Mr Peter Luff  
Senior Lecturer in French Horn

Hi, my name’s Peter Luff and I am a senior lecturer in brass studies, here at the Queensland Conservatorium and my speciality is French horn, classical brass performance. What can I tell you about our department? We have possibly the largest brass department in Australia, with a student cohort of nearly 50 students and we have just had 47 new hopefuls apply for our undergraduate degree course next year and I guess I would like to talk to you about what we do here.

A typical week we would start on a Monday morning, 8am, bright and early and do group warm ups. So with the horn ensemble for example and then move onto one of our ensemble offerings, brass ensemble and then on the Tuesday afternoon we would be doing wind orchestra and symphony orchestra and then throughout the week we have brass band, which is the only brass band course of its kind in Australia and we now offer brass band solo instruments as a major study.

Let’s talk about the sessional staff and our other teaching staff, are drawn from professionals from all around Brisbane, the majority of which performs with the Queensland Symphony Orchestra and not just those, we also access many of the freelance performers in and around Brisbane to give you a broader and varied teacher offering.

You can expect to be performing the majority of the week. We like to check up on our students and make sure you’re all practising. They enjoy practising, we enjoy practising and we love making music together. I think one of the attractions for the Queensland Conservatorium brass department is our sense of collegiality, we do a lot of work together and we do a lot of, as I said before, we warm up together in different ensemble configurations. We have many chamber music offerings and I would like to think that we have probably the largest amount of ensemble offerings in the country. As I said before, we have a brass ensemble, symphony orchestra, chamber orchestra, wind orchestra and then breaking it down to small instrumental ensembles, we have horn ensemble, trombone ensemble, trumpet ensemble and believe it or not, next year we are going even have a tuba ensemble; it will be very interesting to hear what that sounds like.

So I think it's a wonderful place, I know our students think it's a wonderful place and we look forward to hopefully seeing you in the future and welcoming our applications. Thank you.