



UNIVERSITY OF NORTH TEXAS
WIND STUDIES

**MUAG 5860.001 WIND LITERATURE I
THE HISTORY AND PHILOSOPHY OF THE WIND BAND:
PREHISTORIC TO FRENCH REVOLUTION**

**Fall Semester 2026
Monday/Wednesday 8:00—9:20 AM
MUSI 2006**

Instructor: Dr. Andrew Trachsel
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Office hours: By appointment

Course Description and Purpose

This course is designed to present an overview of the repertoire and history of the wind band from the Prehistoric Era to the French Revolution, through its music, instruments, and people. Important to the discussion will be significant repertoire of artistic and historic merit; influential composers, conductors, ensembles, and organizations; key historical events; philosophical and political movements; instrumental developments and expansion of instrumentation.

Course Objectives

At the conclusion of this course, the student will be able to:

- Be familiar with significant repertoire of the wind band and be aware of contemporary trends of the modern wind band, from Ancient Times to the French Revolution
- Identify the people—composers, conductors, ensembles, and organizations—important to the history of the wind band medium
- Discuss key events and philosophical and political movements in the history of the wind band
- Trace the change and growth of the instrumentation of the wind band

Course Schedule: Reading & Listening Assignments

Please consider the following list a tentative schedule; the pace and direction may change depending on several factors, including the dynamic and interests of the students.

(Week) Date “Topic(s)” / Pre-Readings

INTRODUCTION

- (1) Aug. 17 “What’s in a Name? What is a Wind Band?”
Aug. 19 “Serious Artistic Merit”

ANCIENT AND MEDIEVAL WIND MUSIC

- (2) Aug. 24 Whitwell 1: “Wind Music Before the Christian Era”
Aug. 26 Whitwell 2: “Wind Instruments and the Early Christian Church”

- (3) Aug. 31 Whitwell 3: "Civic Wind Bands"
 Sep. 2 Whitwell 4: "Court Wind Bands"
- (4) Sep. 7 *No class meeting (Labor Day)*
 Sep. 9 **TEST #1: Ancient and Medieval Wind Music**
- DAVID MUNROW: EARLY MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS
- (5) Sep. 14 Flutes and Whistles
 Sep. 16 Reed Instruments
- (6) Sep. 21 Brass Instruments
 Sep. 23 Keyboard and Percussion
- THE RENAISSANCE
- (7) Sep. 28 Whitwell 5: "Court Winds Bands"
 Sep. 30 Whitwell 6: "Civic Wind Bands"
- (8) Oct. 5 Whitwell 7: "Church Wind Bands"
 Oct. 7 **TEST #2: The Renaissance**
- THE BAROQUE
- (9) Oct. 12 Whitwell 8: "The Birth of the Hautboisten and Harmoniemusik"
 Oct. 14 Whitwell 9: Court Wind Bands
- (10) Oct. 19 Whitwell 10: Military Bands
 Oct. 21 Whitwell 11: Civic Wind Bands
- (11) Oct. 26 Whitwell 12: Church Wind Bands
 Oct. 28 **TEST #3: The Baroque**
- THE CLASSIC PERIOD
- (12) Nov. 2 Whitwell 13: Court Wind Bands
 Nov. 4 Whitwell 14: Military Bands
- (13) Nov. 9 Whitwell 15: Civic Wind Bands
 Nov. 11 **TEST #4: The Classic Period**
- (14) Nov. 16 Whitwell 16: Music of the French Revolution in Paris
 Nov. 18 Various Topics
- Nov. 23 *No class meeting (Thanksgiving Break)*
 Nov. 25 *No class meeting (Thanksgiving Break)*
- (15) Nov. 30 Final Review
 Dec. 2 **FINAL EXAMINATION: Ancient to French Revolution**

Primary Resources

Whitwell, David. *A Concise History of the Wind Band*. 2nd edition. Austin: Whitwell Publishing, 2010.

Munrow, David. *Early Musical Instruments*. Granada TV, 1976.

Rhodes, Stephen. *A History of the Wind Band* (<https://windbandhistory.neocities.org/index-2>)

Fennell, Frederick. *Time and the Winds: A Short History of the Use of Wind Instruments in the Orchestra, Band, and the Wind Ensemble*. Huntersville, NC: Northland, 1954/2009.

Goldman, Richard Franko. *The Concert Band*. New York: Rinehart and Co., 1946.

Goldman, Richard Franko. *The Wind Band: Its Literature and Technique*. Boston: Allyn-Bacon, 1961.

Corporon, Eugene Migliaro. "Historical Highlights of the Wind Band: A Heritage and Lineage, Part 1: Antiquity to Classical." In *Explorations, Discoveries, Inventions, and Designs in the Know Where*. Chicago: GIA Publications, 2016. (Provided in the course material on Canvas)

Tatum, Lisa. *A Survey of Wind Literature from 1551–2022*. (<https://raider.pressbooks.pub/surveyofwindlit/>)

Recommended Resources

Baines, Anthony. *Brass Instruments: Their History and Development*.

Baines, Anthony. *Woodwind Instruments & Their History*.

Battisti, Frank L. *The New Winds of Change: The Evolution of the Contemporary American Wind Band/Ensemble and Its Music*. Galesville, MD: Meredith Music, 2018. (Available from [Amazon](#))

Carse, Adam. *The History of Orchestration*. Mineola, NY: Dover, 2012.

Carse, Adam. *Musical Wind Instruments*. New York: Da Capo, 1965.

Corporon, Eugene Migliaro. *Explorations, Discoveries, Inventions, and Designs in the Know Where*. Chicago: GIA Publications, 2016.

Foster, Robert. *Wind Bands of the World: A Chronicle of a Cherished Tradition*. Galesville, MD: Meredith Music, 2013.

Hansen, Richard K. *The American Wind Band: A Cultural History*. Chicago: GIA Publications, 2005).

Miles, Richard, editor. *Teaching Music through Performance in Band*. Chicago: GIA Publications, 1997-present. Eleven volumes, plus two beginning band, one middle school, one solo repertoire, and one march volume. (teachingmusic.org)

Sachs, Curt. *The History of Musical Instruments*. Mineola, NY: Dover, 2006.

Ulrich, Homer. *Symphonic Music*. New York: Columbia Univ. Press, 1952.

Wind Repertory Project: https://www.windrep.org/Main_Page

Course Requirements

Attendance/Participation: Attendance is expected for all scheduled classes. The majority of the subject material will be delivered in the form of in-class lecture and listening, so attendance is essential for learning. The following scale applies:

<u>Grade</u>	<u># of Absences</u>	<u># of Tardies</u>
A	0–1	0–2
B	2	3–4
C	3	5–6
D	4	7–8
F	5	9 or more

Excused absences will be handled on a case-by-case basis.

Assessments: Four short examinations are given to measure the progress and understanding of the students within the class. Tests will balance written and listening portions and are generally given at the conclusion of each of the four historical periods (Ancient/Medieval, Renaissance, Baroque, Classical).

Final Examination: The final cumulative examination covers the scope of the course, including material reviewed in the four short examinations (above).

Grading Procedures

The final grade is based on the following criteria:

<u>Evaluation</u>	<u>Percentage</u>
Attendance/Participation	50%
Assessments/Examinations	50%

UNIVERSITY RESOURCE LINKS

DEFIBRILLATORS IN THE COLLEGE OF MUSIC

- Music Building: Across from the west side of the Music Commons, directly across from the elevator
- Music Building: Third floor hallway, across from the staircase that comes up from the Copy Room. Next to Room 322
- Music Building: Across from the Copy Room next to Room 293
- Music Building: Voertman Lobby by the big double set of doors that lead out to the courtyard
- Music Building: Main Office (247) under the student worker's desk
- Music Annex: Next to room MA117, near the triple set of doors on the east side of the building
- Music Practice Building North: First floor on the Avenue C side
- Music Practice Building South: First floor on the Avenue C side
- Bain Hall: First floor by the restrooms
- Murchison Performing Arts Center: Located off the main lobby, beyond the grand staircase, across from the single occupancy restroom (next to the public water fountains)

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

See: [Academic Integrity](#)

Link: <https://policy.unt.edu/policy/06-003>

STUDENT BEHAVIOR

See: [Student Code of Conduct](#)

Link: <https://deanofstudents.unt.edu/conduct>

ACCESS TO INFORMATION – EAGLE CONNECT

See: [Eagle Connect](#)

Link: eagleconnect.unt.edu/

ODA STATEMENT

See: [ODA](#)

Link: disability.unt.edu. (Phone: (940) 565-4323)

HEALTH AND SAFETY INFORMATION

Students can access information about health and safety at: <https://music.unt.edu/student-health-and-wellness>

REGISTRATION INFORMATION FOR STUDENTS

See: [Fall Academic Calendar Information](#)

Link: <https://registrar.unt.edu/registration/fall-academic-calendar.html>

SEMESTER CALENDAR, FALL 2026

See: [Fall Semester Calendar](#)

Link: <https://registrar.unt.edu/registration/fall-academic-calendar.html>

FINANCIAL AID AND SATISFACTORY ACADEMIC PROGRESS

Undergraduates

See: [Financial Aid](#)

Link: <http://financialaid.unt.edu/sap>

Graduates

See: [Financial Aid](#)

Link: <http://financialaid.unt.edu/sap>

COUNSELING AND TESTING

See: [Counseling and Testing](#)

Link: <http://studentaffairs.unt.edu/counseling-and-testing-services>.

For more information on mental health resources, please visit:

See: [Mental Health Resources](#)

Link: <https://disparities.unt.edu/mental-health-resources>

ADD/DROP POLICY

Please be reminded that dropping classes or failing to complete and pass registered hours may make you ineligible for financial aid. In addition, if you drop below half-time enrollment you may be required to begin paying back your student loans. See Academic Calendar (listed above) for additional add/drop Information.

Drop Information: <https://registrar.unt.edu/registration/fall-academic-calendar.html>

STUDENT RESOURCES

The University of North Texas has many resources available to students. For a complete list, go to:

See: [Student Resources](#)

Link: <https://success.unt.edu/aa-sa-resources>

CARE TEAM

See: [Care Team](#)

Link: <https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/care-team>