

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

MUSED 442 - Instrumental Curriculum: Methods & Materials

Spring 2008

|                            |
|----------------------------|
| <b>OBSERVATION OUTLINE</b> |
|----------------------------|

*Observation 1*

School: \_\_\_\_\_ Teacher: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Beginning/Ending time: \_\_\_\_\_

Ensemble (name/grades): \_\_\_\_\_ Number of students: \_\_\_\_\_

-----  
*Observation 2*

School: \_\_\_\_\_ Teacher: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Beginning/Ending time: \_\_\_\_\_

Ensemble (name/grades): \_\_\_\_\_ Number of students: \_\_\_\_\_

-----  
*Observation 3*

School: \_\_\_\_\_ Teacher: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Beginning/Ending time: \_\_\_\_\_

Ensemble (name/grades): \_\_\_\_\_ Number of students: \_\_\_\_\_

*QUESTIONS*

**SPECIFICS**

List the instrumentation for each of the ensembles you observed.

Outline the sequence of the class period from beginning to end. Include time, activities, materials and titles of the pieces played.

**WARM-UP**

Did these classes include any sort of warm-up or skills practice? If so, what performance fundamentals were DIRECTLY addressed by the teachers during warm-ups? Were there any fundamentals addressed INDIRECTLY? What tuning procedure was used? Individual? Section? Was an electronic tuner used? Did the procedure rely on the teacher's ear? The students' judgement? How would you describe the teachers' interactions with the students during this part of the rehearsal?

**LITERATURE**

What pieces did the group rehearse (including composer/arranger)? In what ways did the pieces each group was playing match the strengths and/or weaknesses of the ensemble? To what extent did each piece engage (or not engage) each section of the ensemble? Did you notice any clues concerning how well the students liked the pieces they were playing?

**ASSESSMENT**

On what specific aspects of performance (either fundamentals or contextual music making) did the students demonstrate noticeable improvement? For each piece rehearsed, list two specific musical issues that the teacher

addressed. How did the teacher correct these problems? Pretend you were going to be teaching the next rehearsal for each of these ensembles. Based on what you heard during your observation, identify one specific musical issue you would address with each ensemble.

#### INTANGIBLES

Compare and contrast each teacher's approach to his or her class. What sort of "podium personality" did each demonstrate? How did they establish the particular mood of their classroom? How would you describe their interactions with their students? Were there any striking differences or similarities that you observed among these three teachers?

#### APPLICATION

From each observation, identify one idea you would like to take with you into your own teaching experience.