

# University Pep Band – MUSC 4031

## Midwestern State University

### Spring 2021 Syllabus

#### **General Information:**

Instructor: Dr. Corey Robinson

Course Numbers: MUSC 4031

Class Location: Fain Instrumental Music Hall 105/D. L. Ligon Coliseum

Class Time: Mondays 4:00 pm – 5:40 pm, Wednesdays 5:00 pm – 5:50 pm

Email: corey.robinson@msutexas.edu

Phone: (940) 397-4054

Office: Fain Instrumental Music Hall 101 (office hours posted on door)

#### **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 Assessment:**

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

## **Grading:**

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

## **Attendance:**

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 performance and take care of any personal needs during regularly scheduled breaks.

## **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 and accurate mailing address 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 (or grey t-shirt), 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 and keep the grey t-shirt. If a uniform is damaged or not returned for any reason, the student will pay for the cost of the uniform.

## **COVID-19 Statements:**

### ***Face coverings***

MSU policy for indoor and outdoor rehearsals applies. In addition, students that play woodwinds and brass will be provided masks appropriate for their respective instrument. Please do not share these with anyone.

### ***Flexibility***

At any time, we may transfer Pep Band to an online (adapted) course. In this instance, the class will continue until the director feels the overall work is commensurate with the credit amount. In this instance, accommodations will be provided. Illness and accommodations will be done on a person-to-person basis. Attendance is expected at all times, and absence from a class needs to be communicated as quickly as possible. Attendance will be taken every rehearsal.

### ***Cleaning protocols***

No instruments are to be shared at any time. When an instrument is stored in its place, it should have enough proper space to allow for social distancing.

### ***Social distancing***

All music rehearsals and performances will adhere to the minimum 6-ft. rule.

## **Other Information:**

### ***Special Needs***

If a student needs class accommodation(s) because of a documented disability, (2) has an emergency medical condition that may interfere with class performance, or (3) requires special handling in case the building must be evacuated, he/she is encouraged to contact the office of Disability Support Services in room 168 Clark Student Center (940) 397-4140 and make an appointment with the professor as soon as possible.

### ***Student Conduct***

Behavior that interferes with either the instructor's ability to conduct the class or the ability of other students to benefit from the instruction will result in the instructor removing the disruptive student(s) from the class, either temporarily or permanently (instructor drop), and assigning a final lower grade, up to and including an F. In addition, and depending on the nature of the behavior or conduct, the student(s) may be subject to further disciplinary actions as per MSU policies.

### ***Privacy Statement***

Federal privacy law prohibits the instructor from releasing information about students to certain parties outside of the university without the signed consent of the student. Thus, in almost all cases the professor will not discuss a students' academic progress or other matters with his/her parents. Please do not have them call. Regardless of these important legal considerations, the professors' general policy is to communicate with the

students, not their parents, even when a student has signed a consent form. College students are adults and are expected to behave accordingly.

### ***Academic Dishonesty***

Academic dishonesty including plagiarism and giving or receiving unauthorized assistance is prohibited. Plagiarism is (1) the use of source material of other persons (either published or unpublished, including the Internet) without following the accepted techniques of giving credit or (2) the submission for credit of work not the individual's to whom credit is given. If a student in the class plagiarizes material, appropriate disciplinary action will be taken. The Student Honor Creed developed and adopted by the MSU Student Government reinforces the discouragement of plagiarism and other unethical behaviors. The first statement of the creed reads, "As an MSU student, I pledge not to lie, cheat, steal, or help anyone else do so." Plagiarism is lying, cheating, and stealing.

### ***Social Justice***

Social justice is one of Midwestern State University's stated core values, and the professor considers the classroom a place where students are treated with respect as human beings, regardless of gender, race, ethnicity, national origin, religious affiliation, sexual orientation, political beliefs, age, or ability. Moreover, diversity of thought is appreciated and encouraged, provided the students can agree to disagree. The professor's expectation is that ALL students consider the classroom a safe environment.

### ***Campus Carry***

Senate Bill 11 passed by the 84th Texas Legislature allows licensed handgun holders to carry concealed handguns on campus, effective August 1, 2016. Areas excluded from concealed carry are appropriately marked, in accordance with state law. For more information regarding campus carry, please refer to the University's webpage at MSU Campus Carry Policy Website.