

Wind Symphony – SPRING 2026

MUN 1140: 13341, 15762; MUN 3143: 13410; MUN 6145: 13506

Dr. Archie G. Birkner, IV

chipbirk@ufl.edu

Office Hours: By appointment

Prof. John M. Watkins, Jr.

watkins@ufl.edu

Office Hours: By appointment

Class Schedule

Rehearsals: M & W - 7th-8th period (1:55 – 3:50PM); Sectionals as assigned
Steinbrenner Band Hall (SBH), other areas as assigned

Course Description: An ensemble of wind and percussion instrumentalists performing traditional and contemporary wind band and chamber ensemble repertoire, including selections from the western cannon as well as newly commissioned works. Membership in the ensemble is based on audition and permission of instructor. MUN 1140 and MUN 3143 count for General Education Humanities credit. A grade of “C” must be earned for General Education credit. The General Education Objectives may be found at this link:

<https://undergrad.aa.ufl.edu/general-education/gen-ed-program/subject-area-objectives/>

Course Learning Objectives: To expand the knowledge of each student in reference to the wind band repertoire and to develop the critical thinking and communication skills necessary to achieve an artistic level of individual and ensemble performance. Humanities courses must afford students the ability to think critically through the mastering of subjects concerned with human culture, especially literature, history, art, music, and philosophy, and must include selections from the Western canon. Humanities courses provide instruction in the history, key themes, principles, terminology, and theory or methodologies used within a humanities discipline or the humanities in general. Students will learn to identify and to analyze the relevant factors that shape thought. These courses emphasize clear and effective analysis and approach issues and problems from multiple perspectives. Instructional materials for this course consist of only those materials specifically reviewed, selected, and assigned by the instructor. The instructor is only responsible for these instructional materials.

Learning Activities: Ensemble rehearsal techniques to develop individual and ensemble skills in preparation for public performances.

Prerequisites: Audition and permission of Director.

Fees: This class has a \$100 course fee for equipment, materials and supplies, as listed in the Schedule of Classes.

Course Grading Requirements and Policies:

Attendance is required at all classes. Students should be in their assigned chair ready to begin performing at 1:55pm; students who are late disrupt every other student in the ensemble.

There will be multiple performances during the semester. Attendance at all performances is required. Failure to attend a performance will adversely affect your grade for the class. There are no excused absences the week of a concert. Inasmuch as attendance plays an integral part in the grading process, it is understood that the student must prepare their part satisfactorily, attend sectional rehearsals as scheduled, and be prepared to perform their part at any time in rehearsal. Absences from sectionals are treated the same as a class absence.

For a class absence to be excused, the following three steps must be met by the student prior to the absence:

- 1) Receive approval from the instructor prior to the absence
- 2) Make sure that their part is covered, and
- 3) Ensure that the folder is at the rehearsal with the approved sub.

Cell Phone Policy: Cell phones are not allowed during rehearsals or performances. They must in a case or bag in the off position (not just silent) during all rehearsals and performances.

- Use of cell phones during rehearsal will lower the final grade by ½ letter grade per occurrence.
- Two instances of being late (not in seat ready to begin at start of class) or leaving early will lower the final grade automatically by 1/2 a letter grade, EX: 1 tardy = A to A-, 2 A- to B+, etc..
- Unexcused absences will lower the final grade automatically by a letter grade, EX: 1 unexcused = A to B, 2 unexcused = B to C, etc..
- Failure to perform in a concert or scheduled performance will adversely affect your grade and may result in a failing grade for the class.

ATTIRE for concerts is All Black (black shirt, tie, jackets, pants, shoes, socks for gentlemen and black dress or pants/top for women.) Dresses must be tea-length or longer and shoulders must be covered.

The UF Student Honor Code and Student Conduct Code can be found [HERE](#)

Information about University-wide resources can be found [HERE!](#)

Caveat: The above procedures and following schedule for this course are subject to change in the event of extenuating circumstances.

Caveat: The above procedures and following schedule for this course are subject to change in the event of extenuating circumstances.

Spring 2026 Schedule

January 12	First rehearsals as assigned for Concert #1
January 14	Rehearsal of assigned literature
January 19	MLK Holiday – no classes
January 21	Rehearsal of assigned literature
January 26	Rehearsal of assigned literature
January 28	Rehearsal of assigned literature
February 2	Rehearsal of assigned literature
February 4	Rehearsal of assigned literature
February 9	Dress rehearsal in University Auditorium
Tuesday, Feb. 10	Symphonic Band Concert #1 - 7:20PM – UA
February 11	Dress rehearsal in University Auditorium
Thursday, Feb. 12	Wind Symphony Concert #1 - 7:20pm – UA
February 16	First rehearsals as assigned for Concert #2
February 18	Rehearsal of assigned literature
February 23	Rehearsal of assigned literature
February 25	Rehearsal of assigned literature
March 2	Rehearsal of assigned literature
March 4	Rehearsal of assigned literature
March 9	Dress rehearsal in University Auditorium
Tuesday, Mar. 10	Wind Symphony Concert #2 7:20pm – UA
March 11	First rehearsals as assigned for Concert #3 – UA
Thursday, Mar. 12	Symphonic Band Concert #2 - 7:20PM – UA
March 16 - 20	UF SPRING BREAK
March 23	Rehearsal of assigned literature
March 25	Rehearsal of assigned literature
March 30	Rehearsal of assigned literature
April 1	Rehearsal of assigned literature
April 6	Rehearsal of assigned literature
April 8	Rehearsal of assigned literature
April 13	Dress rehearsal in University Auditorium
Tuesday, Apr. 14	Symphonic Band Concert #3 - 7:20PM – University Auditorium
April 15	Dress rehearsal in University Auditorium
Thursday, Apr.16	Wind Symphony Concert #3 - 7:20PM – University Auditorium
April 20	Play for MUG 4302 (Conducting class)
April 22	Play for MUG 4302 (Conducting class)
May 1	University-Wide Commencement – Stadium - TBA