

**MISSISSIPPI STATE UNIVERSITY
COLLEGE OF EDUCATION**

**DEPARTMENT of MUSIC
COURSE SYLLABUS**

Course Prefix and Number: MU 2511

Course Title: Marching Band

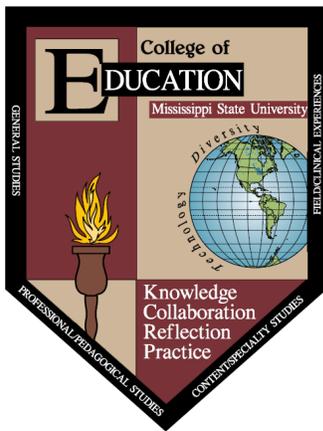
Credit: One (1) semester hour

Course Type: Laboratory

Prerequisites: Audition or invitation required.

Catalog Description: One to five rehearsals per week. The study and performance of significant marching band literature. This course may be repeated for credit more than once. (Fall semester only.)

College of Education Conceptual Framework:



The faculty in the College of Education at Mississippi State University are committed to assuring the success of students and graduates by providing superior learning opportunities that are continually improved as society, schools, and technology change. The organizing theme for the conceptual framework for the College of Education at Mississippi State University is educational professionals - dedicated to continual improvement of all students' educational experiences. The beliefs that guide program development are as follows:

1. **KNOWLEDGE** - Educational professionals must have a deep understanding of the organizing concepts, processes, and attitudes that comprise their chosen disciplinary knowledge base, the pedagogical knowledge base, and the pedagogical content knowledge base. They must also know how to complement these knowledge bases with the appropriate use of technology.
2. **COLLABORATION** - Educational professionals must continually seek opportunities to work together, learn from one another, forge partnerships, and assume positions of responsibility.
3. **REFLECTION** - Educational professionals must be willing to assess their own strengths and weaknesses through reflection. They must also possess the skills, behaviors, and attitudes necessary to learn, change, and grow as life-long learners.
4. **PRACTICE** - Educational professionals must have a rich repertoire of research-based strategies for instruction, assessment, and the use of technologies. They must be able to focus that array of skills on promoting authentic learning by all students or clients, while exhibiting an appreciation and commitment to the value and role of diversity.

Course Description:

Five hours rehearsal per week. Study, rehearsal and performance (both on and off campus) of select literature, fundamentals, show design and drill for the marching band.

Course Objectives:

1. The development of the technical marching skills necessary to execute field maneuvers and parade drills. InTASC #5, 7; CFPO #10
2. The development of individual performing skills to include tone production, intonation, and understanding of musical styles. InTASC #4
3. The development of musical and technical skills and analytical judgments appropriate to perform the selected literature and drill. InTASC #4

Topics to Be Covered:

1. Ensemble Playing Skills (37.5 hours)
 - a. Balance
 - b. Intonation
 - c. Style
 - d. Precision
 - e. Breath and Sound Projection
2. Marching Skills (37.5 hours)
 - a. Accuracy of Step-Size
 - b. Appropriate Posture
 - c. Concepts of Interval and Alignment
 - d. Proper Horn Carriage
 - e. Understanding of Drill Charts

Required Texts:

None

Methods of Instruction:

1. Instruction will be in the traditional conductor/ensemble style. CFPO #6
2. Student Leadership will be used to assist instruction. InTASC #2
3. Marching Charts and Coordinate Sheets will be utilized. InTASC #4
4. Music preparation will be led by directors and assisted by section leaders.

Suggested Student Activities:

1. Group warm-up and marching drills. InTASC#5
2. Chart-reading and interpretation. InTASC#6

3. Execution of music and drill. CFPO#7
4. The marching band or components will engage in approximately 15 public performances per semester. InTASC#8

Honor Code:

“As a Mississippi State University student I will conduct myself with honor and integrity at all times. I will not lie, cheat, or steal, nor will I accept the actions of those who do.”

The Mississippi State Honor Code can be found at <http://www.honorcode.msstate.edu/>

Technology:

Technology is not a part of this course

Disability:

Students with disabilities requesting academic accommodations must identify themselves to the Office of Student Support Services (325-3335) and to the instructor and the beginning of the semester. Refer to <http://www.msstate.edu/dept/audit/1235.html> for more details.

Diversity:

Diversity will be addressed from a cultural perspective through the repertoire performed by the student. Music from Hispanic, African and other world cultures will be explored, with special attention given to the cultural context of the works.

Field Component:

There is no field component with this course.

Evaluation of Student Progress:

Performances on and off campus will be assessed by director observation

Evaluation will be determined by student attendance:

- 0-2 unexcused absences = A
- 3 unexcused absences = B
- 4 unexcused absences = C
- 5 unexcused absence = D
- 6 or more unexcused absences = F

Unexcused absences from performances will result in loss of band membership, loss of any service or scholarship award, and a final grade of F. Any student who misses more than two Monday-Friday rehearsals, whether excused or unexcused, may not be allowed to perform with the band in that week's performance.

The Maroon Band has always received very positive comments regarding the behavior of its membership, and we expect this standard to continue. **NEVER** do anything that would reflect negatively on Mississippi State University or the Maroon Band. **ALWAYS** exhibit class.

The Maroon Band has a tradition and reputation for friendliness to the general public and to other bands. We expect this tradition to continue.

The band staff will enforce the university policies regarding the possession, use, or consumption of “controlled substances” (alcohol, tobacco or illegal drugs) before or during band rehearsals, performances, on trips and on game days before a performance. Members will not possess, consume or act under the influence of any of these substances at any Maroon Band rehearsal, performance, or official gathering; while wearing any part of the uniform; on a bus; or at the accommodations provided by the Maroon Band. Violation of these rules will result in severe penalties that may include dismissal from the band, loss of scholarship, a lowering of the student’s grade, and a hearing with University Student Affairs. The university’s policies on these topics may be found on the following websites:

Alcohol--<http://www.msstate.edu/dept/audit/91119.html>

Drugs— <http://www.msstate.edu/dept/audit/60120.html>

Tobacco—<http://www.msstate.edu/dept/audit/91301.html>

Repertoire: Repertoire will be announced through posted and distributed rehearsal schedule.

Bibliography:

Lang, Scott. (2006). *Leadership travel guide*. Chicago, IL. GIA Publications.

Lautzenheiser, Tim. (1993). *The joy of inspired teaching*. Chicago, IL: GIA Publications.

Lautzenheiser, Tim. (1995). *Everyday wisdom for inspired teaching*. Chicago, IL: GIA Publications.

Smith, Gary. (2011). *The system: Marching band methods*. Savoy, IL. Smith Walbridge Band Products.