

# IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY MARCHING BAND/JAZZ METHODS

## Syllabus

Fall Semester, 2014  
9:00 – 9:50am Tuesday and Thursday  
Room 125, Music Hall  
Mr. Steven Smyth, Instructor  
Music Hall Room 003, 294-8017, [ssmyth@iastate.edu](mailto:ssmyth@iastate.edu)

### Attendance Policy

Due to the relatively short amount of class time compared with the vast subject matter, students are expected to be at every class. Failure to miss the class will result in the lowering of one letter grade for each missed class. Excused absences will only be given in the case of EXTREME emergencies (severe illness, death, or other drastic catastrophes).

### Evaluation

All students in this class are expected to do A level work. Materials that are below this level will be returned to the student until it meets the criteria. Students have until December 15 at 9:30am to turn in all materials. If all materials are not turned in at this time, you receive a failing grade for the course.

There will be no tests given in this course. A student's grade is determined by their attendance, completed observations, and the final notebook turned in at the end of the semester.

### Notebook

At the end of the semester students will turn in a three ring binder with the following materials in this order:

#### **Table of Contents**

##### **Marching Band**

- Marching Band Philosophy
- 3 Letters of introduction (Student, Community, Administrators)
  - List of 10 show concepts, 5 with published music
  - Sample Contract for Staff Member
    - List of Preseason To Do
    - Sample Camp Schedule
- Sample Itinerary for State Contest trip (Ames to Fort Dodge)
  - Letter to parents with details of trip
    - Flow Chart for Baba Yaga
    - Blank Flow Charts
    - Timing Graph for Baba Yaga
- Completed Pyware Tutorial (print the product at end of each chapter)
  - Sample weekly rehearsal schedule
    - Sample lesson plan
  - List of command vocabulary with brief explanations
    - 3 Sample Uniform concepts with explanations
    - Booster meeting agenda

- 4 fundraising ideas with brief explanations
  - Sample Budget for marching band
- Sample Application and Interview process for Student Leadership
  - List of Summer Camps
  - Fundamental Cheat sheet
  - Drumline Handouts
  - Guard Handouts
- A 6 page drill to Baba Yaga (parameters will be given in class)

##### **Jazz**

- Jazz Band Philosophy
  - Lesson Plan for rehearsal
  - 5 complete music sets for contest or concert
- Materials from Dr. Giles

##### **Class Notes**

Notes from every class are expected to at the back of the notebook typed with a table of contents based on subject.

### Observations

Students are required to observe both high school and college marching band rehearsals:

All Students: Must observe 6 hours of high school rehearsals. At least one of those must be for a marching band of 40 or less. Please contact the director at least a couple of days BEFORE your observation! The following directors are friends of mine and of our program, please use them as a resource. Understand you are a representative of our program at Iowa State and I will be checking on you!

Braden Wipperman (Bondurant) 515-957-8191  
Craig Crilly (Dallas Center-Grimes) 515-986-9747 ext.264  
Kevin Masemann (Story City) 515-733-4329  
Byron Tinder (Gilbert) 712-304-0475  
Chris Ewan (Ames) 515-231-2060  
Joel Poppen (Ankeny)  
Myron Peterson (Urbandale)  
Patrick Kearny (Johnston)

Students who are NOT in the Cyclone Marching Band: You must observe AT LEAST 10 hours of rehearsal. You need to observe the ISUCFVMB in many stages; Warm-ups/fundamentals, learning music/drill, and cleaning music and drill.

When finished with your observations, please fill out the rehearsal reflection sheet and turn it into Mr. Smyth. I will only accept two reflections per week and must be turned in the week you observe. Therefore you can not do these observations at the last minute.

### Learning Objectives

- \* gain insight and experience with designing, teaching, and administering a high school competitive marching program
- \* develop philosophies on marching and where it lies in the overall curriculum, including the use of competition and entertainment as motivational tools.
- \* be exposed to contemporary show techniques and ideas that are prevalent throughout the country.

### Concert Attendance

Students enrolled in Marching Band/Jazz Band methods are required to attend all ISU Jazz Concerts for the Semester and to write a paragraph summary reflecting on the subjects discussed in class and how it pertains to what they heard and saw.

Jazz Concerts for Fall 2014 are: October 8th and December 4th,

## Daily Plan

Date	Subject	Assignment
8/26	Establishing our Philosophy	Personal Philosophies, 3 Letters
8/28	Show Concepts, Custom Drill and Music	10 show concepts-5 with published charts
9/2	Show Selection Continued	List of 6 drill and music sources with contact info and pricing
9/4	Staff, Preseason Logistics, Camp	Sample Staff Contract, Pre season "To Do", Camp Schedule, Trip Itinerary, Parent letter
9/9	Flow Charts, Drill writing basics	Flow Chart for Baba Yaga
9/11	Introduction to Pyware, Drill Basics	Read Basic Concepts, Complete first 4 tutorials (thru line tool)
9/16	Drill Basics and Planning	Timing Graph for Opener Pyware Tutorials 5-7 (Circles)
9/18	Drill Basics and Planning	Pyware Tutorials 8-11 (Expanding the Circle)
9/23	Rehearsal Strategies	Day lesson plan Week Lesson Plan
9/25	Rehearsal Strategies	List of Command Vocabulary Pyware Tutorials 12-15 (Pass Thru example)
9/30	Guest Lecture – Chris McCurdy on Buying Uniforms	3 Sample Uniforms using Demoulin.com with explanations
10/2	Marching Fundamentals	Marching Cheat Sheet
10/7	Marching Fundamentals	Group Teaching
10/9	Boosters and Fundraising	Sample Booster Agenda 4 Fundraising Ideas Sample Budget for Marching Season
10/14	Re-arranging music for your band	Adjust Baba Yaga for limited instrumentation.
10/16	Sound Fundamentals – Mr Carichner Guest Lecturer	As assigned
10/21	Developing Student Leadership	Sample Application and Interview process for Student Leadership List of summer camps
10/23	Introduction to Jazz Band	Write a reflection on your jazz experience
10/28	Teaching Style in a Jazz band setting	As assigned
10/30	Rhythm Section Basics	Turn in 5 seating arrangements and justifications
11/4	Drumline Equipment	Handout
11/6	Drumline Equipment	As assigned
11/11	Guard Lecture	Handout
11/13	Guard Lecture	Handout
11/18	Jazz Literature Selection	Concert and contest programs for year
11/20	Guest Lecture – John Aboud	Handouts
12/2	Jazz Rehearsal Techniques	Rehearsal Plans
12/4	Jazz Contests	Journals and Worksheets
12/9	Drill Writing Help Session	Work on Baba Yaga Drill
12/11	Drill Writing Help Session	Work on Baba Yaga Drill
12/15	Final 7:30-9:30am Notebook Turn In	

Fall 2014 Marching Band/Jazz Methods  
Observation Reflection

Name \_\_\_\_\_

School Observed \_\_\_\_\_ Director Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_ Time \_\_\_\_\_

Show \_\_\_\_\_

Reflect on the following:

Warm-up-

Teaching of Marching Fundamentals –

Basic Rehearsal Procedure –

What did you learn from watching this rehearsal?

What would the next rehearsal look like if this group was yours?

After watching this band, what is your perception of the competitive nature of the program. What is your impression of this teachers teaching philosophy towards marching band?

Ask the director the following questions and reflect on their answers:

1. What is your teaching philosophy when it comes to marching band
2. Why did you choose this show and what factors do you take into account when choosing a show?
3. How did you feel about your rehearsal today?
4. What is the next rehearsal going to address?
5. Any advise you can give a young teacher when they start their first marching band season?

Director Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**DIRECTORS: Thank you for your mentorship!!!**