

<p style="text-align: center;">MUS 275 Brass Band University of Illinois School of Music Syllabus and Course Outline Spring 2018 1 credit</p>
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Instructor Information

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Office Hours: By appointment

Course Description:

Through rehearsal and performance of a variety of carefully selected brass band literature, students will increase their knowledge and experience base with focus on professional outcomes and standards to service career objectives of future professional performers and educators. The Brass Band is open to all University of Illinois students on an auditioned basis. Ensemble placement and repertoire/part assignments are determined by audition and faculty recommendations, and are intended to provide the most appropriate educational experience for each individual student's development. This course may be repeated for credit.

Course Goals

To address, rehearse, and perform brass band music and to grow as performers and educators through participation in the ensembles. It is intended that this course be a fusion arena for all other music curricula. The ensemble will explore standard brass band literature and experiment with new styles of music.

Student Learning Outcomes

Students who have successfully completed this course should be able to:

- Perform at a high level of proficiency as a soloist, section member, and ensemble member
- Understand the concepts of good intonation, balance between melodic and accompaniment lines, balance between players, instrumental blend and tone color
- Understand the concepts of phrasing, dynamics, articulation, rhythmic precision and ensemble clarity as it relates to quality performance
- Appreciate brass band repertoire
- Work creatively and collaboratively with others

- Better understand the process of large ensemble sequential rehearsing and pacing in relation to short and long-term performance goals

Student Expectations

- Be early, be prepared musically, be warmed up and tuned.
- Come to rehearsal open-minded and ready to learn in ways that you might not understand.
- Use your time in rehearsal to become a better musician: listen actively, understand your role and how your part fits with others in your section, and the ensemble.
- Know where the melody and focal point of the music is at all times and protect it by playing with appropriate balance.
- Stay quiet and focused. Respect the rehearsal process and those in the rehearsal.

General Class Schedule

Wednesday 7:00 pm–8:50 pm

Rehearsals are in Harding Band Building, Room 141, unless otherwise noted on the weekly rehearsal schedule. The schedule will be posted online each week.

Music

Music is supplied by University of Illinois Department of Bands. Music and folders are on loan to students for each concert rotation. They must be returned in full at the close of each concert rotation. Students are responsible for all loaned materials, and must replace any missing items. The fee for a missing folder is \$25. If there is an original rental part checked out, there may be an additional fee based on the agreement with the rental agency.

Attendance, Punctuality and Grading

Attendance is required at all rehearsals and concerts. As you probably know, this is an ensemble – a group musical effort, therefore your presence (and personal preparation) is extremely important. There are three reasons for which an absence might be excused: family emergency, long-term personal illness*, or religious holiday. If one of these situations arises, please notify the conductor **BEFORE** the rehearsal. Any unexcused absence will result in a lower final grade, see below for specifics. It is up to you to arrange to get the folder to rehearsal. If you have one of these situations that prevents you from attending a rehearsal, it is your responsibility to find a sub for that rehearsal.

A 'long term personal illness' means that you are not able to attend ANY or your class meetings that day. An absence will not be excused if you simply aren't feeling well before band rehearsal and wish to take a nap... If you are present in your morning classes, you should be in band. If your medical doctor tells you to stay home all day or for several days, you will be excused from rehearsal.

Punctuality is also graded. Plan on being early to the rehearsal site. Be warmed up and seated before the starting time for each rehearsal. The following guidelines and penalties will be maintained:

- One letter grade will be cut for each unexcused absence from rehearsal.
- One-third of a letter grade will be cut for every unexcused late arrival.
- Absences from concerts and dress rehearsals are not excusable and will result in a failing grade and dismissal from the band.
- Failure to deliver your music to the rehearsal when you are absent for any reason will result in the loss of one-third of a letter grade (i.e., grade of A reduced to an A-).

Grades will be based on:

- 1) Quality of musical preparation and participation. (33%)
- 2) Attitude and ability to be fully invested in the rehearsal. (33%)
- 3) Attendance and punctuality in rehearsals and concerts. (33%)

SCALE:

98-100 = A+
94-97 = A
90-93 = A-
87-89 = B+
84-86 = B
80-83 = B-
77-79 = C+
74-76 = C
70-73 = C-
60-69 = D
59 and below = F

Concert Attire

The ensemble will be dressed in all black for performance, and should select one of the following options for attire:

Option 1: Floor-length black skirt, black dress pants, or black dress meeting all specifications. Long-sleeved black blouse. Black/dark pantyhose, black dress shoes, simple jewelry. No décolletage, bare shoulders, necklines, short dresses or midriffs. Open-toed shoes or sandals are acceptable with dark stockings or dark pantyhose.

Option 2: a black tuxedo, black shirt, and black tie (bowtie or regular), black dress shoes, and black socks.

Rehearsal Calendar, Concert Dates, and Repertoire

The following are the repertoire, dates, and locations of the dress rehearsals and concerts:

Concert #1 “Zootopia”

Rehearsals: 01/24, 01/31, 02/07, 02/14, 02/21 @HBB *****NO REHEARSAL 02/28*****

Dress Rehearsal: Wednesday, March 7, 2018 @ McKinley Presbyterian Church

Performance: Wednesday, March 14, 2018 – 7:30 pm @ McKinley Presbyterian Church

Repertoire

The Year of the Dragon – Philip Sparke

“Blackbird” and “I am the Walrus” – Lennon and McCarthy, arr. Smith

The Swan on the Hill – Jan van der Roost

Sheep May Safely Graze – J.S. Bach, arr. Salvation Army

The Circus Bee March – Henry Fillmore, arr. Smith

Concert #2 “That’s All, Folks!”

Rehearsals: 03/28, 04/04, 04/11, 04/18 (*possible cancel*), 04/25 @ HBB

Dress Rehearsal: Tuesday, April 17, 2018 – 7:00-8:50 pm @ KCPA, FGH

Performance: Wednesday, May 2, 2018 – 7:30 pm @ KCPA, FGH

Repertoire

“Barber of Seville” Overture – Gioacchino Rossini, arr. Loriman

Suite from “Carmen” – Georges Bizet, arr. Wright

Die Fledermaus – J. Strauss II, arr. Topp

“What’s Opera, Doc?” – Richard Wagner, arr. Clark

Famischius Fantasticus – Michael Markowski, arr. Smith

Students with Disabilities

Students who believe they may need assistance due to a disability should contact the appropriate office on campus for answers to questions concerning accommodations, auxiliary learning aids, and physical accessibility. Students will be required to submit diagnostic information regarding the disability so that the most appropriate accommodation can be arranged.