Marching Band Techniques MUE 4480-18012
Syllabus - Fall 2020

Time: Tuesday/Thursday 6th period - 12:50 –1:40pm   **Class Location:** SBH /MUB 147

Instructor: Prof. John M. Watkins, Jr.   **Email:** Watkins@ufl.edu   **Phone:** (352) 273-3152

Office: 107 Steinbrenner Band Hall   **Office Hours:** By appointment

Course Description:

All of you are talented, skilled musicians and intelligent, well-educated individuals who will be a welcome addition to our profession. This course is designed to introduce you to the fundamental principles of effective instruction with respect to the contemporary marching band and to provide you with opportunities to practice applying these skills in learning how to prepare, organize, teach, and rehearse this type of ensemble. In addition, I hope that you will be challenged to examine your own expectations, aspirations and biases regarding the role of the marching band in music education. Through practical assignments, guest lecturers, and multimedia presentations, you will gain a command of the terminology, pedagogy, and structure of the marching band activity.

By the end of the semester you will be able to:

1. Clearly articulate your philosophy of music education with respect to the marching band.

2. Display an understanding of the organization, administration and operation of a public-school marching band program.

3. Systematically analyze and evaluate marching band performances with respect to musical and visual components.

4. Design effective learning sequences with respect to movement as it relates to marching band.

5. Speak and write clearly and cogently; giving succinct instructions and direct positive and negative feedback.

6. Display an understanding of the concepts of marching band show design using both individual and computer assisted design software.

Specialized areas of study will include: Philosophy and Purpose, Organization and Administration, Lesson Planning and Teaching Strategies, Show Planning and Repertoire, Drill Design and Computer Charting Techniques, Auxiliary Groups and Sections.

Required Materials
SOFTWARE:
Pyware College Subscription, 6 months on your device, $75.00

ADDITIONAL REFERENCE TEXTS:
Bailey/Cannon/Payne. *The Complete Marching Band Resource Manual,* Univ. Penn. Press, 2015
Ryder, Dan. *Techniques of Marching Band Show Designing.* Austin, TX: Dan Ryder Field Drills, 2000.

Dunnigan, Patrick. *Marching Band Techniques, 2nd ed.*. Northfield, IL: The Instrumentalist, 2007.
Smith, Gary E. *The System: A Marching Band Guide*. Savoy, IL: 11 Magnolia Court, 2015.
Smith & Wolinksy. Marching Band Techniques. Schiffer, 2016

<u>ACCESSORIES:</u>
1. Flexi-curve, flexible-ruler, basic drafting tools
2. Large 3-Ring Binder notebook with dividers to organize all your materials

Procedures
All assignments must be organized, clear and neat. The nature of the marching band activity requires meeting deadlines; therefore, **LATE ASSIGNMENTS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED** unless extraordinary circumstances exist. The course schedule allows ample time for completion of all assignments.

Attendance Policy
You must contribute logical comments, thoughts, and questions during class discussion and demonstrations. To adequately do this you should miss no more than three classes *for any reason*. Each absence beyond three will result in a grade reduction of one letter. You must be on time for class due to the nature of assignments and information

Activity Summary
1. Complete assigned readings in text and other sources and submit brief summaries displaying your understanding of the material presented.

2. Design a marching band fundamentals handbook for your imagined ideal band program.

3. Design instructional sequences and present teaching demonstrations for a variety of marching fundamentals from your handbook through a series of teaching rounds, including lesson plans.
   - Throughout the semester the student will teach a variety of fundamentals (stationary, moving and combinations) to other students during scheduled class times. Sessions will be videotaped for self and teacher evaluation with respect to accuracy and organization of presented information, feedback, and peer-student achievement.
   - Lesson plans must be submitted prior to each round and will be evaluated as to completeness, accuracy and achievement.

4. Demonstrate an understanding of quality audio/visual programming for the marching band by presenting accurate and succinct analyses of marching band and drum corps shows.

5. Demonstrate an understanding of charting concepts by preparing and presenting charts designed by hand.

6. Demonstrate your ability to apply charting concepts and competency in technology using Pyware charting software.

7. Prepare and present a logical dissection of marching band music into appropriate phrasing and motion.

8. Prepare and present an in-class show design project, including instruction, using the students in the class.

9. Successfully complete a Practical as assigned; completely planning a full-band marching band trip.

10. Meet criterion on written examinations concerning topics covered in class and homework

Independent Scholarship Project: Only students who meet all the criteria for a grade of B (see Grading Criteria below) may submit an Independent Scholarship Project. This project is unique as you will decide whether to do it and, if you decide to do it, you will have total control over the size and scope of the project. To qualify for a grade of A, the project must represent your best work as a musician and drill designer, and must include printed musical score(s), flow charts, drill charts, a sample coordinate sheet, as well as an electronic file of animated, computer generated drill. You are free to select music, size of ensemble, instrumentation, number and type of auxiliary personnel, etc..

NOTES: Any assignments(s) may be changed with my prior approval. If you are able to demonstrate your knowledge of the material, do not waste time with busywork. All assignments must be completed and submitted on the printed dates in order to receive credit. No incomplete grades (X) will be given for any reason.

Grade Criteria:

A	Satisfy all criteria for B plus Independent Scholarship Project	
B	Written course requirements completed with competence and accuracy *and* all criteria met with demonstrated competence on 5 of 5 videotaped in-class teaching assignments	
C	Written course requirements adequately completed, *and* all criteria met on 4 of 5 videotaped in-class teaching assignments	
D	One or more written course requirements not adequately completed, *and* all criteria met on 4 of 5 videotaped in-class teaching assignments	
F	One or more written course requirements not completed *or* failure to meet all criteria on any 2 of videotaped in-class teaching assignments	

See above for Attendance Policy and its relationship to the final course grade.

Academic Honor Policy

It is expected that you will exhibit ethical behavior concerning your work in this class. Students are expected to do their own work, use their own words in papers, and to reference outside sources appropriately. Failure to uphold the standards of academic honesty will result in the appropriate disciplinary action.

As a result of completing the registration form at the University of Florida, every student has signed the following statement:

"I understand that the University of Florida expects its students to be honest in all their academic work. I agree to adhere to this commitment to academic honesty and understand that my failure to comply with this commitment may result in disciplinary action up to and including expulsion from the University."

We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honesty and integrity.

Furthermore, on work submitted for credit by UF students, the following pledge is either required or implied:

"On my honor, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid in doing this assignment."

Students Requesting Accommodations due to Disabilities

To request classroom accommodations, contact the Assistant Dean of Students/Director of the Disability Resources Program at P202 Peabody Hall or call 392-1261 (V), 392-3008 (TDD). That office will provide documentation to the student who must then provide this documentation to the Instructor when requesting accommodation.

Course Evaluations

Students are expected to provide professional and respectful feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing course evaluations online via GatorEvals. Guidance on how to give feedback in a professional and respectful manner is available at https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/students/. Students will be notified when the evaluation period opens, and can complete evaluations through the email they receive from GatorEvals, in their Canvas course menu under GatorEvals, or via https://ufl.bluera.com/ufl/. Summaries of course evaluation results are available to students at https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/public-results/.

COVID-19 Policies

We will have face-to-face instructional sessions to accomplish the student learning objectives of this course. In response to COVID-19, the following policies and requirements are in place to maintain your learning environment and to enhance the safety of our in-classroom interactions.

- You are required to wear approved face coverings at all times during class and within buildings. Following and enforcing these policies and requirements are all of our responsibility. Failure to do so will lead to a report to the Office of Student Conduct and Conflict Resolution.
- This course has been assigned a physical classroom with enough capacity to maintain physical distancing (6 feet between individuals) requirements. Please utilize designated seats and maintain appropriate spacing between students. Please do not move desks or stations.
- Sanitizing supplies are available in the classroom if you wish to wipe down your desks prior to sitting down and at the end of the class.
- Follow your instructor's guidance on how to enter and exit the classroom. Practice physical distancing to the extent possible when entering and exiting the classroom.
- If you are experiencing COVID-19 symptoms (Click here for guidance from the CDC on symptoms of coronavirus), please use the UF Health screening system and follow the instructions on whether you are able to attend class. Click here for UF Health guidance on what to do if you have been exposed to or are experiencing Covid-19 symptoms.
  - Course materials will be provided to you with an excused absence, and you will be given a reasonable amount of time to make up work. Find more information in the university attendance policies.

In the case of closure, our class will move entirely online:

Our class sessions may be audio visually recorded for students in the class to refer back and for enrolled students who are unable to attend live. Students who participate with their camera engaged or utilize

a profile image are agreeing to have their video or image recorded. If you are unwilling to consent to have your profile or video image recorded, be sure to keep your camera off and do not use a profile image. Likewise, students who un-mute during class and participate orally are agreeing to have their voices recorded. If you are not willing to consent to have your voice recorded during class, you will need to keep your mute button activated and communicate exclusively using the "chat" feature, which allows students to type questions and comments live. The chat will not be recorded or shared. As in all courses, unauthorized recording and unauthorized sharing of recorded materials is prohibited.

MUE 4480: Marching Band Techniques   **Fall 2020 Course Outline**

Caveat: Scheduled discussion topics may change during the semester as guest speakers are available.

DATE			TOPIC	ASSIGNMENT
T	September	1	Introductions / course outline / materials / policies /	Dunnigan: Ch.1, 2,12
Th	September	3	Organization/ Administration / Philosophy / Leadership	
T	September	8	Lesson plans/ video examples / handbooks	**Philosphy,** Ch. 7, 8
Th	September	10	Software overview / types of drill movement / micro-drill tasks	B/C/P: Ch. 1-4
T	September	17	Show planning / selecting music / flowcharting / story-boarding	**Stationary Fund.**
Th	September	19	forms / lines / shapes / terminology / practice teaching	**Behav. Exp.,** Smith
T	September	29	Teaching Round I – Stationary Fundamentals	**Lesson Plan,** BCP: 5
Th	October	1	Sketching forms / lines / shapes	**Self-Evals,**
T	October	6	Lab: software overview / micro-drill tasks	**Assesment,** BCP: 7
Th	October	8	Lab: software overview / micro-drill tasks	**Flowchart**
T	October	13	Lab: software overview / micro-drill tasks	**Moving Fund.-1**
Th	October	15	Practice Teaching	**Lesson Plan**
T	October	20	Teaching Round 2 – Moving Fundamentals (fwd/back)	BCP: 8
Th	October	22	Lab: software overview / micro-drill tasks	**Self-Evals**
T	October	27	Lab: computer charting / class drill assignment	
Th	October	29	Lab: computer charting / class drill	**Handbook Due**
T	November	3	Lab: computer charting / class drill	**Moving Fund.-2**
Th	November	5	Practice Teaching	**Lesson Plan**
T	November	10	Teaching Round 3 – Moving Fundamentals (slides/adj.step)	**Class Drill**
Th	November	12	Lab: computer charting / discuss individual drill project	**Self-Evals**
T	November	17	Lab: individual drill projects	
Th	November	19	Lab: individual drill projects	**Lesson Plan**
T	November	24	Teaching Round 4 – basic movements (arcs/lines, arcs/arcs,etc.)	**Self-Evals**
Th	November	26	NO CLASS – HAPPY THANKSGIVING	
T	December	1	Teaching Round 4 – basic movements (arcs/lines, arcs/arcs,etc.)	**Self-Evals**
Th	December	3	Lab: individual drill projects	
T	December	8	Lab: individual drill projects	**Lesson Plan**
S	December 12		10:00AM – 12:00PM FINAL EXAM	**Final Project Due**