UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH ALABAMA SYLLABUS
Jaguar Marching Band, MUO 130/430, Fall 2014

Course Information
- Term: Fall 2014
- Course Number: MUO130/430 University Marching Band
- Course Format: No web component
- Meeting Times:
  - Student Staff, Percussion, and Color Guard - M-F, 4:00-6:00 PM
  - All other members - T-F, 4:00-6:00 PM
- Meeting Location:
  - HPELS 1123/1170 and/or Marching Band Drill Field

Instructor Information
- Director: Dr. Will Petersen, Assistant Director: Dr. Michael Phillips
- Telephone: (251) 460-6136
- E-mail: wpetersen@southalabama.edu, michaelphillips@southalabama.edu
- Office Hours: By appointment
- Office Address: Laidlaw Performing Arts Center Room 1072

Course Description
This offering is intended as a large performing ensemble of woodwind, brass, and percussion instrumentalists, and appropriate auxiliary personnel with an emphasis on live performance for athletic events. The course is open by audition to music majors and non-music majors with prior instrumental performance experience in high school or junior college.

Course Goals and Objectives
The goals of the University of South Alabama Jaguar Marching Band are to consistently achieve:
1. Big, high-quality sound at all times.
2. Excellent visual excitement, energy, and velocity at all times.
3. First-class style, demeanor, and representation of the Band and University at all times.

In addition to these goals, an emphasis is placed on student personal accountability, development of student leadership and peer relationships, and the continual use of proven and research-based teaching methods for marching ensembles. These methods are intended to provide a positive and efficient use of the students’ time, while simultaneously providing a model for music education majors to emulate in their own post-graduate teaching careers.

Course Pre-requisites / Co-requisites
Admission into the Jaguar Marching Band is open by audition to full-time students.

Class Attendance Policy
Schedule is tentative and subject to change. If modifications to the schedule are necessary, ample prior notification will be given. Attendance variations and late work will be reflected in grading. This includes performances required during spring semester 2015, and grades may be retroactively modified. The most up-to-date calendar is always available online at www.jaguarmarchingband.org

1. Saturday, August 16, All Day - Dress Rehearsal - Ladd-Peebles Stadium
2. Wednesday, September 10, Early Evening - World Leisure Congress Performance - Campus
3. Friday, September 12, Evening - Pep Rally - Downtown Mobile (Cathedral Square)-Mobile, AL
4. Saturday, September 13, All Day - JAGS vs. Mississippi State - Ladd-Peebles Stadium
5. Saturday, September 20, All Day - JAGS vs. Georgia Southern - Ladd-Peebles Stadium
6. Saturday, September 27, All Day - Exhibition at Daleville Marching Festival - Daleville High School
7. Tuesday, October 7, TBA - Exhibition at Baldwin County Band Jamboree - Spanish Fort High School
8. Friday, October 11, All Day - Exhibition at Dothan Southern Showcase - Dothan, AL
9. Friday, October 17, 4PM-8:30PM - Homecoming Parade and Pep Rally - USA Moulton Tower
10. Saturday, October 18, All Day - JAGS vs. Texas State - Ladd-Peebles Stadium
11. Friday, October 24, All Day - JAGS vs. Troy - Ladd-Peebles Stadium
12. Saturday, October 25, 5PM-10PM - Exhibition at “Deep South Marching Competition” - Theodore, AL
13. Saturday, November 1, All Day - JAGS at University of Louisiana, Lafayette - Lafayette, LA
14. Tuesday, November 3, 7:30PM - Percussion Ensemble Concert (JDL)
15. Tuesday, November 4, 7:30PM - Percussion Ensemble Concert (JDL)
16. Tuesday, November 11, Morning and Early Afternoon - Mobile Veterans Day Parade - Downtown Mobile
17. Saturday, November 15, All Day - Jags vs. Texas State (Jaguar Marching Honor Band)

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The penalties for unexcused absences are as follows:

1. On the first unexcused absence the student may meet with the Director to discuss the student’s attendance.
2. On the second unexcused absence the student’s grade may be lowered by a letter grade. The student’s scholarship may be placed on probation.

Absence Excuse Forms are available online at [www.southalabama.edu/music/marchingband/pdfs/jmb_absence_excuse_form.pdf](http://www.southalabama.edu/music/marchingband/pdfs/jmb_absence_excuse_form.pdf) in the band office. When possible, submit the form in advance of the absence. It is your responsibility to pick up a form, fill it out, and return it to the office no later than five academic days after the absence or tardy. An absence is unexcused if you fail to submit an absence form or if your form is rejected by the Directors. Please do not ask to be excused for any reason relating to work, schoolwork, or another group function. There will be no excused absences or tardies for games. This includes all postseason performances. Performing is the reason that the marching band exists. Missing a game may result in failure of the class and loss of scholarship. Emergency situations will be handled on an individual basis by the Directors.

UNIFORM MAINTENANCE SCHEDULE
The Jaguar Marching Band uniform (including the color guard uniform), is a source of pride for both our band and the University community at large. Its upkeep and care are of the utmost importance in protecting this icon as well as our financial investment. The following dates and times are set for turning in uniforms for dry cleaning. If modifications to the schedule are necessary, ample prior notification will be given. Failure to turn in the uniform for maintenance will be reflected in grading. In addition, per the Jaguar Marching Band Handbook which you agreed to in writing, a $25.00 hold will be placed on your University records each time the uniform is not turned in during the designated times and dates. Uniforms will ONLY be accepted on the EXACT DATES AND TIMES listed and IN THE EXACT MANNER DICTATED BY THE STUDENT UNIFORM COMMITTEE.

1. Saturday, September 13 - Directly after game
2. Monday, September 29 - 4PM-6PM
3. Monday, October 13 - 4PM-6PM
4. Saturday, October 18 - Directly after game
5. Monday, October 27 - 4PM-6PM
6. Monday, November 3 - 4PM-6PM
7. Monday, November 17 - 4PM-6PM
8. Thursday, December 4 - Directly after Holiday Concert
9. February Mardi Gras Parade - Directly after Mardi Gras Parade

Assessment
The following is taken from the Jaguar Marching Band handbook which you received, read, and signed in agreement. Failure to follow any rule in the Jaguar Marching Band Handbook may adversely affect your grade or membership status in this class.

Attendance and Grading Attendance, effort, and attitude are the determining factors in earning your grade for marching band. Perfect attendance is the norm, and is expected from all band members. Failure to turn in uniforms at assigned times and dates, and in compliance with instructions, may also negatively affect your final grade. Staff and student leaders take attendance at all rehearsals and performances, and attendance is reported to the band office each week. All students will receive a barcode to be placed on their instrument or flip-folder. You check in on the field, and a date and time (accurate to the second) are recorded.

Only students who are properly attired and who have all of their equipment will be checked in. If you are not properly attired and/or do not have your equipment, you will be counted an unexcused absence.

Absence forms are available in the band office, and can be downloaded from our website. When possible, submit the form in advance of the absence. It is your responsibility to pick up a form, fill it out, and return it to the office no later than five academic days after the absence or tardy. An absence is unexcused if you fail to submit an absence form or if your form is rejected by the Director. Please do not ask to be excused for any reason relating to work, your poor time management for curricular commitments (i.e. “I have a paper that’s due to tomorrow” or “I have a test to study for”), or another group function. There will be no excused absences or tardies for games. This includes all postseason performances. Performing is the reason that the marching band exists. Missing a game may result in failure of the class and loss of scholarship. Emergency situations will be handled on an individual basis by the Director and Associate Director.

The penalties for unexcused absences are as follows:

1. On the first unexcused absence the student may meet with the Director to discuss the student’s attendance.
2. On the second unexcused absence the student’s grade may be lowered by a letter grade. The student’s scholarship may be placed on probation.

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If you have concerns regarding your hearing or musculoskeletal health or for injury prevention, please discuss your concerns with your applied professor, area coordinator, ensemble director, or department chair.

Hearing and Musculoskeletal Health and Injury Prevention

Hearing and musculoskeletal health, as well as injury prevention, is important for everyone, but especially for student musicians. If you have concerns regarding your hearing or musculoskeletal health or for injury prevention, please discuss your concerns with your applied professor, area coordinator, ensemble director, or department chair.

More information on hearing health can be found at:
- http://nasm.arts-accredit.org/site/docs/PAMA-NASM_Advisories/3a_NASM_PAMA-Student_Orientation_Script-Standard.pdf
- or from the University of South Alabama Speech Pathology and Audiology Department at:
  http://www.southalabama.edu/alliedhealth/speechandhearing/contactus.html

More information on musculoskeletal health and injury prevention can be obtained from your applied professor or the University of South Alabama Physical Therapy Department at: http://www.southalabama.edu/alliedhealth/pt/contactus.html

Maintenance of Hearing Health

If you have concerns regarding your hearing health, please discuss with your ensemble director or the department chair. Ear plugs reduced to no more than the cost of the tuition for the class.

3. On the third unexcused absence the student may be removed from the ensemble. The student may receive a failing grade in the class and may forfeit all scholarship monies.

A limited number of conflicts with band rehearsal are to be expected with students traveling to and from other classes on campus. At the beginning of the semester, students must notify the director of the days and times that a late entrance or early exit from rehearsal will occur, along with documented proof of the conflict (printed class schedule etc.) As a “rule of thumb,” these conflicts do not present a problem if they equal less than 90 minutes per week of missed rehearsal time. Please keep in mind that you may fall behind in music and drill instruction due to your conflicts, and that this may force you to become an alternate for a field performance or rehearsal.

In the case of an unexcused performance absence, a student may be removed from the band, receive a failing grade, and be required to return all scholarship money. Students who are persistently late to rehearsals will be warned, then they may be removed from the ensemble. Excused Absences and Tardies Absences incurred due to university-sponsored trips are excused. The professor organizing the trip should provide you with an excused absence letter, which you will need to provide for the band office in order to have your absence excused. If you do not clear these absences ahead of time, they may be unexcused. There will be times when you may be late or miss a rehearsal. If you are sick or have emergency circumstances, you need to call (251) 460-6136 or visit the band office before rehearsal. There is voicemail in the band office; if no one answers, leave a message.

Student input for the improvement of this course is paramount in importance to us. Your evaluations of the professors, the drum major, your section leaders, and the band’s policies are taken seriously and do effect change. Therefore, your final exam grade in this course, which is 10% of your final grade, is tied to your successful completion of all the aforementioned assigned evaluations.

The Grading Scale is as follows:
- 90%-100% = A
- 80%-89% = B
- 70%-79% = C
- 60%-69% = D
- 0% - 59% = F

Retreat

At three minutes before the end of each rehearsal, the band will form parade block and return to the band room in that block. Do not break the block. Returning in block ensures that vehicles on campus roads and parking lots can see us, and it makes sure that the largest instruments enter the band room first. Instruments should not be cleaned or serviced on the field during this time. This is a required activity for all band members at every rehearsal. Upon return to the band room from any performance, the band will arc up inside the rehearsal hall for announcements and instrument cleaning. Upon notice from the band director, section leaders will inspect cleaned instruments to dismiss students from the arcs. This is a required activity for all band members at every rehearsal. Upon dismissal, students must properly stow all instruments and equipment. No equipment is exempt from this rule. All equipment and instruments must be stored in the assigned lockers. If you wish to take your horn home to practice or memorize music (which is encouraged!), then you must first clean the instrument while inside the band room, and then check it out. No uniform parts or other personal items may be left in the band room. Everyone should do their part to remove trash from the band room.

Changes in Course Requirements

Not all classes progress at the same rate. Thus, course requirements might have to be modified as circumstances dictate. You will be given written notice if the course requirements need to be changed.
are available from your ensemble director or in the Music Office, LPAC 1072 should you require them for rehearsals or performances. Anyone playing or sitting near percussion instruments during rehearsals or performances are especially encouraged to use the earplugs. Whenever the band rehearses or performs indoors in close quarters, students are also encouraged to use earplugs.

**Academic Disruption Policy**
The University of South Alabama’s policy regarding Academic Disruption is found in *The Lowdown*, the student handbook.

[http://www.southalabama.edu/lowdown/academicdisruption.shtml](http://www.southalabama.edu/lowdown/academicdisruption.shtml): Disruptive academic behavior is defined as individual or group conduct that interrupts or interferes with any educational activity or environment, infringes upon the rights and privileges of others, results in or threatens the destruction of property and/or is otherwise prejudicial to the maintenance of order in an academic environment. Students are expected to be cordial, courteous and respectful of faculty members and fellow students.

**Student Academic Conduct Policy**
The University of South Alabama’s policy regarding Student Academic Conduct Policy is found in *The Lowdown*.

[http://www.southalabama.edu/lowdown/academicconductpolicy.shtml](http://www.southalabama.edu/lowdown/academicconductpolicy.shtml): The University of South Alabama is a community of scholars in which the ideals of freedom of inquiry, freedom of thought, freedom of expression, and freedom of the individual are sustained. The University is committed to supporting the exercise of any right guaranteed to individuals by the Constitution and the Code of Alabama and to educating students relative to their responsibilities.

**Students With Disabilities**
In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, students with bona fide disabilities will be afforded reasonable accommodations. The Office of Special Student Services (OSSS) will certify a disability and advise faculty members of reasonable accommodations. If you have a specific disability that qualifies you for academic accommodations, please notify the instructor/professor and provide certification from the Office of Special Student Services. OSSS is located at 5828 Old Shell Road at Jaguar Drive, (251-460-7212).

**Course and Teacher Evaluation**
Student input for the improvement of this course is paramount in importance to us. Your evaluations of the professors, the drum major, your section leaders, and the band’s policies are taken seriously and do effect change. Therefore, your final exam grade in this course is tied to your successful completion of all the aforementioned assigned evaluations.

**JAGAlert**
This is a 100 level course. If you are not progressing adequately, or if there are problems with your attendance and/or punctuality, then you will receive the appropriate warning code on your JAGAlert record.

**Online Writing Support**
The University of South Alabama provides online writing tutoring services through SMARTTHINKING, an online tutoring service. SMARTTHINKING is available at [http://services.smarthinking.com](http://services.smarthinking.com). Students may enter the site by logging on with their Jag number and using the last four digits of the social security number as the password. For log-on problems, technical questions and/or on-campus writing assistance, contact the USA Writing Center at 251-460-6480 or e-mail csaint-paul@southalabama.