



**SOUTHEAST MISSOURI  
STATE UNIVERSITY · 1873**

*Marching Band Techniques*  
**ME400-01**

**COURSE SYLLABUS  
FALL 2018**

**MONDAY & WEDNESDAY 11:30 am-12:20 pm  
River Campus Center – RCS404**

**DR. MARTIN REYNOLDS, Professor**

OFFICE – River Campus Seminary Room 361

OFFICE HOURS – M 11:30-12:30 @ RCS361

T 9:30-10:30 @ RCS361

W 11:30-12:30 @ RCS361 & 1:30-2:30 @ RCS361

H 9:30-10:30 @ RCS361

F By Appointment OFFICE PHONE – 573.651.2334

E-MAIL – [mreynolds@semo.edu](mailto:mreynolds@semo.edu)

**Course Description** – This course deals with the history and function of marching band programs as well as practical experiences in organization, show development, music selection, music arranging, drill design, and the pedagogical techniques of administering a secondary school level marching band program.

**Course Objective** -- To deliver appropriate instruction about the techniques of marching bands and to enable the student with the necessary skills to administer and direct a high school marching band curriculum. Emphasis will be placed on state-of-the-art computer drill design technologies and their application to current trends in competitive and non-competitive marching bands.

**Grading** -- Weekly assignments/exams/projects will be assigned based on lecture topics. All projects will be graded. Cumulative scoring (total points) will be utilized. A ten-point grading scale will be used with letter grades issued on the following percentages:

90-100 = A

80-89 = B

70-79 = C

60-69 = D

0-59 = F

Midterm Exam – Thursday, October 11 – during class hour

Final Exam – Tuesday, December 11, 2:00 pm

*A completely designed field show (drill-charted, administrated, arranged, budgeted, lesson-planned) suitable for A/V presentation in the academic classroom during the Final Exam period.*

Make-up Exams are not given.

### **Expectations of Students** –

- Demonstrate knowledge of history & function of a marching band program and its place in the total music curriculum.
- Demonstrate knowledge of basic administrative needs and requisite organizational skills.
- Development of leadership skills and teaching techniques for marching band (MU386).
- Development of a basic skill set in the areas of show development, music selection, music arranging, and drill design (hand-drawn & computer-assisted).

### **Student Learner Outcomes** –

- The student will identify marching techniques and styles as performed throughout the history of 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> century American marching bands.
- The student will write a marching band musical arrangement of a simple, well-known song using music notation computer software.
- The student will construct a halftime marching band performance using drill design computer software.

### **Course Content/Outline**

	<b><u>class hours</u></b>
A. History and function	2.0
B. Fundamental styles of marching	1.0
C. Common performance practices	1.0
D. Facilities, equipment, and uniforms	3.0
E. Parade bands	0.5
F. Types of shows, factors in planning a show and idea sources	1.0
G. Show formats	1.0
H. Developing a show	1.0
I. Music selection	1.0

J. Music arranging for marching band	2.0*
K. Adapting existing arrangements	1.0
L. Scripts	0.5
M. Musical interpretation outdoors	1.0
N. Marching warm-up and music warm-up	1.0
O. Teaching techniques	1.5
P. Rehearsal techniques	1.5
Q. Group “dynamics” and motivation (esprit de corps)	0.5
R. Hand charting systems	1.0
S. Computer charting systems	2.0
T. Designing and charting a show	5.0*
U. Marching season evaluation and planning of next season	1.5
Total Class Hours	30.0

\*Will involve individual student consultations

### **Textbook and/or Other Required Equipment**

- A. *Finale* or *Sibelius* music notation software
- B. Pyware 3D Drill Design program
- C. Minimum 1” three-ring binder for class handouts and notes (use of ME372 notebook is also encouraged)

Students are expected to handle many class assignments using current implements of technology (computer hardware, software, video projectors, sound file playback, video file playback, etc.). The use of portable technology and A/V recording devices is encouraged and is seen as a means to enhance instruction. Cell phone use (including texting) is NOT allowed during class without consent of the instructor.

### **Absence from Class**

Students are expected to attend all classes and to complete all assignments for courses in which they are enrolled. An absence does not relieve the student of the responsibility to complete all assignments. **Late assignments WILL NOT be accepted.** If an absence is associated with a university-sanctioned activity, the instructor will provide an opportunity for assignment make-up. However, it is the instructor’s decision to provide, or not to provide, make-up work related to absences for any other reason. A student not present for class during the entire initial week of a scheduled course may be removed from the course roster unless the student notifies the instructor by the end of the first week of an intention to attend the class. Questions regarding the removal process should be directed to the Registrar.

Absence from the class for more than one week (two class periods) may result in the lowering of the grade by one letter for each occurrence.

### **Academic Honesty**

Academic honesty is one of the most important qualities influencing the character and vitality of an educational institution. Academic misconduct or dishonesty is inconsistent with membership in an academic community and cannot be accepted. Violations of academic honesty represent a serious breach of discipline and may be considered grounds for disciplinary action, including dismissal from the University. Academic dishonesty is defined to include those acts which would deceive, cheat, or defraud so as to promote or enhance one’s scholastic record. Knowingly or actively assisting any person in the commission of an above-mentioned act is also academic dishonesty. Students are responsible for upholding the principles of academic honesty in accordance with the “University Statement of Student Rights” found in the STUDENT HANDBOOK. The University requires that all assignments submitted to faculty members by students be the work of the

individual student submitting the work. An exception would be group projects assigned by the instructor. In this situation, the work must be that of the group. Academic dishonesty includes:

**Plagiarism** -- In speaking or writing, plagiarism is the act of passing someone else's work off as one's own. In addition, plagiarism is defined as using the essential style and manner of expression of a source as if it were one's own. If there is any doubt, the student should consult his/her instructor or any manual of term paper or report writing. Violations of academic honesty include:

1. Presenting the exact words of a source without quotation marks;
2. Using another student's computer source code or algorithm or copying a laboratory report; or
3. Presenting information, judgments, ideas, or facts summarized from a source without giving credit.

**Cheating** -- Cheating includes using or relying on the work of someone else in an inappropriate manner. It includes, but is not limited to, those activities where a student:

1. Obtains or attempts to obtain unauthorized knowledge of an examination's contents prior to the time of that examination.
2. Copies another student's work or intentionally allows others to copy assignments, examinations, source codes or designs;
3. Works in a group when she/he has been told to work individually;
4. Uses unauthorized reference material during an examination; or
5. Have someone else take an examination or takes the examination for another.

### **Civility**

Every student at Southeast is obligated at all times to assume responsibility for his/her actions, to respect constituted authority, to be truthful, and to respect the rights of others, as well as to respect private and public property. In their academic activities, students are expected maintain high standards of honesty and integrity and abide by the University's Policy on Academic Honesty. Alleged violations of the Code of Student Conduct are adjudicated in accordance with the established procedures of the judicial system.

### **Disabilities**

Students with disabilities wishing to have academic accommodations that ensure equal educational access should seek registration with Disability Support Services. Registration includes meeting with a DSS staff member, submitting paperwork that documents that nature of the student's disability, and designing an implementation plan (Faculty Notification) regarding approved accommodations. Students that received assistance in high school through an Individualized Education Plan (IEP) and/or a Section 504 plan, should speak with a DSS staff member regarding possible services at Southeast. For more detailed information regarding individual services for students with disabilities, please visit the office website at [www.semo.edu/lapdss/](http://www.semo.edu/lapdss/) or the office of Learning Assistance Programs and Disability Support Services is usually open from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday-Thursday and 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Friday during the fall and spring semesters. During the summer, the office hours are typically 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. To contact the office, please dial (593) 651-2273 (TDD (573) 651-5927), email the office at [lapdss@semo.edu](mailto:lapdss@semo.edu), or visit the office website at [www.semo.edu/lapdss](http://www.semo.edu/lapdss).

Questions, comments or requests regarding this course or program should be taken to your instructor. Unanswered questions or unresolved issues involving this class may be taken to Department of Music Chair (Dr. Kevin Hampton) or Dean of the Holland College of Arts & Mass Media (Mrs. Rhonda Stilson).