Catalogue Description
Performance experience in the Marching Ram Band. Open to all students with three years of high school marching band experience or equivalent.

Mission and Rational
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 most visible ensemble on campus, the Ram Band provides spirit for and represents the entire ASU community at special events on and off campus, at all home football games, and as the exhibition band at local compositions. The Ram Band entertains audiences by performing and executing at the highest quality both musically and visually while having fun in a family style atmosphere.

Despite the decision made by the Lone Star Conference to postpone fall sports until the spring semester, the Ram Band will still prepare music and visual productions in fall 2020. The Ram Band will undertake numerous recording projects (both audio and visual) that will highlight popular musical selections from previous years and new selections that were planned for this season. In addition to multiple audio recordings, professional videos with multiple camera angles of two halftime shows will be produced. These projects will be used as recruiting endeavors, promotional material for a higher quality online presence, and during the spring semester when football returns. There is a possible performance opportunity at the UIL Region VI competition.

Objectives
During the marching season, students will:
1. Learn multiple selections in various styles and genres.
2. Learn multiple drill maneuvers.
3. Develop a sense of teamwork by working together with other to learn music and drill.
4. Develop a sense of personal responsibility by memorizing music and drill.
5. Produce high quality audio and video recordings of performances and musical selections.

Required Materials
Students must download the Pyware 3D Viewer app and the Google Drive app to their smart phone. All drill files and music will be distributed electronically. No paper music will be provided.

Schedule
Ram Band will rehearse during the normally scheduled class time (MWF 5:00 - 6:50). One Saturday in late October/early November will be used to create video recordings of our visual performances. This date will be released as
soon as it has been confirmed by Dr. Alvis with the videographers and scheduling. At this time, no public performances have been scheduled. Performances may be scheduled at the discretion of Dr. Alvis as opportunities present themselves. At least three weeks will be given when performances have been scheduled. Any scheduled performances are mandatory. Absences must be approved by Dr. Alvis in writing at least two weeks prior to the performance.

**Attendance Policy**

Although there are no public performances scheduled at this time, attendance at all Ram Band rehearsals is crucial to the success of the many recording projects that the group are undertaking in this unique semester. Recording projects will take place on a regularly/weekly basis and it is imperative that each member is prepared to contribute fully. Music and drill will be learned quickly and efficiently and members should arrive prepared to work efficiently and effectively at each rehearsal. The following policies will be followed by each member:

1. Students are allowed two excused absences from rehearsals throughout the semester. Absences must be approved by Dr. Alvis by 3:30 pm on the day of the rehearsal.
   a. If a student feels ill, he or she must not attend rehearsal.
   b. To be excused for illness, the student must provide documentation that he/she attended the clinic in person or through the virtual clinic that is available to students.
   c. So long as the student provides the required documentation, he/she will not have those absences count against him/her.
   d. Depending upon which days are missed, the student may not be permitted to participate in a recording project without demonstrating proper competency to Dr. Alvis.
2. Students are allowed one unexcused absence from rehearsal without punishment.
   a. An unexcused absence from an audio recording project (typically on Friday) will result in the final letter grade being lowered by one letter.
   b. Multiple unexcused absences may result in the revoking of the scholarship and dismissal from the band.
3. Attendance at the visual recording session is mandatory unless prior arrangements are made at least three weeks before the session.
   a. An absence may be excused in the event of unforeseen circumstances.
   b. Dr. Alvis must be notified immediately when the circumstance occurs.
   c. Documentation may be required depending upon the nature of the circumstance.
   d. If a student is absent from the visual recording session, the scholarship will be revoked.
4. Arriving late will not be tolerated. Rehearsals begin at 5:00.
   a. If the student cannot arrive at rehearsal on time, prior arrangements must be made with Dr. Alvis.
   b. Two late arrivals will result in one unexcused absence.
   c. Being late to a recording session is unacceptable. Students will be counted absent if not in his/her spot when the session begins.
5. An absence from a rehearsal may be excused if the absence is due to an activity associated with another course. Prior approval and documentation from the faculty member must be provided. Absences from recording sessions may or may not be approved.
6. Under no circumstances is work an excuse to miss rehearsal. Likewise, absences for extracurricular events must be approved at least one week in advance. Requests to miss recording sessions will not be approved.

**Grading and Expectations**

Students will be graded based upon attendance at rehearsals, including sectional rehearsals, and performances as described in the Attendance Policy. Additionally, grades will be held and a hold placed upon the university account if the student fails to turn in all materials (including instruments) at the end of the semester.

**Scholarships**

Each member of the Ram Band will be awarded a $250 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 1110 or MUEN 3110.
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 1110 or 3110.
   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.)

Uniforms
The traditional Ram Band uniform will not be worn this season. Instead, a shirt will be provided to each member. This shirt must only be worn for Ram Band events and performances (video). Along with the shirt, the fall 2020 uniform will consist of khaki shorts and tennis shoes. The student is responsible for providing his/her own shorts and shoes. The shorts must be conservative and free of holes or large logos. Capris or long pants may be worn instead of shorts. The color of khaki should be “medium” - like the baby bear’ preference in Goldilocks and the three bears: not too light, not too dark, right in the middle (aka the color Dr. Alvis usually wears, also known as khaki).

Instruments
The University has some instruments available for student use. Equipment check out occurs during registration. The instruments will be turned in during regular band rehearsal at the end of the semester. Any damage to a university instrument cause by negligence or misuse by the student is the financial responsibility of that student.

Music Rehearsal Procedures
1. All Ram Band rehearsals (including sectionals) will take place on the marching band practice field or in green spaces around Carr EFA. (Room 134 (band hall) is unavailable during Fall 2020.)
2. No music stands will be available for student use. A wire music stand or e-flip with a lyre is highly recommended.
3. Students will have an assigned “dot” in the horn arc/block. Students are required to remain on his/her dot for the duration of the rehearsal. The dots and spacing will meet social distancing guidelines.
4. When breaking into sub-sections, students must maintain proper social distancing.
5. Facial coverings are required during all rehearsals.
   a. Wind players may remove facial coverings when performing but must replace them when resting.
   b. Guard members may remove coverings when practicing routines but must maintain a minimum distance of 10 feet. When resting/taking breaks, proper face coverings must be worn.
6. During breaks, proper face coverings and social distancing must be maintained.
   a. Students must not congregate in small groups.
   b. There will be no sharing of water coolers/bottles.
   c. There will be no method to refill empty water coolers/bottles.

Drill Rehearsal Procedures
1. All drill formations will be written at a minimum of 3 steps.
2. Special rehearsal techniques will be used to “reset” drill formations.
   a. These techniques will be implemented and reviewed when the band begins learning drill later in the semester.
   b. These techniques must be followed to the best ability of the students.
3. While marching, face coverings will not be required but are encouraged.
   a. Face masks will be required when resetting between sets.
4. Proper footwear (sneakers or other athletic style shoes) must be worn at all times during visual rehearsals.
University Policies

**University/System Mask Policy:** As a member of the Texas Tech University System, Angelo State University has adopted the mandatory [Facial Covering Policy](#) to ensure a safe and healthy classroom experience. Current research on the COVID-19 virus suggests there is a significant reduction in the potential for transmission of the virus from person to person by wearing a mask/facial covering that covers the nose and mouth areas. Therefore, in compliance with the university policy students in this class are required to wear a mask/facial covering before, during, and after class. Faculty members may also ask you to display your daily screening badge as a prerequisite to enter the classroom. You are also asked to maintain safe distancing practices to the best of your ability. For the safety of everyone, any student not appropriately wearing a mask/facial covering will be asked to leave the classroom immediately. The student will be responsible to make up any missed class content or work. Continued non-compliance with the Texas Tech University System Policy may result in disciplinary action through the Office of Student Conduct.

**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](http://www.angelo.edu/ADA). The employee charged with the responsibility of reviewing and authorizing accommodation requests is: Dallas Swafford; 325-942-2047; dallas.swafford@angelo.edu.

**Title IX:** 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. In accordance with Title VII, Title IX, the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA), the Campus Sexual Violence Elimination Act (SaVE), and other federal and state laws, the University prohibits discrimination based on sex, which includes pregnancy, and other types of Sexual Misconduct. Sexual Misconduct is a broad term encompassing all forms of gender-based harassment or discrimination and unwelcome behavior of a sexual nature. The term includes sexual harassment, nonconsensual sexual contact, nonconsensual sexual intercourse, sexual assault, sexual exploitation, stalking, public indecency, interpersonal violence (domestic violence or dating violence), sexual violence, and any other misconduct based on sex.

You are encouraged to report any incidents involving sexual misconduct to the Office of Title IX Compliance and the Director of Title IX Compliance/Title IX Coordinator, Michelle Boone, J.D. You may submit reports in the following manner:

- **Online:** [www.angelo.edu/incident-form](http://www.angelo.edu/incident-form)
- Face to Face: Mayer Administration Building, Room 210
- **Phone:** 325-942-2022
- **Email:** michelle.boone@angelo.edu

Note, as a faculty member at Angelo State, I am a mandatory reporter and must report incidents involving sexual misconduct to the Title IX Coordinator. Should you wish to speak to someone in confidence about an issue, you may contact the University Counseling Center (325-942-2371), the 24-Hour Crisis Helpline (325-486-6345), or the University Health Clinic (325-942-2171).

For more information about resources related to sexual misconduct, Title IX, or Angelo State’s policy please visit: [www.angelo.edu/title-ix](http://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.

**Incomplete Grade Policy:** It is policy that incomplete grades be reserved for student illness or personal misfortune. Please contact faculty if you have serious illness or a personal misfortune that would keep you from completing course work. Documentation may be required. See ASU Operating Policy 10.11 Grading Procedures for more information.

**Academic Integrity:** Students are expected to maintain complete honesty and integrity in all work. Any student found guilty of any form of dishonesty in academic work is subject of disciplinary action and possible expulsion from ASU.

**Plagiarism:** Plagiarism is a serious topic covered in ASU’s Academic Integrity policy in the Student Handbook. Plagiarism is the action or practice of taking someone else’s work, idea, etc., and passing it off as one’s own. Plagiarism is literary theft.

In your discussions and/or your papers, it is unacceptable to copy word-for-word without quotation marks and the source of the quotation. It is expected that you will summarize or paraphrase ideas giving appropriate credit to the source both in the body of your paper and the reference list.

Papers are subject to be evaluated for originality via Turnitin. Resources to help you understand this policy better are available at the ASU Writing Center.

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