

	<b>Music Department</b> <b>MUA 175, 275, 375, 475</b> <b>Percussion Private Lessons</b>
<b>Fall 2015</b>	

<b>Meeting days:</b> By appointment	<b>Instructor:</b> Andy Watkins
<b>Meeting times:</b> By appointment	<b>Phone:</b> 619-849-2953
<b>Meeting location:</b> percussion studio (through the Green room)	<b>E-mail:</b> awatkins@pointloma.edu
	<b>Office hours:</b> by appointment

**PLNU Mission**  
**To Teach ~ To Shape ~ To Send**

Point Loma Nazarene University exists to provide higher education in a vital Christian community where minds are engaged and challenged, character is modeled and formed, and service becomes an expression of faith. Being of Wesleyan heritage, we aspire to be a learning community where grace is foundational, truth is pursued, and holiness is a way of life.

**COURSE DESCRIPTION**

This course is a series of weekly one-on-one percussion lessons. I will tailor our approach to this course based on your current ability level and which areas you need to focus on. If you are taking this class as an elective, our goal is to expand your musical knowledge and improve your abilities in percussion. If you are a music major, our objective is to get you to the level required to be a professional musician and/or educator.

Your lesson time is extremely valuable. At the beginning of each semester you will be assigned a regular lesson time for the entire semester. I will try to keep this time as consistent as possible, but there may be weeks where your lesson time may need to be changed due to variations in my rehearsal and performance schedule.

Please be punctual and prepared for ALL of your lessons. Have all materials for your lesson (sticks, mallets, books, solos, etc.) organized and ready to go when you come in. Success depends on consistent practice. Regular, steady practicing is much more beneficial than skipping multiple days then cramming later.

**REQUIRED MATERIALS**

I will make recommendations for books, mallets, and instruments to purchase based on what we are working on and what you have already. Musical materials can be expensive and percussionists require a

lot of different items. I recommend setting aside \$300-500 per semester for this, but I will try to work within your budget.

## **PRACTICING**

Consistent, daily practice is the key to improving your skills and achieving the goals we set forth in our lessons. Much like physical training, learning a new language, or any other complicated skill, cramming will not work. Those who want to perform professionally should be practicing AT LEAST 3-4 hours a day. Those who wish to be educators should be practicing AT LEAST 2 hours a day.

## **JURIES**

At the end of each semester, music majors will be required to play a jury. Non music majors who are in one of the large ensemble may also be required to play a jury. A jury is similar to a final exam. You will do a short performance in front of PLNU faculty consisting of material you have worked on in lessons over the semester.

## **ATTENDANCE AND MAKE-UP POLICY**

If you need to miss a lesson, you must contact me at least 24 hours in advance and you must have an adequate reason. If there is an emergency and it is less than 24 hours in advance, please try to call me. If you have an adequate excuse, I will do my best to offer a make-up. Unexcused absences will be reflected in your grade.

If the student is absent from more than 10 percent of class meetings, the faculty member has the option of filing a written report which may result in de-enrollment. If the absences exceed 20 percent, the student may be de-enrolled without notice. If the date of de-enrollment is past the last date to withdraw from a class, the student will be assigned a grade of W or WF consistent with university policy in the grading section of the catalog. See [Academic Policies](#) in the undergraduate student catalog.

## **PRACTICE ROOMS AND EQUIPMENT**

Rooms with percussion equipment: Practice Room E and the Band Room (CM118).

Process for getting in: Check at front desk with Emily, Betsy, or Office Monitor

Rules: No more than 2 people in a practice room at a time.

No food or drink allowed, except water.

If you leave the building, return the key for other students.

Depending on availability, percussion students may be able to reserve a consistent, weekly block of time to use the percussion instruments. Talk to Emily or Betsy at the front desk to inquire about doing this. If you reserve time, make sure and use it! If you miss your reserved times, your privilege to reserve time may be revoked. If you have a legitimate excuse to be absent from your reserved time, you must give at least 24 hours notice to the front desk that you will not be using it.

## FERPA POLICY

In compliance with federal law, neither PLNU student ID nor social security number should be used in publically posted grades or returned sets of assignments without student written permission. This class will meet the federal requirements by (each faculty member choose one strategy to use: distributing all grades and papers individually; requesting and filing written student permission; or assigning each student a unique class ID number not identifiable on the alphabetic roster.). Also in compliance with FERPA, you will be the only person given information about your progress in this class unless you have designated others to receive it in the “Information Release” section of the student portal. See [Policy Statements](#) in the undergrad student catalog.

## USE OF TECHNOLOGY

Point Loma Nazarene University encourages the use of technology for learning, communication, and collaboration. It is each student’s responsibility to check his or her PLNU email on a daily basis. Since eclass will be used in this course, it is each student’s responsibility to be able to access eclass and complete required tasks on time. (For help contact the Helpdesk x2222).

You are welcome to bring your laptop, iPad, and/or cell phone to class—but please make sure you use them appropriately and responsibly. If a tech tool becomes a distraction or disruption while class is in session, I will ask you to put it away or invite you to no longer bring it to class.

Grading for this course is on a fixed scale:

PERCENTAGE	GRADE	PERCENTAGE	GRADE
100-94	A	76.9-74	C
93.9-90	A-	73.9-70	C+
89.9-87	B+	69.9-67	D+
86.9-84	B	66.9-64	D
83.9-80	B-	63.9-60	D-
79.9-77	C+	Below 60	F