



Course Syllabus: University Pep Band

Fain College of Fine Arts

MUSC 4031

Spring 2026

Classroom: FA 105

Contact Information

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Course Description

The purpose of this course is to provide a high-energy and positive presence in the arena for home basketball games through esthetically pleasing music and vocalization that contributes to the competitive atmosphere of the basketball games. In addition, the University Pep Band may provide a spirited atmosphere at other select University-related sporting events, pep rallies, and recruiting events. University Pep Band is open to all students enrolled at MSU Texas.

Course Objectives and Student Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of this course, the student will be able to:

- Demonstrate performance skills and appropriate playing techniques for their primary instrument.
- Demonstrate proper health techniques to use during instrumental rehearsals and performances.
- Select appropriate instrumental literature to enhance technical skills and provide musical challenges for their students.

- Demonstrate their understanding of standard terminology used in communicating information about students' musical skills and performances.
- Describe meaningful prescriptions for correcting performance problems and errors and how to use constructive criticism when evaluating musical skills or performance.

Student Handbook

Refer to: [Student Handbook](#)

Academic Misconduct Policy & Procedures

Academic Dishonesty: Cheating, collusion, and plagiarism (the act of using source material of other persons, either published or unpublished, without following the accepted techniques of crediting, or the submission for credit of work not the individual's to whom credit is given). Additional guidelines on procedures in these matters may be found in the Office of Student Conduct. [Office of Student Conduct](#)

Moffett Library

Moffett Library provides resources and services to support student's studies and assignments, including books, peer-reviewed journals, databases, and multimedia materials accessible both on campus and remotely. The library offers media equipment checkout, reservable study rooms, and research assistance from librarians to help students effectively find, evaluate, and use information. Get started on this [Moffett Library webpage](#) to explore these resources and learn how to best utilize the library.

Grading

Students will be assessed on their:

- ability to perform a varied repertoire of Pep Band music
- ability to positively impact the competitive atmosphere at basketball games through attendance in the appropriate uniform and active, vocal involvement with the games, and
- participation in community service to the University through other select events

The student's final grade will consist of evaluations concerning preparation, attendance, and professionalism.

Table 1: Percentages allocated to each assignment

Assignments	Percentage
Preparedness for Rehearsal	50%

Assignments	Percentage
Attendance	25%
Professionalism	25%

Preparedness – 50%

All ensemble members are expected to prepare the parts assigned them through individual practice outside of class time. This is the single most important factor in having effective rehearsals and, as a result, excellent performances. You must practice your parts and come to ensemble rehearsals prepared. If everyone meets this expectation, we will have a positive experience and make great strides toward reaching our full potential.

Attendance – 25%

Students are expected to attend all rehearsals and performances and to be prompt and attentive. Any student who misses more than two rehearsals or a performance for any reason will suffer a lowered final letter grade per subsequent offence. Credit will not be given for excessive tardiness to either rehearsals or performance. The call time for each performance is 30 minutes before the start of the game. It is expected that students will be in place during all performances and take care of any personal needs during regularly scheduled breaks.

Below is the list of required events for the semester:

Date	Time	Location	Event
1-14	2-5pm	IRH	Rehearsal
1-15	3-4pm	IRH	Rehearsal
1-15	5:00pm	D. L. Ligon Coliseum	Doubleheader
1-17	12:30pm	D. L. Ligon Coliseum	Doubleheader
1-21	5-6:40pm	IRH	Rehearsal
1-26	5-5:50pm	IRH	Rehearsal
1-28	5-6:40pm	IRH	Rehearsal
1-31	12:30pm	D. L. Ligon Coliseum	Doubleheader
2-12	5:00pm	D. L. Ligon Coliseum	Doubleheader
2-14	12:30pm	D. L. Ligon Coliseum	Doubleheader
2-26	5:00pm	D. L. Ligon Coliseum	Doubleheader
2-28	12:30pm	D. L. Ligon Coliseum	Doubleheader
3-5 to 8	TBA	D. L. Ligon Coliseum	Doubleheader
3-14 to 17	TBA	D. L. Ligon Coliseum	Doubleheader
4-1 to 5	TBA	D. L. Ligon Coliseum	Doubleheader

Professionalism – 25%

Acting professionally in this course not only means acting appropriately during rehearsals but also that everyone is set up for rehearsal with the equipment that is needed on time.

Important Dates

- Last day for term schedule changes: January 23, 2026
- Deadline to file for graduation: February 16, 2026
- Last Day to drop with a grade of "W:" April 29, 2026
- Refer to: [Drops, Withdrawals & Void](#)

Communication

We are typically very quick at responding to questions and concerns. Please feel free to contact either of us by email (corey.robinson@msutexas.edu, Christopher.vivio@msutexas.edu) at any time. Do not wait until our next rehearsal to tell us that you did not understand an assignment or could not retrieve the required materials. If you let us know ahead of time, we will be more likely to be able to help resolve the situation. If we contact you, a response is expected within 24 hours.

Required Course Materials

Students are expected to provide their own instrument, in working condition, for the course. A pencil is required at all rehearsals. Should photocopies of specific pieces be necessary for practice or performance, the student should notify the director as soon as possible.

Honorarium

The student will earn an honorarium scholarship (amount TBD) per service for performance in support of university sponsored basketball events. Tardiness to a performance will result in the forfeiture of half the honorarium for that event. Failure to attend any performance without prior consultation with the instructor will result in the forfeiture of double any earned honorarium for that event. A pre-arranged absence may merely lower the grade and forfeit that performance's honorarium. Honorariums will be distributed at the end of the spring semester; however, any student that withdraws from the course at any time will forfeit receiving an honorarium. It is the student's responsibility to ensure that the director has your M Number recorded for you to receive your honorarium in a timely manner.

Uniforms

University Pep Band shirts will be provided to the ensemble at no personal cost to the student. The student will wear the uniform to all University Pep Band appearances. The student will follow the instructions inside the garment regarding care and will keep the uniform wrinkle and stain-free! The complete uniform will be the Nike jersey, blue jeans, and athletic shoes of a standard color that are tied. Baseball caps and other headwear must be school colors (maroon,

gold, white, black, or grey) and contain the MSU logo. At the close of the basketball season, the student will return the Nike jersey. If a uniform is damaged or not returned for any reason, the student will pay for the cost of the uniform.

Change of Schedule

A student dropping a course (but not withdrawing from the University) within the first 12 class days of a regular semester or the first four class days of a summer semester is eligible for a 100% refund of applicable tuition and fees. Dates are published in the Schedule of Classes each semester.

Refund and Repayment Policy

A student who withdraws or is administratively withdrawn from Midwestern State University (MSU) may be eligible to receive a refund for all or a portion of the tuition, fees and room/board charges that were paid to MSU for the semester. HOWEVER, if the student received financial aid (federal/state/institutional grants, loans and/or scholarships), all or a portion of the refund may be returned to the financial aid programs. As described below, two formulas (federal and state) exists in determining the amount of the refund. (Examples of each refund calculation will be made available upon request).

Services for Students with Disabilities

In accordance with Section 504 of the Federal Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, Midwestern State University endeavors to make reasonable accommodations to ensure equal opportunity for qualified persons with disabilities to participate in all educational, social, and recreational programs and activities. After notification of acceptance, students requiring accommodations should make application for such assistance through Disability Support Services, located in the Student Wellness Center, (940) 397-4140. Current documentation of a disability will be required in order to provide appropriate services, and each request will be individually reviewed. For more details, please go to [Disability Support Services](#).

College Policies

Campus Carry Rules/Policies

Refer to: [Campus Carry Rules and Policies](#)

Smoking/Tobacco Policy

College policy strictly prohibits the use of tobacco products in any building owned or operated by WATC. Adult students may smoke only in the outside designated-smoking areas at each location.

Alcohol and Drug Policy

To comply with the Drug Free Schools and Communities Act of 1989 and subsequent amendments, students and employees of Midwestern State are informed that strictly enforced policies are in place which prohibits the unlawful possession, use or distribution of any illicit drugs, including alcohol, on university property or as part of any university-sponsored activity. Students and employees are also subject to all applicable legal sanctions under local, state and federal law for any offenses involving illicit drugs on University property or at University-sponsored activities.

Campus Carry

Effective August 1, 2016, the Campus Carry law (Senate Bill 11) allows those licensed individuals to carry a concealed handgun in buildings on public university campuses, except in locations the University establishes has prohibited. The new Constitutional Carry law does not change this process. Concealed carry still requires a License to Carry permit, and openly carrying handguns is not allowed on college campuses. For more information, visit [Campus Carry](#).

Active Shooter

The safety and security of our campus is the responsibility of everyone in our community. Each of us has an obligation to be prepared to appropriately respond to threats to our campus, such as an active aggressor. Please review the information provided by MSU Police Department regarding the options and strategies we can all use to stay safe during difficult situations. For more information, visit [MSUReady – Active Shooter](#). Students are encouraged to watch the video entitled “Run. Hide. Fight.” which may be electronically accessed via the University police department’s webpage: ["Run. Hide. Fight."](#)

Grade Appeal Process

Students who wish to appeal a grade should consult the Midwestern State University [MSU Catalog](#)

***Notice:** Changes in the course syllabus, procedure, assignments, and schedule may be made at the discretion of the instructor.

Campus Closure Policy

If Midwestern State University authorizes campus closing procedures, rehearsals and performances for this course will be canceled with no expectation of meeting synchronously online. Performances may be rescheduled.