Symphony Band
University of Michigan, School of Music, Theatre & Dance
Syllabus Winter 2019

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GOAL
To improve each student's musicianship through rehearsing and performing at the highest levels of artistic expression.

Artistic Statement from UM Mission Statement:

Intellectual leaders from Plato to the present have recognized the importance of the arts to a thriving civilization. The University of Michigan joins in supporting the arts because of their humanizing influences, their demands for self-discipline, their abilities to evoke idealistic dreams that transcend everyday issues, their effectiveness in reflecting the achievements of diverse peoples, and their capacities to stimulate the most important of all intellectual abilities: creativity. Perhaps in no past era of our increasingly global civilization have these qualities been more sorely needed than they are today.

GRADING
- You are training to become a professional; therefore, being present and on time is viewed as a minimum responsibility.
- If you are sick or have an emergency, please contact me directly and immediately so that I will be informed prior to the rehearsal of your potential absence.
- Auditions, competitions, and special School of Music events (such as tours by other performing groups) will generally be considered excused absences. However, it is your responsibility to advise me of any potential absence two weeks in advance.
- Unexcused absences from rehearsals will reduce the grade by one letter grade per absence.
- Unexcused absence from a performance or dress rehearsal will reduce the grade to an F.
- Being late to rehearsal is unprofessional and will not be accepted. Habitual unexcused late arrivals (3) will result in the reduction of the grade by one letter.
- It is the responsibility of each player to professionally prepare all parts assigned. We do not rehearse to practice.
- Rehearsals are planned in advance and no player will be without sufficient notice for professional preparation.

Help me help you!
1) Yes! I will write a letter of recommendation for you. You need not feel compelled to ask me to do this, although I am happy to talk with you.
2) Send me an email, or place the information in my mailbox.
3) Your communication should provide me with a target date for completion, all necessary forms, and a clear outline of the necessary content.
4) Please give me at least five business days notice before your deadline. My deadline for graduate school request is November 1st. I can work on the letter while you work on the application.

5) If it is appropriate for me to return the letter to you in a signed envelope, I will post it on the board outside my office and notify you by email it is completed.

**Your recital is important to me!**

1) I do my very best to attend all solo recitals given by members of the Symphony Band.

2) If you want me to attend, please inform me of the date as soon as the performance is scheduled.

3) With my university schedule and my commitments away from the university, it will not be possible for me to attend all recitals.

4) If I cannot attend, I will let you know in advance and request to hear a recording.

5) I will not consider your recital date in planning the rehearsal schedule or part assignments for this ensemble.

**You have an audition approaching and would like me to hear the material:**

Email me with your available times and the audition date. I will match my availability to yours and respond by email.

**To make an appointment with me:**

Email me directly and give me several options of possible times, I will match one and return the email as soon as possible.

**Concert Dress**

**Option #1:** Black full-length dress or equivalent black blouse/pants (no denim) and only black polished shoes. NO bare shoulders. NO short skirts!

**Option #2:** Black tuxedo, white formal shirt, black bow tie, black socks, and only black polished shoes.

No rehearsals after April 5. Seven additional days off (nine total):

- Monday, April 8
- Wednesday, April 10
- Friday, April 12
- Monday, April 15
- Wednesday, April 17
- Friday, April 19
- Monday, April 22

See the posted repertoire-calendar document for more detailed information concerning performances, dress rehearsals, and repertoire.