

# SAM HOUSTON STATE UNIVERSITY ATTENDANCE AND GRADING

## BEARKAT MARCHING BAND

Alfredo Vélez III, Director

Course Syllabus

FALL 2007

CID 5253 MUS 116, 1 Credit

CID 5272 MUS 316

Monday 6:00 – 8:15 PM & Tues/Thurs.4– 6 PM Email: alfredo.velez@shsu.edu

Office Hours: 1:00 – 3:00 M-F. (and by appointment)

Office: 318

Office Phone: (936) 294-4009

The goal of **ANY POLICY** statement is to preserve the quality of the music making experience for all involved. Early communication is the best way to handle any problems that may arise.

### ATTENDANCE

1. Musicians **CANNOT BE EXCUSED** from any rehearsals or performances.
2. Events that are **BEYOND YOUR CONTROL**, such as serious illness or family emergencies will be considered on a case-by-case basis and will be handled by the conductor.
3. In the event of an emergency absence, **DIRECT** communication with the conductor is essential upon return. If at all possible, please email or call in advance of the absence.
4. In case of absence, an explanation should be offered well in advance of the next rehearsal. Once again, communication is the best way to handle attendance issues.

### CATALOG DESCRIPTION AND EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS

The Bearkat Marching Band performs at SHSU football games as well as other selected events. Required for wind and percussion majors. This course is part of the general music requirements for Sam Houston State University, and satisfies a component for Music Majors. (There are no pre-requisites for this course.)

### COURSE OBJECTIVES

The purpose of this course is to ensure that students have assimilated the basic marching techniques/terminology and developed playing skills necessary for success as college marching band. Perform at a high level at all performances listed on the band handbook.

### STUDENT SCOPE AND OUTCOME OF THE COURSE

Development and demonstration of a venerable marching approach with emphasis on techniques appropriate to contemporary marching methodology. Demonstration of acquired awareness in contemporary marching pedagogical y and techniques, rehearsal preparation, development of visual/aural discrimination skills, the role of the member/leader in historical perspective, and an exhibition of basic musicianship.

### COURSE REQUIREMENTS

#### REQUIRED TEXT AND MATERIALS

1. Assigned Music and pencil
2. Instrument
3. Drill Books

**A. Attendance:** Attendance is expected for all scheduled classes. The nature of the course requires active participation and interaction among all class members at all times. As a general rule, students are not excused from **any** class under **any** circumstances. The following rules regarding attendance apply: Excuses are granted only for excused (official university) absences. Graduating seniors who need to schedule and early final should inform the instructor early in the semester.

**\* NON – PARTICIPATION WILL GREATLY AFFECT YOUR GRADE. A tardy will be counted as partial non-participation.**

**B. Weekly Assignments:** Weekly visual and musical assignments will be given and assessed. Each student will be expected to perform the assigned musical excerpts in class with the class members as the ensemble. Missed assignments may not be made up. In addition, weekly section assignments and music playoffs will be given and evaluated through class participation and quizzes.

### **C. GRADING**

Student members of the “BMB” will be graded on the basis of performance, musicianship, effort, cooperation, and attendance/participation, as appraised by the Director. Perfect attendance at all rehearsals and performances is expected of all members and is considered the norm. Because it is impossible to make up the material covered during either a rehearsal or a public performance, absences, which result in lack of participation for that day, must result in a lower final semester grade.

Students who have authorized absences or have made other satisfactory explanation of absence to the Director will not be penalized. Excused absences are those resulting from illness, death in the family, or other family emergencies. Only the Director may authorize an excused absence. Courtesy would dictate the necessity of reporting these absences in advance of the rehearsal or performance to be missed. Please email or call in advance. Attendance is also required at all sectional rehearsals. No performance absences will be allowed. A grade of an **F** will be given if a performance is missed unless it falls under the circumstances above

\*Lack of Participation will affect the grade as follows:

- 1 Grade of A (One Sanctioned Miss)
- 2 Grade of B
- 3 Grade of C
- 4 Grade of D
- 5 + No credit for the course; grade of "F"

Tardies will accumulate to absences at the rate of 2 tardies equaling 1 absence.

You will note that you may miss once and still maintain an "A" if needed. Please use this wisely. For example:

- a) Visiting Artist-Master Class scheduled during rehearsal.
- b) Music Education Field Trips or other class trips.

**\*NO EXEMPT MISSES ALLOWED ON GAMEDAYS OR THURSDAY’S BEFORE A PERFORMANCE.**

### **OUTSIDE COMMITMENTS**

As a member of the ensemble, we assume that your primary responsibility is to the announced schedule. Outside work and performance opportunities are considered to be the business of the student but should not interfere with Department of Music obligations. Please consider this document a contract of your commitments to the Department of Music and the Wind Studies Area.

## **CELL PHONES/PAGERS**

It is inappropriate to bring an activated cellular telephone or pager to either a rehearsal or performance. Please exercise respect for others by eliminating these disturbances.

## **AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT** (Services for Students with Disabilities (SSD))

SHSU adheres to all applicable federal, state, and local laws, regulations, and guidelines with respect to providing reasonable accommodations for students with disabilities. If you have a disability that may affect adversely your work in this class, then I encourage you to register with the SHSU Counseling Center and to talk with me about how I can best help you. All disclosures of disabilities will be kept strictly confidential. NOTE: no accommodation can be made until you register with the Counseling Center.

## **ACADEMIC MISCONDUCT/DISHONESTY**

The Faculty of Sam Houston State University expects students to conduct their academic work with integrity and honesty. Acts of academic dishonesty will not be tolerated and can result in the failure of a course and dismissal from the University. Academic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to, cheating on a test, plagiarism, collusion (the unauthorized collaboration with another person in preparing work offered for credit), the abuse of resource materials, and misrepresentation of credentials or accomplishments as a member of the college.

The University's policy on academic honesty and appeal procedures can be found in the manual entitled Student Guidelines, distributed by Division of Student Services. (Reference Section 5.3 of the SHSU Student Guidelines)

**PENALTIES** - If you engage in academic dishonesty related to this class, you will receive a failing grade on the test or assignment, and a failing grade for the course. In addition, the case will be referred to the Dean of Students for appropriate disciplinary action

## **SEXUAL HARASSMENT POLICY**

It is the policy of Sam Houston State University to review and resolve complaints of sexual harassment by any member of the university community, including faculty, staff, students, or visitors. Sexual harassment is a form of sex discrimination and will be treated as such by the university. Sexual harassment occurs when any person, regardless of gender, is the recipient of unwelcome sexual advances, unwelcome requests of sexual favors, or other unwelcome verbal, visual or physical conduct of a sexual nature.

Quid pro quo harassment occurs when submission to sexually harassing conduct (as stated above) is made either explicitly or implicitly a term or condition of an individual's education or employment, or when submission to or rejection of such conduct by an individual is used as a basis for academic or employment decisions affecting the individual's education or employment. Quid pro quo harassment is equally unlawful whether the student resists and suffers the threatened harm or submits and thus avoids the threatened harm.

Hostile environment sexual harassment occurs when sexually harassing conduct (as stated above) by an employee, by another student, or by a third party is sufficiently severe, persistent, or pervasive to limit a student's ability to participate in or benefit from an education program or activity, or creates an intimidating, hostile, offensive or demeaning education or work environment.

Each supervisor has a responsibility to maintain the workplace free of all sex discrimination, including sexual harassment. This duty includes discussing this policy with all employees plus assuring students that they are not to endure sexual harassment from university employees or other students. Allegations of sex discrimination will be given immediate attention, and the person charging harassment may do so without fear of retaliation or reprisal. However, false accusations may result in disciplinary action up to and including termination.

Students wishing information and/or consultation concerning sexual harassment may obtain a complete unabridged copy of this policy (which is contained in the Administrative Policies and Procedures Manual in the Newton Gresham Library) or contact the Dean of Students' Offices.