



University of North Texas College of Music



WIND STUDIES

MUGC 4890

STUDIES IN MUSIC: MARCHING METHODS

Spring Semester 2024

Monday/Wednesday

9:00am–9:50pm

COM 290

Instructor: Amy Woody

Contact Information: amy.woody@unt.edu – (940) 565-3215 (Wind Studies Office)

Office Hours: MPACX 110B, by appointment.

Teaching Fellow: Dachuan Cao, dachuancao@my.unt.edu

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course provides a survey of skills and philosophical topics necessary for the successful design, administration, and management of the high school marching band program as part of a total instrumental music program in the public schools. Students will be exposed to the various techniques used in producing a superior performing ensemble that also adheres to the fundamental musical objectives of a quality band program. Major topics for discussion may include but are not limited to show design, charting, marching and maneuvering, rehearsal planning, equipment selection, personnel management, auxiliary units, percussion, budgeting, and more. Materials from this course are pulled from a variety of professionals and resources in the field, and hopefully provides a diverse approach to the vast array of pedagogical approaches.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

At the completion of this course, the student who has successfully completed the course will be able to accomplish the following:

- Understand, define, and implement an appropriate approach to visual and musical ensemble fundamental training.
- Understand and implement an appropriate and full-developed design process for an academic ensemble.
- Outline appropriate goals and benchmarks and understand the appropriate implementation and timelines needed to foster a successful season.
- Understand and demonstrate the basic skills in marching drill design utilizing computer-based charting applications (Pyware/UDB).
- Plan implement for basic season operational needs including but not limited to transportation, facilities, communications, equipment, scheduling, finances, etc.
- Understand and demonstrate various successful and differentiated rehearsal techniques.
- Understand, collaborate, and appropriately communicate regarding auxiliary and percussion units in the program.
- Outline and communicate appropriate budget, band parent, and administrative planning philosophies.
- Evaluate situations and solutions pertaining to first-time employment scenarios.



WIND STUDIES

COURSE ORGANIZATION

Each week in the course will be an exploration of the following topics and include lectures, guest speakers, and projects related to the following:

- Philosophy and Foundations of the Marching Band
- Considerations for Learning Styles for Marching Band
- Instructional Techniques for the Wind Section
- Considerations for Percussion and Colorguard as a Marching Director
- Tenets of a Successful Visual Program
- Rehearsal Techniques
- Understanding of Design Trends and Production planning
- Introduction to Arranging and Drill Writing
- Band Boosters, Budgeting, and Fundraising
- Planning for understanding adjudication and defining “success”

COURSE ASSESSMENT (1000 points total)

- Class attendance and participation (150, 5 points/class)*
- Vision Board/Philosophy of Marching Program (50)
- Budget Build (50)
- Sample of Marching Band Arrangement (100)
- Sample of Drill Design (100)
- Sample of Production Sheet/Count Sheet (50)
- Wind Fundamentals Packet (50)
- Sample of yearly calendar (50)
- Parent Presentation: Google Slides/Powerpoint (200)
- Final design portfolio (200)

*ATTENDANCE/PARTICIPATION

Attendance is expected for all scheduled classes. Level of engagement and participation will be rewarded via daily credit, with the assumption that students are present and attentive. Excused absences will be handled on a case-by-case basis and are best communicated in advance. Unexcused absences will result in a loss of participation credit. In addition to this, excessive absences will result in a lowering of the final grade as follows:

2 No effect

3-4 reduction of 1 letter grade

5-6 reduction of 2 letter grades

7+ grade of WF or F



WIND STUDIES

COURSE MATERIALS

All readings and software will be provided by the instructor as the course ensues. Students will need to have technology, ideally a laptop, to run and manipulate Pyware. While this is available in the lab, it will be significantly more advantageous to license the software on your own personal portable computer.

SAMPLE ASSESSMENT RUBRIC

A: Professional and on-time presentation of materials per instructions. Concept or adherence to prompt is clear and appropriate.

B: Professional and on-time presentation of materials per instructions. Concept or adherence to prompt is clear and appropriate, with minor errors related to content or presentation.

C: Professional presentation of materials per instructions. Concept or adherence to prompt is unclear or inappropriate, with significant errors related to content or presentation. A lack of preparedness is evident.

D: Presentation of materials per instructions, but professionalism and quality is lacking or incomplete. Concept or adherence to prompt is unclear or inappropriate, with significant errors related to content or presentation. A lack of preparedness is evident.

F: Did not complete the assignment as per instructions and is presented in an unacceptable manner.

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

Your access point for business and academic services at UNT occurs at my.unt.edu. All official communication from the university will be delivered to your Eagle Connect account. For more information, please visit the website that explains Eagle Connect.

See: [Eagle Connect](#)

LINK: eagleconnect.unt.edu/



University of North Texas College of Music



WIND STUDIES

ODA STATEMENT

The University of North Texas makes reasonable academic accommodation for students with disabilities. Students seeking accommodation must first register with the Office of Disability Access (ODA) to verify their eligibility. If a disability is verified, the ODA will provide you with an accommodation letter. You can now request your Letters of Accommodation ONLINE and ODA will mail your Letters of Accommodation to your instructors. You may wish to begin a private discussion with your professors regarding your specific needs in a course. Note that students must obtain a new letter of accommodation for every semester. For additional information see the Office of Disability Access.

See: [ODA](#)

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

DIVERSITY AND BELONGING

UNT values diversity and individuality as part of advancing ideals of human worth, dignity and academic excellence. Diverse viewpoints enrich open discussion, foster the examination of values and exposure of biases, help educate people in rational conflict resolution and responsive leadership, and prepare us for the complexities of a pluralistic society. As such, UNT is committed to maintaining an open, welcoming atmosphere that attracts qualified students, staff, and faculty from all groups to support their success. UNT does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, age, disability, genetic information, or veteran status in its application and admission process, educational programs and activities, employment policies and use of university facilities.

See: [Diversity and Inclusion](#)

Link: <https://idea.unt.edu/diversity-inclusion>

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: [Registration Information](#)

Link: <https://registrar.unt.edu/students>

Academic Calendar, Spring 2024

See: [Spring 2024 Academic Calendar](#)

Link: <https://registrar.unt.edu/registration/spring-registration-guide.html>

Final Exam Schedule, Spring 2024

See above



WIND STUDIES

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>

RETENTION OF STUDENT RECORDS

See: [FERPA](#)

Link: <http://ferpa.unt.edu/>

COUNSELING AND TESTING

See: [Counseling and Testing](#)

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

For more information on mental health issues, please visit:

See: [Mental Health Issues](#)

Link: <https://speakout.unt.edu>.

ADD/DROP POLICY

See Academic Calendar (listed above) for additional add/drop Information.

Drop Information: <https://registrar.unt.edu/registration/spring-registration-guide.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>

(Note: A printer-friendly PDF version is available by clicking the green button on the home page)

CARE TEAM

The Care Team is a collaborative interdisciplinary committee of university officials that meets regularly to provide a response to student, staff, and faculty whose behavior could be harmful to themselves or others.

See: [Care Team](#)

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