# Marching Band Pedagogy and Methods

MUE 4480, 1 credit

Fall 2014

Tuesday, Thursday 8:00 to 8:50

Dr. Sean Murray, Assoc. Director of Bands

Pre-requisites: MUE 2040, MUT 2116 with a grade of “C” or higher

Office: AH 115

Hours: M,W,F: 3pm-4pm

Phone: 561-297-3883

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Objective:

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to prepare for, administer and rehearse a comprehensive marching band program at the secondary school level.

## Course Requirements and Methods:

Students will create marching band drill using both written templates and computer design software. Students will develop marching band administrative tools to assist in the management of marching band budget, travel, uniforms, inventory, fund-raising, booster organizations, staff and student leadership. Through score analysis, students will determine the factors that make a work particularly suitable for marching band performance. Students will demonstrate individual marching techniques, along with sequential procedures for teaching these.

## Course Materials:

* Bailey, Wayne, Thomas Caneva. The Complete Marching Band Resource Manual, 2nd ed. (University of Pennsylvania Press: Philadelphia, 2007)
* Dunnigan, Patrick. *Marching Band Techniques, 2nd ed..* Northfield, IL: The Instrumentalist, 2007.
* Student copy of Pyware 3d v.7 software

**Additional Reference Texts:**

Ryder, Dan. *Techniques of Marching Band Show Designing.* Austin, TX: Dan Ryder Field Drills, 2000.

Smith, Gary E. *The System: A Marching Band Guide*. Savoy, IL: 11 Magnolia Court, 2002.

ACCESSORIES:

1. Tennis shoes/sneakers and socks for all class days

2. 1 SDHC chip minimum of 32 GB, for videotaping

3. Flexi-curve, flexible-ruler

4. Large 3-Ring Binder notebook with dividers to organize all your materials

**Grade Criteria:**

A = 90 – 100

B = 80 – 89

C = 70 – 79

D = 60 – 69

NO INCOMPLETES WILL BE GIVEN.

Professor may raise course grade in exceptional circumstances.

**Attendance**

No more than three (3) absences are allowed the entire semester for any reason. **ANY student arriving more than five (5) minutes late to class will be marked absent.**

Attendance policy does not contradict Provost memoranda:

http://www.fau.edu/provost/files/studentabsences.pdf

**Disability policy statement:** In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act

(ADA), students who require reasonable accommodations due to a disability

to properly execute coursework must register with the Office for Students with

Disabilities (OSD) -- in Boca Raton, SU 133 (561-297-3880); in Davie, LA

240 (954-236-1222); in Jupiter, SR 110 (561-799-8010); or at the Treasure

Coast, CO 117 (772-873-3441) – and follow all OSD procedures. <http://osd.fau.edu/>

**Code of Academic Integrity policy statement:** Students at Florida Atlantic University are expected to maintain the highest ethical standards. Academic dishonesty is considered a serious breach of these ethical standards, because it interferes with the university mission to provide a high quality education in which no student enjoys an unfair advantage over any other. Academic dishonesty is also destructive of the university community, which is grounded in a system of mutual trust and places high value on personal integrity and individual responsibility. Harsh penalties are associated with academic dishonesty. For more information, see <http://www.fau.edu/regulations/chapter4/4.001_Code_of_Academic_Integrity.pdf>

**Religious Accommodation**

In accordance with rules of the Florida Board of Education and Florida law, students have the right to reasonable accommodations from the University in order to observe religious practices and beliefs with regard to admissions, registration,

class attendance, and the scheduling of examinations and work assignments. Students who wish to be excused from course work, class activities, or examinations must notify the instructor in advance of their intention to participate in religious observation and request an excused absence. The instructor will provide a reasonable opportunity to make up such excused absences. Any student who feels aggrieved regarding religious accommodations may present a grievance to the director of Equal Opportunity Programs. Any such grievances will follow Florida Atlantic University’s established grievance procedure regarding alleged discrimination. <http://www.fau.edu/provost/files/religious2011.pdf>

## Course Calendar:

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| --- | --- | --- |
| Week 1 | Marching Band history, structure and purpose. Types of marching bands in public schools | Dunnigan 1-2 |
| Week 2 | Philosophical foundations of Marching band | Assign MB philosophy paper |
| Week 3 | Marching band organization and leadership structures | Dunnigan 3-4 |
| Week 4 | Fundamentals/ handbooks /video examples / critical analysis | Rehearsal observation 1, Dunnigan 5-6 |
| Week 5 | Show planning / selecting music / flowcharting | Dunnigan 7-8 |
| Week 6 | forms / lines / shapes / terminology / practice teaching | Show critiques, Dunnigan 9-10 |
| Week 7 | Software overview / types of drill movement / micro-drill tasks | Read Bailey 1-3 |
| Week 8 | Band administration: inventory, uniforms, budget, travel and planning | Read Bailey 4-9, |
| Week 9 | The elements of a marching band show; individual marching techniques | Bailey 10-12 |
| Week 10 | Writing drill | Bailey ch.10-16, starting formations using templates |
| Week 11 | Writing and teaching drill | 8 set show using PyWare drill software |
| Week 12 | Marching Percussion | Caneva, Ch 14-15, appendix A |
| Week 13 | Arranging music for the marching band | 1 min arrangement for small marching band |
| Week 14 | Marching Band Program Development | Marching Band Handbook |
| Week 15 | Final Exam |  |

## Course Grading:

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| --- | --- |
| Marching Philosophy Paper | 10% |
| Organizational Hierarchy | 10% |
| Rehearsal Observations | 5% |
| Repertoire Lists | 10% |
| Budget Project | 15% |
| Drill Starting Formations | 5% |
| Marching demonstration | 10% |
| 8-set Drill Design | 20% |
| Band Arrangement | 10% |
| Band Handbook | 5% |
|  | 100.00% |