
Spillman	<i>Two Songs</i>
Tcherepnin	<i>Andante</i>
Vaughan-Williams	<i>Six-Studies in English Folk Song Suite*</i>

Sophomore

Bozza	<i>Allegro et Finale, Prelude et Allegro</i>
Brahms	<i>Vier Erneste Gesange</i>
Handel	<i>Concerto in F-minor</i>
Hidas	<i>Meditation</i>
Frescobaldi	<i>Canzoni per Basso Solo</i>
Larsson	<i>Concertino*</i>
Lebedev	<i>Concerto no. 1, Concerto Allegro</i>
Marcello	<i>Sonata in E-minor, Sonata in A-minor</i>
McCarty	<i>Sonata</i>
Stevens	<i>Sonatina</i>

Junior

Bozza	<i>New Orleans*</i>
Casterede	<i>Fantasia Concertante*</i>
Ewazen	<i>Concerto, Rhapsody</i>
Fetter	<i>Split Personality, Variations on “Dona Nobis Pacem”</i>
Hartley	<i>Sonata Breve*</i>
Hidas	<i>Rhapsody</i>
Koetsier	<i>Allegro Maestoso*</i>
Mozart	<i>Horn Concerti</i>
Sulek	<i>Sonata</i>
White	<i>Tetra Ergon</i>
Wilder	<i>Sonata</i>

Senior/Graduate

Bach	<i>Cello Suites</i>
Bolter	<i>Saggiarius2</i>
Bourgeois	<i>Concerto for Bass Trombone</i>
Brubeck	<i>Concerto for Bass Trombone, Prague Concerto</i>
Casterede	<i>Sonatine for Tuba</i>
Crespo	<i>Improvisation no. 1*</i>
Culver	<i>Suite</i>
Franck	<i>Variations on Barnacle Bill</i>
Ritter-George	<i>Concerto*</i>
Schnyder	<i>Concerto subZERO, Sonata</i>
Szollosy	<i>A Hundred Bras for Tom Everett</i>
Tomasi	<i>Etre, ou ne pas être*</i>
Vaughan-Williams	<i>Concerto for Bass Tuba*</i>
Williams	<i>Concerto for Tuba</i>

Euphonium Solo Repertoire

Freshman

Barat	<i>Introduction and Dance*</i> , <i>Andante and Allegro*</i>
Bellstedt	<i>Napoli</i>
Capuzzi	<i>Andante and Rondo*</i>
Censhu	<i>A Walk in the Woods*</i>
Curnow	<i>Rhapsody*</i>
DeLuca	<i>Beautiful Colorado</i>
Galliard	<i>Sonatas 1–6</i>
Goedicke	<i>Concert Etude</i>
Guilmant	<i>Morceau Symphonique*</i>
Marcello	<i>Sonata in F Major*</i>
Nux	<i>Concert Piece</i>
Sparke	<i>Song for Ina</i>
Vaughan-Williams	<i>Six Studies in English Folk Song Suite*</i>

Sophomore

Clarke	<i>Carnival of Venice</i>
Handel	<i>Aria con Variazioni*</i> , <i>Concerto in F Minor</i>
Haddad	<i>Suite for Baritone*</i>
Hartmann	<i>Rule Britannia</i>
Ito	<i>Fantasy Variation*</i>
Marcello	<i>Sonata in E-minor</i> , <i>Sonata in A-minor</i>
Pryor	<i>Annie Laurie</i> , <i>Blue Bells of Scotland</i> , <i>Thoughts of Love</i>
Puccini	<i>Nessun Dorma</i>
Ritter George	<i>Sonata for Baritone Horn</i>
Saint-Saens	<i>Morceau de Concert*</i> , <i>The Swan</i>

Junior

Boda	<i>Sonatina</i>
Brahms	<i>Four Serious Songs</i>
Casterade	<i>Fantastie Concertante</i>
David	<i>Concertino, op. 4</i>
Gillingham	<i>Blue Lake Fantasies*</i>
Hartly	<i>Sonata Euphonica</i>
Hindemith	<i>Sonata for Bassoon</i>
Jacob	<i>Fantasia*</i>
Sparke	<i>Fantasy, Concerto*</i> , <i>Party Piece</i>
White	<i>Lyric Suite*</i>

Senior/Graduate

Bach, J.	<i>Concerto, Variations</i>
Bach, J.S.	<i>Cello Suites</i>
Bourgeois	<i>Concerto</i>
Bowen	<i>Euphonium Music*</i>
Curnow	<i>Concerto, Symphonic Variants</i>
Horovitz	<i>Concerto*</i>
Mozart	<i>Bassoon Concerto*</i>
Reed	<i>Seascapes</i>
Sparke	<i>Pantomime*</i> , <i>Harlequin*</i>
Stephenson	<i>Sonata</i>
Szentpali	<i>Pearls</i>
Vivaldi	<i>Sonatas 1–6</i>