**History and Literature of the American Wind Band**

MUAG 4050

Fall, 2025 Tuesday-Thursday 11:00-12:20

Dr. Darhyl Ramsey

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Goals:

* Trace the development of the American Wind Band and become familiar with the standard literature of the symphonic band.
* Become familiar with literature that is appropriate for secondary school band instruction.

Optional Text:

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

Miles, R. (1997-2020). *Teaching Music Through Performance in Band* Vol. 1-12. Chicago: GIA Publications.

Whitwell, D. (1983) *A Concise History of the Wind Band.*

Battisti, F.L. (2002). *The Winds of Change.* Meredith Publishing.

Battisti, F.L. (2012). *Winds of Change II: The New Millennium.* Meredith Music.

Battisti, F.L. (2018) *The New Winds of Change.* Meredith Music

Corporon, E.M. Historical Highlights of the Wind Band. *Teaching Music Through Performance in Band.* Vol 6. pp. 67-112.

Corporon, E.M. Historical Highlights of the Wind Band. *Teaching Music Through Performance in Band.* Vol 7. pp.71-122.

Wind Repertory Project - <https://www.windrep.org/Main_Page>

Assessments: 2 Written Tests……………………………… 20% each

Listening Test ……………………………… 15%

Individual Repertoire Reports ……………. 05%

Paper ……………………………………….. 40%

**Tentative Schedule**

Aug 19 Introduction

21 Pre 19th Century 192-209 – Medieval Wind Band Music

26 Pre 19th Century 192-209 – Renaissance Wind Band Music

28 Pre 19th Century 192-209 – Baroque Wind Band Music **Repertoire 1**

Sept 02 Pre 19th Century 192-209 – Classical Wind Band Music – Harmoniemusik

04 19th Century 1-54 – The Wind Band Comes to America

09 19th Century – Bands and the Civil War **Repertoire 2**

11 19th Century – The Band Professionals

16 19th Century – The Band Boys

18 19th Century – The Band Boys **Repertoire 3**

23 ***TEST 1*** -

25 20th Century 55-149 - The British Invasion

30 20th Century 242-307 – The British Invasion **Repertoire 4**

Oct 02 20th Century - The British Invasion

07 20th Century - The British Invasion

09 20th Century – Early 20th Century 1920-1940

14 20th Century – The Bands Land in the Schools **Repertoire 5**

16 20th Century – The Band Contest and Pre- War Bands

21 20th Century – Post War Explosion of Band Music

23 20th Century – Band Music in the 1960’s **Repertoire 6**

28 20th Century

30 20st Century – Band Music in the 1970’s and 1980”s

Nov 04 20th Century **Repertoire 7**

06 20th Century - The 1990 and into the New Century

11 21st Century

13 21st Century **Repertoire 8**

18 21st Century

20 ***Listening Test***

Dec 02 21st Century ***\*\*PAPERS DUE\*\****

04 21st Century

09 ***Final Exam*** – 10:30-12:30 ***TEST 2***

Attendance is expected at all class meetings.

0-1 Absence – No penalty

2-3 Absences – Grade Lowered One Grade

4-5 Absences – Grade Lowered Two Grades

6+ Absences – Automatic Drop from Course

*Two Tardies count as one absence*

**Any extended absences because of Covid will be dealt with on an individual basis*. Please contact the instructor as soon as you anticipate an extended absence.***

All Written work must be turned in the day it is due. The grade will be lowered one grade for every day it is late.

**Syllabus Statement: Attendance**

Students are expected to attend class meetings regularly and to abide by the attendance policy established for the course. It is important that you communicate with the professor prior to being absent, so you and the professor can discuss and mitigate the impact of the absence on your attainment of the course learning goals.

METHODS OF ASSESSMENT

**Written Tests**

There will be two written tests (multiple choice format) based on the class notes and discussions.

**Listening Test**

The listening test will be played in class. Excerpts from the pieces given on the listening list will be played and you are to identify the composer and the piece.

**Written Paper**

Choose an event from the history of the wind band and present new information about that event. The paper should be 5-7 pages. You may choose an event that is discussed in class or you may choose one on your own. If you choose a new event, please clear that topic with the professor.

**Individual Repertory Reports**

Each student will turn in a 2–3-page report on EIGHT of the selections listed in the Listening list. Each report will include the following:

A short paragraph on the biography of the composer

The background on the composition

The Historical Perspective of the Selection

The Stylistic Considerations

The Musical Elements

Other interesting or pertinent facts you discover

***Possible Paper Topics***

Individual Wind Instrument Histories

Janissary Bands

Stadtfeifer Bands (or countries other than Germany)

The Development of Consorts during the Renaissance

Wind Bands in Venice during the Renaissance

French Wind Music of the Baroque Period

The Development of the Clarinet during the Late Baroque and into the Classical period

Wind Music as Chamber Music in the Classical period (Harmoniemusik)

The role of Frederich the Great in the development of the European Wind band.

The role of the Moravians in bringing Wind Band music to the United States

The role of the Wind Band in the Revolutionary War

Keyed Bugles vs. Trumpets

Francis Johnson – A man of many firsts

The importance of the Dodworth Band in the development of the Wind Band in the US.

The role of the wind band in the Civil War

Development of the Saxhorn family of instruments

Professional Concert Bands in the 19th century (Not biographies of the people)

Patrick Gilmore

Helen Mae Butler

John Philip Sousa

Amateur Bands of the 19th century

Town Bands

Industrial Bands

Institutional Bands

Ethnic Bands

Women’s Bands

Children’s Bands

The Life and Music of Gustav Holst

The Life and Music of Ralph Vaughan Williams

The Life and Music of Percy Grainger

The Life and Music of Haydn Wood

The Life and Music of Gordon Jacob

The School Band Movement 1920-the present

The development of the Band Contest in America

The contributions of Edwin Franco Goldman to the American Wind Band

The Wind Band during World War II

The contributions of William D. Revelli to the American Wind Band

The contributions of Frederick Fennell to the American Wind Band

The growth of bands in the Public Schools in the 1950’s-1970’s

**Musical Works that should be studied by ALL conductors**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Composer** | **Work** | **Frequency** |
| Stravinsky | La Sacre du Printemps (The Rite of Spring) | 19 |
| Grainger | Lincolnshire Posy | 16 |
| Mozart | Serenade in Bb Major Gran Partita K 361 | 9 |
| Schwantner | and the mountains rising nowhere | 7 |
| Copland | Appalachian Spring | 6 |
| Hindemith | Symphony in Bb for Concert Band | 6 |
| Holst | First Suite in Eb for Military Band Op. 28 | 6 |
| Stravinsky | Wind Octet | 6 |
| Bartok | Concerto for Orchestra | 5 |
| Stravinsky | Symphonies of Wind Instruments | 5 |
| Beethoven | Symphony No. 9 | 4 |
| Brahms | German Requiem | 4 |
| Gorecki | Symphony No. 3 "Symphony of Sorrowful Songs" | 4 |
| Husa | Music for Prague, 1968 | 4 |
| Maslanka | Symphony No. 4 | 4 |
| Persichetti | Divertimento for Band | 4 |
| Schuman | New England Tryptich | 4 |

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY – LINK: http://facultysuccess.unt.edu/academic-integrity

STUDENT BEHAVIOR - LINK: https://deanofstudents.unt.edu/conduct

ACCESS TO INFORMATION – EAGLE CONNECT - LINK:eagleconnect.unt.edu/

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

2021-2022 SEMESTER ACADEMIC SCHEDULE (WITH ADD/DROP DATES) – LINK: http://catalog.unt.edu/content.php?catoid=17&navoid=1737

ACADEMIC CALENDAR AT A GLANCE, 2021-2022 - LINK: https://www.unt.edu/catalogs/2021-2022/calendar

FINAL EXAM SCHEDULE - LINK: http://registrar.unt.edu/exams/final-exam-schedule/fall

FINANCIAL AID AND SATISFACTORY ACADEMIC PROGRESS - LINK: http://financialaid.unt.edu/sap

RETENTION OF STUDENT RECORDS - Link: http://ferpa.unt.edu/

RESPONDING TO STUDENTS IN DISTRESS: UNT CARE TEAM - Link: http://studentaffairs.unt.edu/care