Catalogue Description
Performance experience of wind band repertoire. Open to all students by audition.

Mission and Rationale
The Angelo State University Bands are a uniquely diverse group of performing ensembles. The mission of the ASU Bands is dedicated to the teaching, performance, study, and cultivation of the highest quality of music. Through exemplary practices in organization, training, and presentation, the ASU Bands strive to provide effective experiences in musical education and in music culture to prepare its members to be leaders in the music profession, both education and performance, and lifelong musicians. The ASU Bands seek to offer outstanding performances throughout the year that enhance the institutional spirit and character of ASU. The ASU Bands seek to bring increasing artistry, understanding, and respect through performance and service efforts within our own immediate sphere and by providing leadership and sponsorship to secondary school band programs and through cooperation with all other agencies pursuing similar musical goals.

The Wind Ensemble is a select ensemble comprised of outstanding students with exemplary musical talent from across the ASU campus. The Wind Ensemble provides a challenging musical environment through the performance of the highest quality modern and standard wind band repertoire. The Wind Ensemble performs multiple times throughout the semester and often features faculty soloists.

Audition
Auditions will occur on January 15 in the EBRH. Audition material will be selected by Dr. Alvis and distributed in the days before the audition. Auditions will be blind to protect anonymity of the students and to ensure no bias is given by the instructors.

Course Goals and Outcomes
During this course, students will:
1. Produce high quality performances that include a wide variety of literature written, transcribed, or arranged for wind bands. Literature will include new works and standards of the repertoire.
2. Gain an understanding and commitment to working as part of a team and how the individual can contribute to produce the highest quality performance.
3. Produce quality recordings that students and others can use as reference resources in the music education and performance profession.

Required Materials
Music will be distributed at the beginning of each concert cycle. Each member is responsible for the care of each folder. Students should avoid mutilating music, including excessive markings, using ink or colored pencil to make markings, unnecessary folding of the pages, etc. If music is not returned in acceptable condition, the member may be required to replace the music at their own expense.

Each member is required to bring a pencil to rehearsal. Ink pen, highlighter, or other permanent marking devices are not acceptable. Often, the director will provide corrections or edits that will need to be performed. The student must mark these changes so time cannot be wasted in rehearsal repeating comments. The rehearsal time for this ensemble is limited. Therefore, each member must take personal responsibility to arrive at each rehearsal prepared to rehearse and not “practice.”

The rehearsal situation is designed to address issues within the full ensemble or sections across the band, not prepare individuals. Adequate time MUST be spent outside of the rehearsal to prepare individual parts so rehearsal time can most effectively be used. If an individual is not prepared, he or she may be asked to leave rehearsal to spend individual time preparing. The director will email and post the rehearsal schedule for the week so the proper preparation can occur. Reference recordings have been made available through Blackboard so that each individual can hear how his or her part fits within the whole work. The recording is not the “end all” interpretation and the director may ask for aspects not heard on the recordings.
Rehearsal Technique
Rehearsals must run efficiently. To do this, the ensemble must have excellent rehearsal technique. Failure to adhere to the following guidelines may result in dismissal from the rehearsal. Repeated offenses may result in dismissal from the ensemble. The following must be adhered to in each rehearsal:

1. Arrive at each rehearsal on time and prepared. Place your music in the order shown on the board. Being on time means that you are late. The downbeat of each rehearsal is at 11:00am sharp.
2. Have a pencil and mark any changes the directors asks for.
3. Keep the talking to a minimum - especially when the director is speaking. (You honestly have very little reason to talk during rehearsal, this should not be an issue.)
4. Pay attention to the corrections in style, dynamics, articulations, etc. made by the director. Even though he may not be directly addressing you, the changes may apply to you later in the work.
5. Absolutely no cell phones permitted during rehearsal.
6. It is not acceptable to leave the room during rehearsal. Only leave rehearsal in an emergency situation. There will be a 10-minute break given at approximately 11:50 during each rehearsal. Use this time to use the restroom and get water. Leaving during rehearsal is very distracting and unprofessional.

Concert Attire
Concert attire for the Wind Ensemble is all black, also called pit black. Closed toed black shoes are required. Men should wear long sleeves. Ladies, shoulders must be covered and the cut of the blouse must be conservative. If you must question whether it is acceptable to wear, it is not. Failure to meet this dress code may result in a lower of the letter grade by two (2) letters and the student will be required to leave the concert stage until proper attire is worn.

Attendance Policy
Students are allowed two excused absences throughout the semester. Each unexcused absence will result in the final grade being lowered by one letter. Excessive absences will result in dismissal from the ensemble. All performances, however, are mandatory. An absence of any kind from a performance will result in an “F” for the semester and dismissal from the ensemble. Unforeseen circumstances are understandable and the instructor must be notified as soon as possible.

Grading
The final grade will be based upon attendance, preparation, and participation throughout the semester, in addition to other criteria and policies that have been outlined in this syllabus. Playing tests may be scheduled at the discretion of the director.

Course Schedule
In Spring 2017, the Wind Ensemble will perform two full concerts and go on a recruitment tour. The concerts are Monday, March 5 at 7:30 and Sunday, April 29 at 2:30. Tour will take place March 5-7. The Wind Ensemble will also perform at ASU Spring Commencements on May 12 (rehearsal on the 9th from 10:30-12:30). A dress rehearsal for any of the concerts outside of the normal rehearsal time may be scheduled. The specific date will be provided no less than three weeks prior to the rehearsal.

Instruments
The University has some instruments available for students to check out. Arrangements to check out an instrument can be made with the director. Any damage to a university instrument due to misuse is the financial responsibility of the student. The instrument must be returned at the end of each semester unless other arrangements are made. Failure to return instruments will result in a hold being placed on your university account.

University Policies
Students must adhere to the University Honor Code at all times. The policy can be found in full at https://www.angelo.edu/forms/pdf/honorcode5.pdf.

Accommodations for students with disabilities will be made to the best of the abilities of the instructor. The rights of students with disabilities can be found in ASU’s OP 10.15 (file://Users/jonathanalvis/Downloads/op-0614-faculty-responsibilities-and-duties.pdf).

Students will be excused from class for the observance of a religious holiday in accordance with ASU’s OP 10.19. This operating procedure can be found at https://www.angelo.edu/content/files/14206-op-1019-student-absence-for-observance-of.