Angelo State University  
Department of Visual and Performing Arts  
Wind Ensemble; MUEN 1111/3111; 1 credit hour; MWF 1:00pm – 2:45pm; Carr EFA 134

SYLLABUS, Spring 2020
Dr. Jonathan D. Alvis, Director of Bands
Carr EFA Building Room: 136 325-486-6037 (office) jalvis1@angelo.edu
Office hours are posted outside of Dr. Alvis’ office.

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 12 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. Students who are not selected following the audition must drop the course and are not permitted to participate. These students can, however, attend rehearsals to observe but no grade or scholarship will be given.

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 / Rehearsal Expectation
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. Failure to return the music (including copies) and folder will result in a hold being placed on the student’s account. Each member of the ensemble must bring his/her music to rehearsal. Failure to do so will result in an unexcused absence. Each member is required to bring a pencil to rehearsal. The director will provide a pencil at the first rehearsal for the student to leave in his/her folder. 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.

Each member must number each measure of all pieces being played. The director will refer to specific measures to accelerate the rehearsal process. It is imperative that each member be able to identify specific measures within the music immediately.

**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 without exception:

1. **Arrive at each rehearsal on time and prepared.** Place your music in the order shown on the board/posted rehearsal schedule. Being on time means that you are late. If a member is not in his/her seat when the choral is played, he/she will be considered tardy.
2. **Have a pencil and immediately mark any changes the directors makes.** You will not remember. If there is a question about the correction/comment, or more time is needed, raise your hand and ask the director for more time.
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 ALL 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. You may also learn something about how to fix a problem in rehearsals or personal practice, learn to rehearse an ensemble, etc. Use the rehearsal to not only prepare/improve the Wind Ensemble literature, but also become a better musician. You never know what you can learn by listening.
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.** Leaving during rehearsal is very distracting and unprofessional and will not be tolerated.

**Concert Etiquette and Attire**

A concert is our opportunity to demonstrate our progress and hard work throughout the semester to those in attendance. We have few opportunities to demonstrate how successful and professional we are. Before the concert, the following expectations must be followed:

1. **Arrive before the announced call time and make sure you have all needed materials on stage.** Keep your music in concert order.
2. **Play only music that will be played on the concert at an appropriate and acceptable volume.**
3. **Do not speak to audience members from the stage.** You may visit with them, but do so in the lobby of the auditorium/performance space.
4. **Do not come on and off stage repeatedly.** Once you are on stage, stay in your seat and be professional.
5. **During the concert, act like the professional that you are.** Do not dance, conduct, sing along, or do any other distracting actions that will detract from the experience of the members of the ensemble or the audience. Between pieces, prepare for the next piece as quickly and quietly as possible. If a seat change is necessary, move carefully and quietly as not to knock anything or anyone over.
6. **Following the concert, EVERYONE must help tear down, including the moving of percussion equipment.** Each member is responsible for his/her own chair and stand.

Concert attire for the Wind Ensemble is all black, also called “pit black.” Closed toed black shoes are required. Men wear long sleeves. Ladies, shoulders must be covered and the cut of the blouse must be conservative. Slacks
(preferred) or a long dress are also required. If wearing a skirt, the knee must be covered while sitting. 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. Absences must be excused by Dr. Alvis before 11:00 am the morning of the rehearsal. If a student is sick, a doctor’s note must be provided for the absence to be excused. Each unexcused absence will result in the final grade being lowered by one letter and a $50 reduction of the Wind Ensemble Scholarship. Only 1 unexcused absence is permitted during the semester. If a second occurs, the student may be dismissed from the ensemble and the scholarship will be revoked. Excessive absences will result in dismissal from the ensemble without exception. All performances and dress rehearsals, however, are mandatory. An absence of any kind from a performance (including commencement) or dress rehearsal 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. Only the most extreme circumstances will allow for an absence from a performance or dress rehearsal to be excused. The instructor reserves the right to excuse or not excuse an absence, no matter the circumstance. Under no circumstance is work an acceptable reason to miss a rehearsal or performance. Two unexcused tardies will result in an unexcused absence.

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

Playing Tests
Playing tests will occur two weeks before each concert cycle and will occur outside of the regular rehearsal. A sign-up sheet will be posted outside of Dr. Alvis’ office to schedule each playing test. If a student does not perform at a satisfactory level, he/she will be asked to redo the playing test one week later. If the student is still not performing at an adequate level, $100 will be removed from the Wind Ensemble Scholarship. Failure to complete a playing test may result in lowering the final semester grade or removal from the concert. Percussion playing tests will be done as a section at a time determined by the director.

Touring
In Spring 2020, the Wind Ensemble will again go on a recruiting/performance tour. This trip is mandatory for all members of the band. Each student must also adhere to the behavior/discipline policies that are outlined below. Failure to adhere to these policies may result in removal of scholarship money and/or dismissal from the ensemble.

Members of the ensemble are expected to:
1. Be on time. It is imperative that we maintain the schedule.
2. Present him/herself in a professional matter at all times. This includes adhering to the dress code; keeping clothes as neatly pressed as possible; and using appropriate language at all times (including while in the school/performance venue, at meals, rest stops, on the bus, etc.). The use of tobacco products and vaping is strictly prohibited on performance site properties.
3. Respect the other members of the ensemble by keeping talking and music at appropriate levels, maintaining acceptable topics of conversation, and maintaining good personal hygiene while riding on the bus.
4. Before and after performances, all members are expected to assist with set-up and tear down as needed, loading percussion equipment, and interacting with prospective high school students.
Course Schedule

The schedule for the semester has been included below. Each student is expected to keep a calendar with all of these dates and notify the director immediately via email if there is a conflict of any kind. Work is not considered a conflict and will not be excused for any reason. Each member of the ensemble should provide their place of work this schedule immediately so no conflicts will arise. If a change must be made, the director will notify the ensemble as soon as possible. If a change is made 14 or more calendar days before the event, no consideration will be given to requests for absences due to work. If less than 14 days are given, consideration may be given by the director but the student must make every effort to attend. In the event a student is unable to rearrange his/her schedule to avoid the conflict, proof must be given to the director (an email or phone call from the boss/supervisor). When in doubt, talk to the director, he is a nice guy that is willing to help you out in a pinch if he can.

Sun., Jan. 12 Auditions for Wind Ensemble and Orchestral Winds  
Fri., Jan. 31 Music Major Auditions  
Wed., Feb. 5 Dress rehearsal, 7:00, location TBA  
Fri., Feb. 7 Music Major Auditions  
Fri., Feb. 7 Normal rehearsal will be in same location as concert.  
Fri., Feb. 7 Concert #1 “Shine: The Music of Minority Composers.” 7:00. Location TBA.  
Feb. 10-12 Recruitment/Performance Tour (out and backs each day)  
Feb. 13-15 TMEA (not required but highly recommended.  
Fri., Mar. 27 Dress Rehearsal. 7:00. University Auditorium.  
Fri., Mar. 28 Day of Instruments. 9:00-5:00.  

Thurs., Apr. 16 Move out of Room 134. All rehearsals will be in the University Auditorium unless noted.  
Wed., Apr. 29 Rehearsal. 1:15. Murphey Performance Hall.  
Thurs., Apr. 30 Dress rehearsal. 8:30 (immediately after Orchestra concert). Murphey Performance Hall.  
Fri., May 1 Rehearsal. 1:15. Murphey Performance Hall.  
Fri., May 1 Concert #3 “Give Us This Day.” 7:00. Murphey Performance Hall.  
Wed., May 6 Commencement rehearsal. 1:00-3:00. University Auditorium.  
Sat., May 9 ASU Commencement (3 ceremonies). Call time is 8:45 am. Junnel Center.

Scholarships

Each member of the Wind Ensemble will be awarded a $500 scholarship that will be credited to his/her university account during the first few weeks of the semester. Students must agree to the terms and conditions received via email from the Scholarship Office. These terms and conditions are:  
1. The student must be enrolled in MUEN 1111 or MUEN 3111.  
2. The student must be enrolled full time at ASU (12 credit hours).  
3. The student must be in good academic standing with the university.  
4. All awards may be adjusted or revoked at any time by the Director of Bands or the Chair of the Department of Visual and Performing Arts based upon:  
   a. Available funding.  
   b. Dropping/withdrawing from MUEN 1111 or 3111  
   c. Poor or unacceptable performance during concerts, rehearsals, and/or playing tests.  
   d. Violating the ensemble’s attendance policy as outlined in the syllabus.  
   e. Violating the ensemble’s behavior policies as defined in the syllabus (required materials/rehearsal expectations; rehearsal technique; concert etiquette and dress code; etc.)

Instruments

The University has some instruments available for students to check out. Arrangements to check out an instrument can be made with the director or instrument manager. 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**

*Student Disability Services*

ASU is committed to the principle that no qualified individual with a disability shall, on the basis of disability, be excluded from participation in or be denied the benefits of the services, programs or activities of the university, or be subjected to discrimination by the university, as provided by the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA), the Americans with Disabilities Act Amendments of 2008 (ADAAA) and subsequent legislation.

Student Disability Services is located in the Office of Student Affairs, and is the designated campus department charged with the responsibility of reviewing and authorizing requests for reasonable accommodations based on a disability. It is the student’s responsibility to initiate such a request by contacting an employee of the Office of Student Affairs, in the Houston Harte University Center, Room 112, or contacting the department via email at ADA@angelo.edu. For more information about the application process and requirements, visit the Student Disability Services website at www.angelo.edu/ADA.

**Title IX at Angelo State University**

Angelo State University is committed to providing and strengthening an educational, working, and living environment where students, faculty, staff, and visitors are free from sex discrimination of any kind. The University prohibits discrimination based on sex, which includes pregnancy, sexual orientation, gender identity, and other types of Sexual Misconduct. Sexual Misconduct is a broad term encompassing all forms of gender-based harassment or discrimination including: sexual assault, sex-based discrimination, sexual exploitation, sexual harassment, public indecency, interpersonal violence (domestic violence and/or dating violence), and stalking. As a faculty member, I am a Responsible Employee meaning that I am obligated by law and ASU policy to report any allegations I am notified of to the Office of Title IX Compliance. This is done in order to connect students with resources and options in addressing the allegations reported. As a student, are encouraged to report any incidents of sexual misconduct directly to ASU’s Office of Title IX Compliance and the Director of Title IX Compliance/Title IX Coordinator. You may do so by contacting:

**Michelle Boone, J.D.**
*Director of Title IX Compliance/Title IX Coordinator*
Mayer Administration Building, Room 210
325-942-2022
michelle.boone@angelo.edu

You may also file a report online 24/7 at www.angelo.edu/incident-form. If you are wishing to speak to someone about an incident in confidence you may contact the University Health Clinic and Counseling Center at 325-942-2173 or the ASU Crisis Helpline at 325-486-6345.

The Office of Title IX Compliance also provides accommodations related to pregnancy (such as communicating with your professors regarding medically necessary absences, modifications required because of pregnancy, etc.). If you are pregnant and need assistance or accommodations, please contact the Office of Title IX Compliance utilizing the information above. For more information about Title IX in general you may visit www.angelo.edu/title-ix.

**Student Observance of Religious Holy Days**

A student who intends to observe a religious holy day should make that intention known in writing to the instructor prior to the absence. See ASU Operating Policy 10.19 Student Absence for **Observance of Religious Holy Day** for more information.

**Student Conduct Policies**

Students are expected to adhere to all policies found within the Student Handbook. That document can be found at: https://www.angelo.edu/student-handbook/