

Moravian College Wind Ensemble (MUS 004/MUS 014)

Fall 2016

Tuesday/Thursday 4pm-6pm

FOY Concert Hall

Sean O'Boyle AM

oboyles@moravian.edu

Office Hours: By appointment

A concert band designed for high-level, artistic, public performances of major literature for winds and percussion, accomplished through the development and refinement of high-level ensemble skills. As a member of this Wind Ensemble, you are contributing to advancement of concert band music in the western world. Sensitivity to outstanding musicianship, historical styles, and appropriate performance practices is required. In addition to the highest expectations as an instrumentalist, your ability to apply intellect and spirit in meaningful ways during rehearsals and concerts is also demanded. Skills developed in the Wind Ensemble transfer to all other ensemble types. Membership in the Wind Ensemble is open to any student who qualifies through audition and is the major ensemble for all instrumental music students.

Course Content:

Rehearsals

Successful rehearsals demand both individual preparedness and a collaborative spirit. Therefore, mere attendance at all rehearsals is not sufficient for successful completion of this course. Each student in the Wind Ensemble is expected to participate in all rehearsals at a level which demonstrates individual preparedness (properly warmed-up prior to rehearsal, music prepared during personal practice time, etc.) and with a motivation indicative of collegiate-level inquisitiveness and ambition.

Preparation Schedule:

By the second rehearsal of each concert cycle, it is expected that each individual musician has attained competency on their own parts • by the fourth rehearsal of each concert cycle, it is expected that each individual musician has command of the music on their own parts (able to demonstrate musicality on all music) • by the sixth rehearsal of each concert cycle, it is expected that each individual musician has attained artistry on their own parts.

The MCWE will meet in its allocated time up to and including the Thursday prior to exam week.

Members of the MCWE perform at graduation/commencement and there is an expectation that students perform for this special event for the graduating class.

There will be an extra rehearsal on the Saturday afternoon of each concert day.

Sheet Music

Moravian College Music Department will supply the necessary music. All members of the Wind Ensemble will be assigned their own music folder and set of parts. You are responsible for the care and return of these items. Music problems (extra parts, photocopy of a page due to an awkward page turn, missing page, etc.) are your responsibility and should be taken care prior to a rehearsal. A pencil must be had at every rehearsal.

Course Goals:

To address, rehearse, and perform wind ensemble/band music from various periods and to grow as performers and educators through participation in various sized ensembles. It is intended that this course be a fusion arena for all other music curricula. Learning Goals: Students will become aware of various ensemble and rehearsal techniques, wind repertoire, and professional level performance techniques. Also, students will be able to utilize their knowledge of theory, history, pedagogy, etc. in an applied activity. Refinement of ensemble skills toward the professional level will be an omnipresent goal in every rehearsal. Method and Frequency of Evaluations: Attendance supplies the basis grade to which Individual Performance and Professionalism grades are added. Students are evaluated throughout the semester in all three areas.

Expectations:

Attendance is mandatory. For each unexcused absence, the overall grade for the class will be lowered by 1% grade point. Excused absences include illness and family funeral. All absences will be evaluated at the discretion of the instructor. Chronic lateness will not be tolerated, and will be reflected in the overall grade. If you are not in your seat at the beginning of class, you will be marked tardy. Two tardies are equivalent to one unexcused absence. If you feel there is a compelling reason why you were tardy, you must see me immediately after class.

Music must be comprehensively practiced before the student attends rehearsals. The instructor reserves the right to make qualitative judgments in determining grades.

Students can expect to work six or more hours per week outside of class time with individual practice.

Concert Dress

All black – no short sleeves.

Grading Method

Each student should read the schedule of events for the entire semester including rehearsals, dress rehearsals and concerts. These are in the Music Department's concert calendar and the student handbook.

Grades will be based on the following criteria:

1. Attendance – 40% of Grade
2. Individual Performance Preparation for Rehearsal & Concert Performance - 40% of grade
3. Living up to expected ensemble standards i.e. Professionalism -20% of grade
 - Rehearsal habits (i.e. no cell phones, hats, food, drink in rehearsal, etc.)
 - Punctuality (i.e. rehearsals, call times, travel departures, etc.)
 - Individual, Section, and Group responsibility
 - Concert dress requirements •etc.
 - Note that concerts and dress rehearsals can **not** be made up and missing one may result in failure of the entire course.

Academic Honesty: Students are expected to uphold the standards of academic honesty, as they are spelled out in the Student Handbook.

Students who wish to request accommodations in this class for a disability should contact the Academic Support Center, located on the first floor of Monocacy Hall (extension 1401). Accommodations cannot be provided until authorization is received from the Academic Support Center.

Please note that this syllabus is subject to change.