

Mississippi College Band

Music 195/095 Syllabus

***Prerequisite: Previous experience on a
wind or percussion instrument***

1/0 credits per semester

Academic Year 2012/2013

Monday/Wednesday - 4:00 - 5:30 p.m.

Friday - 2:00 - 3:30 p.m.

Band Hall

Instructor

Dr. Craig S. Young

Band Hall

925-3439 (Office)

cyoung@mc.edu

Course Description

The Symphonic Winds is dedicated to learning, preparing, and performing some of the highest quality music composed for the wind band.

During the Fall Semester, Choctaw Pep Band concentrates on developing musically interesting and enjoyable presentations for performance at all Mississippi College home football games.

Rationale

The College Band is an integral part of a cultural environment that is important to any viable college experience. Through the study of great works of art and entertainment in the Symphonic Winds and Choctaw Pep Band, students improve themselves and become better contributing members of our own culture and the culture of others. Through participation in the College Band, students also learn about quality, leadership, and dedication.

Objectives

1. Students' sense of musicianship and sense of culture will be enhanced through the study and performance of quality music.
2. Instrumental technique for each student is expected to improve through individual practice and group rehearsals.
3. The community and university experience will be enhanced through artistic and entertaining concerts and programs presented by the College Band.

Performances and Selected Rehearsal Dates

SYMPHONIC WINDS SCHEDULE

| <u>Date</u> | <u>Event</u> | <u>Time</u> |
|--------------|--|----------------------|
| Aug. 27 - 30 | Seating Auditions | Various |
| Sept. 5 | First Rehearsal of Fall Semester (Band Hall) | 4:00 - 5:30 pm |
| Oct. 8/9 | Fall Break (No Classes) | |
| Nov. 9 | Symphonic Winds Rehearsal (Friday) | 2:00-3:30 pm |
| Nov. 14/15 | Symphonic Winds Fall Tour (no overnight) | 7am (Exact Time TBA) |
| Nov. 19 | Concert (Swor Auditorium) | 8:00 pm (Meet 7:00) |
| Jan. 14 | First Rehearsal of Spring Semester (Band Hall) | 4:00 - 5:30 pm |
| Feb. 27 | Dress Rehearsal (Swor Auditorium) | 4:00 - 5:30pm |
| Feb. 28 | Symphonic Winds Concert (Swor Auditorium) | 7:30 pm (Meet 6:30) |
| Mar. 6/7 | Symphonic Winds Spring Tour | 7am (Exact Time TBA) |
| Mar. 11-15 | Spring Break | |
| Apr. 26 | Dress Rehearsal (Swor Auditorium) | 2:00 - 3:30pm |
| Apr. 28 | Symphonic Winds Concert (Swor Auditorium) | 3:00 pm (Meet 2:00) |

CHOCTAW PEP BAND PERFORMANCE SCHEDULE

| <u>Date</u> | <u>Who</u> | <u>Warm-up</u> | <u>Game</u> |
|-------------|---------------------------------|----------------|-------------|
| Aug. 30 | at Milsaps College | TBA | 7:00p |
| Sept. 3 | Labor Day Holiday (No Classes) | | |
| Sept. 8 | Webber International | 5:15p | 6:00p |
| Oct. 6 | Sul Ross State | 12:15 | 1:00p |
| Oct. 8/9 | Fall Break (No Classes) | | |
| Oct. 27 | Homecoming Parade | 12:00p | 1:00p |
| Oct. 27 | East Texas Baptist (Homecoming) | 2:15p | 3:00p |
| Nov. 3 | Louisiana College (Preview Day) | 12:15p | 1:00p |

CODE OF THE MISSISSIPPI COLLEGE BAND

1. Rehearsals

1.1 Rehearsals are intended to bring about a consensus of musical concepts among the members in an ensemble. This is NOT a time for you to practice! Practicing must be done before any useful rehearsal can take place. It is absolutely necessary for each band member to be prepared to rehearse, both mentally and physically. Otherwise, rehearsals could only accomplish what should have been accomplished individually.

1.2. Always have a pencil handy at every rehearsal. While indiscriminate scribbling on music is not acceptable, sometimes it is necessary to write on the music to help the memory or to make changes. All markings will need to be erased before returning the music, so keep it to a minimum and keep it neat.

2. Performances

Performances require all band members to be at a peak mental and emotional state in order to successfully execute everything that has been accomplished throughout the rehearsal process. This requires adequate rest and attention to the task at hand. It is important that you give yourself plenty of time prior to any performance for adequate mental preparation.

3. Grades and Attendance

Since a high level of participation from each band member is crucial to achieving a high standard of excellence within any ensemble, the following regulations have been set for the good of all members of the Mississippi College Bands.

3.1. Attendance, effort, improvement, and an adequate level of preparedness is expected from all members. Effort and Improvement will count as 20% of the final grade, as will Preparedness, while Attendance will make up the final 60%.

3.2. Every band member is required to attend all rehearsals, performances, and mandatory events. Therefore, **no unexcused absences will be allowed**. Each rehearsal missed without consent will result in a lowering of the attendance grade by one letter (ex: A to B). Since the acceptance of scholarship monies is a contract to participate, failure to attend will also result in a reduction of scholarship monies beginning with the second unexcused absence. The amount will be determined as a percentage of the number of rehearsals and performances in that semester.

3.3. Any performance missed without prior consent of the director (or extreme medical emergency) will result in a zero for the attendance portion of the grade for the semester.

3.4. Every band member needs to be on time to all rehearsals, performances, and mandatory events. Arriving at 4:00 for a 4:00 rehearsal does not constitute "on time." You must have your equipment, instrument, embouchure/hands, and mind prepared for the rehearsal. Give yourself plenty of time. Rehearsal will not start early at any time even when everyone is present.

3.5 Three unexcused tardies constitute one unexcused absence.

3.6 If you do arrive late for a rehearsal, it is *your* responsibility to let the director know that you arrived in order for that absence to be replaced with a tardy.

3.7. All absences and tardies should be discussed with the director **in advance and be put into writing**. As a rule, only illness or emergency situations (such as death in the family) will be excused, although there are always situations which cannot be accounted for in this policy. However, such events as parties (anniversaries, birthdays, etc, even if grandmother is turning 80), reunions, and concerts (no matter how important you may think they are) will not be excused. The director retains the right **not** to accept any excuse. *Please do not even ask if there is any question whether it would be acceptable.*

3.8. The director must be informed of any unforeseen absences, such as sudden illness, **prior to** the beginning of the rehearsal. You may either leave a message at the band office (925.3439), with Dottie Serio in the Music Office (925.3440), or by email (cyoung@mc.edu).

3.9. A grade of “B” or higher must be obtained to receive credit for MUS 095.

4. Conduct

The following guidelines must be adhered to when the band is assembled:

4.1. All band members will conduct themselves in a professional manner during all public appearances and rehearsals.

4.2. Smoking will not be permitted by any band member while the band is assembled.

4.3. No display of affection will be permitted while officially assembled (this includes in the stands during a football game).

4.4. Profanity is never acceptable during any band function.

4.5. Possession of, or being under the influence of alcohol or illegal drugs will not be tolerated at any Mississippi College Band function.

5. Band Hall/Office Procedures

5.1. All band members are encouraged to use the practice rooms, the Ensemble Room, or the Percussion Room for practicing or studying. The Lounge is open to anyone for socializing, studying, or practicing anytime it is not being used for classes or studio lessons. Please obtain permission before using the television.

5.2. The stereos in the lounge and main rehearsal hall are available for listening to Mississippi Public Radio or any of the recordings (or stations) provided or approved by the director.

5.3. The Main Hall should be reserved for studio lessons, practicing, sectionals, and other musical happenings.

5.4. All other areas, including the Director's office, Outer Office, Library, Instrument Storage rooms, and Uniform Storage Room (upstairs) are off limits to everyone except those individuals who have received permission from the Director.

5.5. All wind instruments should be stored *inside* the storage rack located in the Main Hall. No wind instruments should be left outside of these three areas unless they are normally stored in the Lounge (tubas and baritone saxophone), or do not fit in the storage rack, in which case they may be neatly placed on the floor beside the rack.

5.6. All trash should be thrown away in the proper receptacles located in the Main Hall and the lounge.

6. Cell Phones

(or smartphone/blackberry/beeper, etc, hereafter referred to as “cell phone”)

6.1. Cell phones are not allowed in any rehearsal or performance. Please conceal them in a bag or case *away from* the rehearsal/performance area.

6.2. Should a cell phone be SEEN or HEARD by the director, it will be immediately confiscated and not returned until the next gathering.

6.3. Should a student be observed INTERACTING with a cell phone (texting/talking/reading), it will be immediately confiscated and not returned for at least two gatherings.

7. Music and Flip Folders

7.1. Each band member will be loaned music, charts, and a flip folder during the pep band season. All of these remain the property of Mississippi College and should be returned at the end of the season in the same (or similar) shape as when they were given to you.

7.2. If any of the music is accidentally misplaced, you are entitled to one (1) free replacement, provided that it is not *all* of the music or charts. Write down the title, instrument, part number, and your name, and give it to a student helper immediately upon discovering the absence. The student helper will get you another copy as soon as possible (but don't expect miracles!).

7.3. Report any missing flip folders to the Director. The cost of a new flip folder will be ten dollars (\$10).

7.4. Symphonic Winds music is different from pep band music in that there are limited (often times only one) part for each instrumental part (ex: Timpani, 3rd Clarinet). If you misplace your music, and another part is available, you may obtain it in the manner listed above in part 7.2. If another part is not available, you will be responsible for either copying the part from the score (legibly), replacing the part (\$5 - \$10, *if available*), or replacing the entire composition (\$75 - \$200).

Any music not returned at the end of the semester, whether in the fall or spring, will result in a fine and possibly a hold on grades.

8. Instruments

8.1. There are a number of instruments available for loan by the Mississippi College Bands. Damage to these instruments, however, would result in them no longer being available for others to use when they are needed at a later time. Please care for these instruments as well as (or better than) you would care for it if it were your own.

8.2. A bond card must be legibly filled out for all equipment issued. Members will be held legally responsible for all items which appear on the bond card. Any equipment which is lost, stolen, or missing will be replaced at the expense of the member to whom the equipment was issued.

8.3. Any repairs beyond reasonable wear will be paid by the student. If an instrument requires repair prior to the date at which it is returned, the student should have it repaired at his/her own expense.

8.4. Instruments are generally only checked out for one semester at a time. An instrument may be checked out for both semesters in instances where a need for both semesters is established and assurances of participation in both semesters is given. Instruments generally cannot be checked out during the summer semesters. If an instrument is checked out for both the autumn and spring semesters and the student finds that participation in the spring semester is not possible, then the instrument must be returned by the beginning of Autumn Semester Final Exams.

8.5. All instruments must be returned on the announced date(s). Failure to do so will result in a \$10 fine per week and possibly a hold placed on the student's records. If the instrument is not returned prior to the last day of final exams, the student will be charged the replacement cost of the instrument.

8.6. When an instrument is returned, the student may be asked to demonstrate that the instrument is in working order and that all accessories are returned as well. Any minor repair needs should be noted for future consideration.

9. Symphonic Winds Uniforms

Black Dress or Tuxedo for Concert Band/Symphonic Winds - There is not any single style that is mandated for either the dress or tuxedo. Dresses should hang below the knee when sitting (conservative, without shiny adornments). Women may also wear formal black pants and black blouse. A good place to see examples is the web site concertblack.com (this also may be a good place to order from if you do not have somewhere else in mind). Tuxedos must include a white shirt and a black bow tie, and can be purchased through the Tuxedo Junction Formal Wear in the Metrocenter Mall. The cost for the tuxedos is generally around \$170. Often times students like to buy their tuxes prior to attending formals so that they do not need to rent tuxedos.