

UW OSHKOSH SYMPHONIC BAND

SYLLABUS: Fall Semester, 2008

Dr. Heather McWilliams, Conductor Office: A/C N121 Email: mcwillia
Music Dep't Office: A/C N206, 424-4224

I. PHILOSOPHY

The goal of the Symphonic Band, in rehearsal and performance, is to achieve a high degree of learning and performance excellence and to provide a musical outlet for students who satisfy the audition requirements and are interested in continuing playing while studying in music or non-music disciplines at the University.

II. REHEARSAL SCHEDULE

Mondays and Wednesday from 4:15 - 5:45 p.m. in Rm. N14 of A/C Bldg. Sectionals may be arranged in some class times or on a rotating basis at other times to fit with members' schedules and for attendance purposes will be treated the same as full rehearsals.

III. CONCERTS

1) **Sunday October 26th**
MusicHall, 3:00 p.m.
Soundcheck, 1:30 p.m.

2) **Sunday December 7th**
MusicHall, 3:00 p.m.
Soundcheck, 12:30 p.m.

IV. CONCERT DRESS

MEN: Jacket and tie, dress slacks (no jeans) and dark dress shoes.

WOMEN: Long dark dress (below knee with tights) or dark slacks (no jeans), dark dress shoes

* Concerts are formal events so please dress up!

V. MUSIC

Each ensemble member will be assigned a folder and will be responsible for the folder and its contents. Fees will be assessed for lost folders, lost music, or damage due to lack of reasonable care or excessive marking. A grade of "incomplete" and a registration hold will be placed for unreturned folders or music. Please look after our music—it's expensive stuff!

VI. BULLETIN BOARD

The primary and most current notice board will be outside of N14. Please check this regularly and especially on rehearsal days. Some notices will be also be posted on the board outside of the conductor's office (N120).

VII. SECTIONALS

It is expected that members will fully participate in any sectional r'ials as arranged in advance (may include some time outside of class time) attendance at sectionals will be treated the same as a full r'ial .

VII. ATTENDANCE AND GRADING POLICY

- * Attendance at all rehearsals by all members of the ensemble is fundamental to achieving the maximum musical growth - every absence adversely affects the potential for optimum rehearsal improvement. The following policy is therefore designed to ensure that every class member contributes fully to the ensemble for everybody's benefit.
- 1. **Potential conflicts with rehearsal times or concert dates as notified on this syllabus must be submitted IN WRITING to the conductor no later than the first rehearsal of the second full week of the semester.** The nature and frequency of conflicts will be evaluated to determine participation in the ensemble. Conflicts that result in an unsatisfactory degree of participation will result in forced withdrawal from the class.
- 2. **The only excusable absences are:**
 - a) **illness** that prevents you from attending any classes (to be documented with submission of a doctor's note), or
 - b) **medical or other emergency** in your **immediate family**.
- * **To have an absence under either of the above guidelines counted as "excused" you must:**
 - i) **call in the absence** (@424-7016 and leave a message if the office is unattended) as soon as you know you will not be attending— i.e. in advance (except in emergency situations) **AND**
 - ii) **submit all necessary written documentation to the conductor no later than the first rehearsal after the absence** (attendance/tardy forms will be available at rehearsals and in the music dept office - Rm N206).
- * For the first two unexcused absences the course grade will be lowered half a grade for each absence. Every unexcused absence after the second one results in the course grade being lowered by one whole grade for each absence. **Three or more unexcused absences will result in a review of the right to remain in the ensemble and can lead to dismissal from the class and a failing grade.** An unexcused absence from a soundcheck, concert or performance will be deemed to equal three unexcused absences.
- 3. **It is expected that members of this ensemble will be fully prepared on their individual parts for every rehearsal and performance.** A consistent lack of musical preparation will result in a lowering of the course grade commensurate with the lack of preparation demonstrated.

VIII. TARDINESS POLICY

The professional habit of arriving early for rehearsal and warming up is the expected behavior. **At the very minimum, rehearsals should begin on time with everyone present.** Therefore, attendance will be taken at the beginning of every rehearsal. Students arriving after rehearsal has commenced **must** speak with the conductor at the end of rehearsal and fill out an absence/tardy form. Failure to do this will result in the student being marked absent & unexcused for the rehearsal. Tardies can only be "excused" for emergency reasons which must be documented in writing at the end of the rehearsal. Every two unexcused tardies = one unexcused absence.

