

TROMBONE STUDIO SYLLABUS

Texas A&M University – Commerce
Department of Music



Applied Trombone

MUS 149, 151, 152, 351, 352, 551, 552

Spring 2023

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MUSIC DEPARTMENT MISSION STATEMENT

The Music Department of Texas A&M University-Commerce promotes excellence in music through the rigorous study of music history, literature, theory, composition, pedagogy, and the preparation of music performance in applied study and ensembles to meet the highest standards of aesthetic expression.

COURSE INFORMATION

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Music 149: Lessons for non-majors. Intended for students majoring in subjects other than music.

MUS 151/351: Minor Applied Lessons (for students studying a secondary instrument or non-majors). Private instruction for advanced music majors in keyboard, voice, instruments, or composition. One to four semester hours. This course includes recitals and performance forums with teacher-directed student evaluations and instructions. All students must pass the upper division barrier examination prior to enrollment. May be repeated for credit. **To enroll in MUS 351:** All students must pass the upper division barrier examination prior to enrollment.

MUS 152/352: Principal Applied Lessons. One to four semester hours. Private instruction for music majors in keyboard, voice, instruments, or composition. This course includes recitals and performance forums with teacher-directed student evaluations and instructions. May be repeated for credit. **To enroll in MUS 352:** All students must pass the upper division barrier examination prior to enrollment.

Graduate Level only:

MUS 551: Minor Applied Lessons. One to four semester hours. Private instruction for graduate performance majors. Prerequisites: Satisfactory level assessed in the applied music performance audition.

MUS 552: Principal Applied Lessons. One to four semester hours. Private instruction for music majors in keyboard, vocal instrumental, conducting, or composition. May be repeated for credit.

Applied Lessons at all levels will utilize live and recorded performances, pedagogical books, and method books and solo materials pertaining to trombone performance and pedagogy. Through individual lessons, students will gain proficiency in playing and teaching the trombone. The applied instructor selects literature and plans lessons in a progressive sequence tailored for each student's ability level and learning style to prepare the student to meet stated learning outcomes. Thus, the literature and skills addressed in each lesson will vary according to each student's experience in performance repertoire and strengths and weaknesses. In practice, after assessing a student's skills and needs in the early lessons, the applied instructor often provides a more detailed overview of the semester's activities; however, this overview is specific to that student and the sequential activities are contingent upon that student's continued progress. Students will improve fundamentals, technique, and musicianship through the study of:

- Fundamentals exercises
- Technical exercises
- Etudes
- Solos
- Orchestral and band excerpts
- Improvisation

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES

Minors

MUS 149: Students will perform selected repertoire with technique and musicianship suitable for a non-major and appropriate to the student's musical and developmental level.

MUS 151: Students will perform selected repertoire with basic technique and musicianship suitable for a secondary performance medium.

MUS 351: Students will perform selected repertoire with basic to intermediate technique and musicianship suitable for a secondary performance medium.

MUS 551: Students will perform selected repertoire with intermediate to advanced level technique and musicianship suitable for a minor applied lesson at the graduate level.

Majors

MUS 152: Students will perform selected repertoire suitable to the student's musical development with intermediate technique and musicianship in preparation for the upcoming junior level proficiency exam.

MUS 352: Students will perform selected repertoire suitable to the student's musical development with advanced technique and musicianship in preparation for the upcoming junior or senior recital.

MUS 552: Graduate students will perform selected repertoire suitable to the student's musical development with professional level technique and musicianship in preparation for the upcoming graduate recital.

In all applied lessons, students will improve their ability to perform musically on the trombone and become more informed and mature as a musician. Regardless of a student's major, musical or social background, past study, or musical aspirations, all students are expected to demonstrate personal investment towards their musical goals and progress on their instrument and as a musician. Students will become familiar with trombone solo literature through both listening and performance; develop pedagogical methods for teaching the trombone; become familiar with important trombone performers and pedagogues; and become an independent musician, capable of making informed and artistic decisions. The instructor sets specific short and long-term expectations on an individual basis to guide student progress for learning repertoire, development of skills on their instrument, and musical knowledge and understanding. Expectations are based on the student's musical goals. It is the student's responsibility to adequately prepare for each lesson to meet the expectations.

COURSE MATERIALS

All students are ***required to own*** the following materials by **week two** of the current semester. Failure to own required materials may result in the reduction of the overall course grade by one-half letter grade. A complete list of required and recommended supplies with links to purchase options is available on the D2L Applied Lesson shell, and [HERE](#).

Primary Instrument: All Music Education, Music Performance, and Jazz Studies majors are required to own professional-level instruments appropriate to their intended careers. **It is required that your instrument be a professional quality and maintained in good working order.*

Music

- Method books (listed below)
- Solo repertoire (as assigned on an individual basis)

Mutes

- Straight
- Cup

Recommended mutes:

- Harmon
- Plunger
- Bucket

Additional Supplies

- Binder/Folder for music (trombone choir sheet music, solos, etc.)
- Pencil with eraser (required at every lesson and rehearsal)
- Tuner and metronome (*apps are perfectly acceptable - Suggested app: Tonal Energy Tuner*)

Instrument Maintenance Supplies

- Slide Lubricant
- Spray bottle
- Tuning slide grease
- Slide snake
- Mouthpiece brush

Required Method Books

Arban, ed. Alessi/Bowman. *Complete Method*
Bordogni, Marco, arr. Rochut. *Melodious Etudes Vol. 1*
Blazhevich, Vladislav. *Advanced Musical Etudes*
Edwards, Brad. *Lip Slurs. Progressive Exercises for Tone & Technique*

Required for Bass Trombone Students only

Grigoriev, Boris, ed. Ostrander. *Studies (24)*
Vernon, Charlie. A 'Singing' Approach to The Trombone (2012)

Recommended Method Books

Blazhevich, Vladislav. *School for Trombone in Clefs*
Edwards, Brad. *Introductory Studies in Tenor & Alto Clef: Before Blazhevich*
Remington, Emory. *Warm-up Studies*
Tyrell, H.W. *40 Progressive Studies*
Vining, David. *Daily Routines for Tenor Trombone*
Voxman, *Selected Studies*

Recommended for Bass Trombone Students only

Bordogni, Marco, arr. Ostrander, *Melodious Etudes Vol. 1*
Gillis, Lew. *70 Progressive Studies*
Knaub, Don. *Pi al la Bone*
Tyrell, H.W. *40 Advanced Studies for Tuba*
Van Dijk, Ben. *Ben's Basics Method Book*
Vining, David. *Daily Routines for Bass Trombone*

NOTES

***If you use a device (ipad, tablet, etc.) to read music, you are still required to own the hard copy versions of these materials.** For iPad users, forScore is the suggested app for organizing and reading music.

*Other method/etude books, solos, etc., will be assigned based on an individual basis based on specific needs and goals. If your instructor requests that you obtain specific materials, it is your responsibility to obtain the required materials within two weeks of the assignment.

*Students are encouraged to seek out repertoire that is of interest to them. However, for a student to study the music in-depth or to perform the music, it must be approved by the instructor.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

INSTRUCTIONAL METHODS

In-person, one-on-one applied music instruction and group studio meeting (trombone choir).

ASSESSMENTS and COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Students will be evaluated on attendance, attitude, performance, preparedness, and progress in the following areas:

- Weekly Lessons and Technique Assessment
- Jury or Recital
- Written Assignments
- Studio Class (Trombone Choir)
- Fundamentals Class (as applicable)
- Event Attendance
- Public Performance (one per semester)

GRADING

Final grades in this course will be based on the following scale:

- A = 90%-100%
- B = 80%-89%
- C = 70%-79%
- D = 60%-69%
- F = 59% or Below

The final course grade is based on the following components:

Weekly Lesson & Technique Assessment	50%
Jury or Recital	20%
Written Assignments	10%
Studio & Fundamentals Class	15%
Event Attendance	5%
Public Performance	0%
Total	<hr/> 100%

WEEKLY LESSON & TECHNIQUE ASSESSMENT

Weekly Lesson

Grades will be based on 1) preparation, 2) performance of the assigned music, 3) improvement on a weekly basis, 4) attitude, and 5) work ethic. The student will receive a grade for each lesson. Noticeable improvement from week to week is expected. The student is responsible for their own self-evaluation, to demonstrate improvement in

assigned materials and fundamentals, and to demonstrate improvement in their ability to self-assess and diagnose their own playing. Evaluation and assessment are determined by the student's ability to perform assigned music with correct fundamentals, technical skills, and musical artistry at a level appropriate for their course of study. Students are expected to be on time for their lesson, warmed-up, have all required materials, and ready to play. If you are not warmed-up, missing materials, or generally unprepared to play at your lesson time, your grade for that lesson may be reduced up to a full letter grade. Each lesson will be given a grade based on the following grading scale:

- A** – There is substantial evidence of practice resulting in significant improvement from the prior lesson. All material is thoroughly to exceptionally well prepared. Performance attempts demonstrate near to full mastery.
- B** – There is clear evidence of outside practice and most aspects of the material show improvement. Most material is well prepared. Performance attempts demonstrate moderate success; some areas may need improvement and may be reassigned.
- C** – There is some evidence of outside practice with negligible improvement from the previous lesson; materials are prepared at only a minimal level, or not prepared at an acceptable level. Performance attempts result in minimal success and will be reassigned.
- D** – There is little if any evidence of outside practice. Most material is not prepared, and no improvement is noticeable from the prior lesson.
- F** – Failing work shows little or no preparation; or the student missed the lesson without providing notice.

Scale/Technique/Fundamentals Assessment

Students will be assigned scales, technique patterns, or fundamental exercises on a weekly basis. The instructor may require that the student record the assignment in advance and submit it prior to their lesson. The assignment will be graded on accuracy of pitch and time, quality and consistency of articulation and tone, and overall preparedness at the assigned tempo. Scales are expected to be memorized.

Lesson document

Each student will have access to their own Lesson Record document which will track assignments, material performed/worked on during the lesson, their weekly grade, and instructor notes. The student has access to this document and may add their own notes for their own benefit or documentation. The lesson grade will be reflected by an A, B, C, D, or F. If a student demonstrates a positive attitude, effective preparation, and improvement from the previous week, the student will receive a base grade of an "A" (equivalent to 85 points), with the remaining 15 points to be earned through their scale/technique/fundamentals assessment.

Lesson Grading Structure

Performance, Attitude, Weekly Improvement, Preparation	85%
Scale/Technique/Fundamentals Assessment	15%

PUBLIC PERFORMANCE REQUIREMENT

All students are required to complete **one solo performance** per semester. A performance on the student convocation recital, or a performance on the studio recital fulfill this requirement. The performance is assessed on preparation, professional presentation, and performance quality. The performance does not count towards the student's grade.

JURY PROCEDURES AND GRADING

Major Applied Jury

The jury occurs at the end of each semester and constitutes 20% of the semester lesson grade. Every student in private study is required to present a jury unless the student has presented a solo recital during the current semester (see **RECITAL PROCEDURES AND GRADING**) or at the discretion of the professor. The jury consists of a prepared solo with accompaniment performed for a panel of faculty, and *additionally* the student will perform scales and sight-reading for their main instructor. The student is responsible for securing an accompanist and scheduling two rehearsals, one of which must be with the instructor. (See *Accompanists*). Prior to the jury performance, the student is required to:

- Compensate their accompanist *in full*
- Own an original copy of their solo selection
- Schedule the final rehearsal with their accompanist in coordination with their instructor (or arrange to submit a recording of their final rehearsal if the instructor is not able to be present.)

At the discretion of the instructor, the student may not be permitted to perform their jury if they do not meet these requirements.

Minor Applied Jury

Students enrolled in minor applied lessons (MUS 151/351) may be required to perform a jury at the discretion of their instructor. If a student is enrolled in secondary lessons as a performance major, the student is required to perform a jury.

Jury Timeline, Deadlines, and Rehearsal Details

The student is required to follow the following procedures to receive full credit for their jury. Failure to meet any one of the deadlines may result in the reduction of the overall jury grade by one letter grade.

Rehearsals: Students are required to schedule TWO rehearsals with their accompanist. If performing on a studio recital, one rehearsal will be prior to the studio recital, the second will be prior to the jury. The student is required to coordinate with the instructor and accompanist to ensure that the instructor is present for at least ONE rehearsal.

Timeline

- By week 3:
 - The student will receive jury repertoire options from their instructor. The student is expected to listen to recordings and view the music for all possible repertoire.
 - The student will contact and secure an accompanist.
- By week 5:
 - Jury repertoire selection is due. The student will notify their instructor of their selection.
 - The student is required to purchase a physical (or digital) copy of their repertoire selection.
 - The student will schedule **BOTH** rehearsals with their accompanist at this time.
- By week 7:
 - Students are required to have the physical (or purchased digital copy) of their repertoire selection.
 - The student will send the piano score to their accompanist.

Jury Grading Structure

Solo performance	85%
Scales/Technique Assessment	10%
Sight-reading	5%

Junior Level Proficiency Exam

At the end of the 4th semester of applied study all students must first pass a proficiency jury to continue on to upper division applied lessons (300 level). The proficiency exam consists of:

- Accompanied solo from standard recital repertoire
- Four additional works to be chosen at the instructor's discretion (etudes and/or excerpts)
- Scales: all majors and three forms of minors (pattern and tempo specified by the instructor)
- Sight-reading

Transfer students should attempt the JLPE at the end of their second semester of applied study at TAMUC. Students who fail a portion of this jury will be afforded another opportunity at the end of the following long semester to pass that portion.

Failure to pass the second attempt will result in dismissal from the degree program.

RECITAL PROCEDURES AND GRADING

Full details regarding recitals are available on the Music Department Website in the [Student Handbook](#).

Requirements

All students enrolled in Major Applied Lessons are required to perform a recital. Music minors are not required to perform a recital. At the discretion of the instruction, any student may request to perform a recital. All recitals require the approval of the instructor for the date/time/location, accompanist and assisting musicians as applicable, and repertoire. Recital requirements by degree are:

- Performance Majors
 - o Junior Recital: half recital
 - o Senior Recital: full recital
- Music Education Majors
 - o Senior Recital: 50 minutes of music
- Music Minors
 - o No Recital requirement

Course Enrollment

The student will enroll in 1 hour of MUS 352 Recital for each half-recital segment required of them, and *also* enroll in applied lessons for the appropriate number of credits depending on their degree requirements. Recitals may be defined as either half or full, and requirements depend upon the student's specific degree program.

- Half Recital - a minimum of 25 minutes of music with no more than 12 and 1/2 minutes devoted to chamber music.
- Full Recital - a minimum of 50 minutes of music with no more than 20 minutes devoted to chamber music.

Grading

All students must receive a "C" or above to pass the recital. Students performing a recital *do not* perform a jury during the semester of the recital. The recital is graded in lieu of the jury, and consists of 20% of the final grade. Students will be graded on the following elements:

- Performance/Technique
- Musicianship / Interpretation
- Professionalism / Presence

Additionally, the primary instructor may cancel a student recital at any time for the following reasons:

- Lack of progress/preparation
- Failure to schedule a recital hearing
- Failure to turn in the proper scheduling paperwork on time
- Failure to submit program or program notes (when applicable)
- Failure to pay accompanist fees (when applicable)

Scheduling and Fees

The instructor and accompanist must approve the date/time/location of the recital. After receiving approval, the student must acquire all required signatures (three applied faculty total) and must submit to the Music Department Office the Recital Scheduling Form *no later than three weeks prior to the event*. The form is available from the Department of Music Website or the Department Office. The Music Department requires students pay a fee when submitting the form.

Rehearsals

The student is required to coordinate with their instructor to schedule a dress rehearsal with their accompanist and/or all assisting musicians prior to the recital hearing. The instructor may also require the student to schedule a specified number of rehearsals with accompanist and/or assisting musicians with the instructor *prior to the dress rehearsal*. The instructor reserves the right to cancel any student recital due to lack of preparation.

Hearing

All degree recitals require a “recital hearing” to be scheduled and completed prior to the recital in order for the instructor to give final approval to move forward with the recital. The hearing is graded Pass/Fail. Committee members will use the Recital Performance Scoring Rubric to determine the students’ score.

Additional Considerations

Programs/Program Notes: A program is **required** for all degree recitals. A first copy is due to the instructor *two weeks prior to the hearing*. This allows for review by the instructor and edits. The student must submit the final copy of the program *one week prior to the hearing*.

Prep-Kitchen Use: Students may use the prep-kitchen if they plan to host a reception after the event. Use of the prep-kitchen requires a deposit, and students are solely responsible to adhere to the rules of the prep-kitchen. Failure to do so may result in lowering of the student’s final grade.

WRITTEN ASSIGNMENTS

Written assignments constitute 10% of the final grade. Each semester a list of assignments will be posted in the D2L Trombone Studio shell with complete details for each assignment. Late assignments will be graded with a 10-point reduction of the overall grade per day.

STUDIO CLASS & FUNDAMENTALS CLASS PARTICIPATION

The expectations for studio class and fundamentals class regarding attendance, preparation, and attitude are the same as for individual lessons.

Studio Class

Studio class meeting time is Mondays from 4:00-4:50pm. All students are required to attend. Studio class will consist mainly of trombone choir rehearsal; students are expected to arrive on time, warmed-up, and with all

required materials. Required materials include: instrument, music, mutes (if applicable), pencil/writing implement.

Fundamentals Class*

**This class will occur as scheduling permits.*

Fundamentals Class will be scheduled once per week for one hour. ***Freshmen are required to attend all meetings; all other students are encouraged to attend.*** The class covers the essentials of success for both music majors and minors, specifically focusing on the fundamentals of playing. Other aspects of performance including technique, sight-reading, pedagogy, practice strategies, and organizational/scheduling skills are also covered in the class.

EVENT ATTENDANCE

See the D2L Applied Lesson Shell for a full list of up-to-date events.

Required Events

- **ALL** trombone guest artist events
- **ALL** recitals by guests of the brass division
- **ALL** trombone studio member recitals (Elective/Junior/Senior/Graduate/Chamber recitals)
- Any other events as scheduled that are required will be listed on the D2L Shell and announced

You are ***EXPECTED TO ATTEND*** all Department of Music faculty recitals, student recitals and ensemble concerts. In doing so you are showing your support for your professors and colleagues as well as gaining valuable performance experience of your own.

Events required for each semester will be announced and posted on the D2L Applied Lesson Shell as early as possible. As required events are scheduled, they will be added to the list and announced. While many of these events will count toward the Recital Attendance Requirement established by the Department of Music (refer to the Music Student Handbook), you are expected to attend all of the required events regardless of the number of attendance credits you may have already accumulated during the semester. ***Failure to attend one of these events will result in the grade of a zero (0) for the event.***

COURSE AND UNIVERSITY PROCEDURES/POLICIES

SYLLABUS CHANGE POLICY

The syllabus is a guide. Circumstances and events, such as student progress, may make it necessary for the instructor to modify the syllabus during the semester. Any changes made to the syllabus will be announced in advance.

ATTENDANCE POLICY

Students are expected to attend all scheduled lessons, the weekly studio class meeting, and the warm-up class (as required by their level). **Any unexcused absence will result in the lowering of the final lesson grade by one letter grade.** Unexcused absences for required events will result in the lowering of the final lesson grade by half a letter grade (5 points).

Unexcused absence: Any absence that occurs without a minimum of 24 hours advance notification and/or without instructor approval is considered unexcused. *Work obligations are not considered excused absences.*

Excused absence: An absence may be considered excused only if the instructor is given at least 24 hours advance notice and the instructor approves the absence. An absence without prior notification may only be considered excused if it is an emergency; the student may be required to provide documentation.

MAKE-UP LESSONS

If the instructor misses a lesson, the instructor will notify the student in advance and the lesson will be rescheduled. If a student misses a lesson for an unexcused reason, the lesson will not be made up and will result in lowering of the student's final grade. If a student has a reason to miss a lesson that is considered excused (has received approval from the instructor to miss the lesson), the student may request to reschedule the lesson. **A student may request to cancel ONE lesson per semester for any reason.** This lesson will *not* count towards the student's final grade. If a student attends ALL lessons per semester, their lowest lesson grade will be dropped, so it is in your best interest to attend all lessons. Contact your instructor immediately if extenuating circumstances occur. It is at the discretion of the instructor whether to make up a lesson, and this will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis.

EXCESSIVE TARDINESS

The student will earn a semester grade of "Incomplete" for excessive EXCUSED absences. If a student is more than 10 minutes late to a lesson or other studio event without notifying the instructor or for an unexcused reason, the student can earn no more than 50% credit for that lesson or event. Three instances of a student arriving late without notification will be considered an unexcused absence resulting in a lowered final grade. For more information on the University attendance policy, please visit the [Attendance](#) page.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

Students at Texas A&M University-Commerce are expected to maintain high standards of integrity and honesty in all of their scholastic work. For more details and the definition of academic dishonesty see the following procedures: [Undergraduate Academic Dishonesty 13.99.99.R0.03](#)

ADDITIONAL POLICIES

Performance Attire/Concert Dress: Students will be expected to perform for their peers and in concerts for the public throughout the semester. You must acquire professional dress for all performances. Concert/performance attire may be all black, or "professional attire" such as dress pants and dress shirt, skirts or dresses, and dress shoes and socks/stockings. All skirts or dresses must be at or below the knee; shirts/blouses must cover the shoulder (no sleeveless tops). Additional guides on stage presence and attire may be found in the D2L Trombone Studio shell.

Accompanists

Accompanist fees will be the responsibility of the student for juries, studio recitals, studio classes, and degree recitals. The Music Department will be responsible for covering the cost of accompanist fees for departmental student recitals, including convocations and the honors recital. *See the [Student Handbook](#) for full details regarding accompanists.*

Competitions

All students are encouraged to enter solo and/or chamber music competitions appropriate to their individual performance levels. Beyond preparing musically, preparation may involve recording (audio and/or video), securing an accompanist and paying their fees, scheduling rehearsal and recording time, entry/registration fees, travel expenses. Planning far in advance is crucial to a successful competition process.

Letters of Recommendation

When asking for a letter of recommendation, students must give two weeks notice to the instructor. Each letter is written specifically for the student; this is a courtesy to the instructor, allowing for a thoughtful and personal letter to be written. Students can expect that the letter will be honestly written with the best intentions for the student.

Cell Phone Policy

Cell phones are expected to **not** be a distraction during lessons and studio/trombone choir. Students may keep cell phones on them (pockets, bags, etc.) during trombone choir rehearsals, but they must be on SILENT and out of view (not on stands). Additionally, it is expected that students DO NOT use their cell phone during rehearsals. In the case of an emergency (immediate attention required for serious situations) students may step away from rehearsal to use their cell phone. During lessons the student may use a cell phone for the purpose of useful apps relevant to the lesson. If a student is using their cell phone inappropriately and/or distracting others with its use, the student may be asked to leave their cell phone with the instructor for the remainder of the rehearsal, or may be asked to leave rehearsal and receive a “0” for that rehearsal.

STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES - ADA STATEMENT

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you have a disability requiring an accommodation, contact the Office of Student Disability Services at 903-886-5150, 903-886—5835; email studentdisabilityservices@tamuc.edu; online at [Office of Student Disability Resources and Services](#); or in-person in Room 162 of the Velma K. Waters Library.

TENETS OF COMMON BEHAVIOR

All students enrolled at the university shall follow the tenets of common decency and acceptable behavior conducive to a positive learning environment. (See current Student Guidebook)

CAMPUS CONCEALED CARRY STATEMENT

Campus Concealed Carry - Texas Senate Bill - 11 (Government Code 411.2031, et al.) authorizes the carrying of a concealed handgun in Texas A&M University-Commerce buildings only by persons who have been issued and are in possession of a Texas License to Carry a Handgun. Qualified law enforcement officers or those who are otherwise authorized to carry a concealed handgun in the State of Texas are also permitted to do so. Pursuant to Penal Code (PC) 46.035 and A&M Commerce Rule 34.06.02.R1, license holders may not carry a concealed handgun in restricted locations. For a list of locations, please refer to <http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedure/s/34SafetyOfEmployeesAndStudents/34.06.02.R1.pdf> and/or consult your event organizer). Pursuant to PC 46.035, the open carrying of handguns is prohibited on all A&M-Commerce campuses. Report violations to the University Police Department at 903-886-5868 or 9-1-1.