Symphonic Band – SPRING 2026

MUN 1130: 13339, 13340; MUN 3133: 13409; MUN 6135: 13505

Prof. John M. Watkins, Jr.
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Office Hours: By appointment

Dr. Archie G. Birkner, IV
chipbirk@ufl.edu
Office Hours: By appointment

Class Schedule
Rehearsals: M & W - 9th - 10th period (4:05 – 6:00PM)
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 1130 and MUN 3133 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 general content 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 4:05pm; 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 result in a failing 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.

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<u>Spring 2026 Schedule</u>

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	**CONCERT #1 with Buchholz HS 7:20PM – UA**
February 11	**First rehearsals as assigned for Concert #2 – UA**
Thursday, Feb. 12	**Wind Symphony Concert #1 7:20pm – UA**
February 16	Rehearsal of assigned literature
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	Dress rehearsal in University Auditorium
Thursday, Mar. 12	**CONCERT #2 7:20PM – University Auditorium**
March 16 - 20	**UF SPRING BREAK**
March 23	**First rehearsals as assigned for Concert #23**
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	**CONCERT #3 7:20PM – University Auditorium**
April 15	Rehearsal of composition projects/conducting class
Thursday, Apr.16	**Wind Symphony Concert #3 7:20PM – University Auditorium**
April 20	**Recording Composition Projects/conducting class**
April 22	**Recording Composition Projects/conducting class**