

Angelo State University
Department of Visual and Performing Arts
Symphonic Band; MUEN 1112/3112; 1 credit hour; MWF 3:00-3:50; Carr EFA 134

SYLLABUS, Spring 2022

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 in the concert band medium. Open to all students with three years of high school experience or equivalent.

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 Angelo State University Symphonic Band is an ensemble comprised of music majors on primary and secondary instruments as well as ASU students not majoring in music with no audition required to participate. The band provides an educational experience and serves as a musical outlet for students who wish to remain musically active in a less intense setting. The literature selected in this ensemble consists of a wide range of difficulty levels that is selected, in part, to provide music education students resources that can be used upon entering the profession - much like a "music education band literature course."

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 the semester. 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 to 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. Rehearsals are for preparation of the large ensemble, not individual parts. Adequate time will be spent outside of rehearsal preparing individual parts.
2. 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.
3. Have a pencil and immediately mark any changes the director 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.
4. 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.)
5. 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 Symphonic Band literature, but also become a better musician. You never know what you can learn by listening.
6. Absolutely no cell phones permitted during rehearsal.
7. 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 Symphonic Band 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 or long dresses are required. No skirts will be permitted. 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

Attendance at all rehearsals is mandatory. An unexcused absence from rehearsal will result in the final grade being lowered one letter. A student is allowed 1 excused absence throughout the semester. Absences must be approved by Dr. Alvis 24 hours in advance. If a student is ill, he/she must not attend rehearsal. To be excused for illness, a doctor's note must be provided. Each student has unlimited absences when related to illness. Arriving late to any rehearsal is unacceptable. If a student is not in his/her seat by the beginning of the tuning sequence, he/she will be counted absent. All dress rehearsals and concerts are mandatory. Absence from any of those events will result in an "F" for the semester and possible removal from the ensemble.

Course Schedule

The full ensemble rehearsal schedule will be distributed during the first week of class. We have a VERY limited amount of time to prepare for our concerts. These rehearsals will be treated as professional ensemble rehearsals where very, very little time will be spent rehearsing specific notes and rhythms. Arriving late to any rehearsal is unacceptable. If a student is not in his/her seat by the beginning of the tuning sequence, he/she will be counted absent.

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.

Performances and Dress Rehearsals (both mandatory) will occur on the following days and times:

Dress rehearsal: Monday, March 7, 7:00 pm, University Auditorium

Concert: Tuesday, March 8, 7:00 pm, University Auditorium

Dress Rehearsal: Thursday, April 28, 7:00 pm, University Auditorium

Concert: Friday, April 29, 7:00 pm, University Auditorium

Final Rehearsal: Monday, May 2, 3:00 pm, Room 134

Grading

The final grade will be based upon student attendance. As stated, an unexcused absence from rehearsal will result in the final grade being lowered by one letter. An absence from a full ensemble rehearsal, dress rehearsal, or performance will result in an "F" for the semester.

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. The employee charged with the responsibility of reviewing and authorizing accommodation requests is:

Ms. Dallas Swafford, Director of Disability Services

dallas.swafford@angelo.edu

325-942-2047

Houston Harte University Center, 112

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
- 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.

Student Absence for 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**.

Copyright Policy

Students officially enrolled in this course should make only one printed copy of the given articles and/or chapters. You are expressly prohibited from distributing or reproducing any portion of course readings in printed or electronic form without written permission from the copyright holders or publishers.

General Policies Related to This Course

All students are required to follow the policies and procedures presented in these documents:

- [Angelo State University Student Handbook](#)
- [Angelo State University Catalog](#)

Required Use of Masks/Facial Coverings by Students at Angelo State University

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.