Course Description
The Marching Band is open to all interested brass, woodwind, visual ensemble, and percussion students. The study and performance of musical and visual programs for marching band. Includes the presentation of performances for home football games and for selected out-of-town games and exhibitions. Pre-season band camp is required.

Required Materials
Each person is responsible for their respective the music, folder, pencil, and other materials necessary to perform the selected literature. All borrowed materials will need to be returned at the end of the semester or upon request. The loss or damage of any materials, equipment, instruments or uniforms will result in a fine to cover the repair and or replacement. Please refer to the Handbook for specifics in this area.

Course Objectives
Marching Band members will:
1. be given the opportunity to perform to a wide variety of music at a high level
2. demonstrate high technical skills
3. demonstrate a mature level of sight-reading
4. Perform literature with a technical mastery of 85% and a musical level subject to the conductor’s approval
5. Strive for a high level of mastery and consistency on their respective instrument

Grading and Attendance Policy
Grades for the semester will be based on preparedness, musical expression, attitude, willingness to take direction, progress, attendance, individual performance effort,* and degree of active participation during the rehearsal. A letter grade will be assigned for each rehearsal based on these areas.

Absences effect the ensemble and the respective student’s grades. Students with one absence in any particular week may be required to demonstrate their ability to perform with the band. Students failing to perform at the level of the ensemble will be required to dress and attend the performances, but will not be included in the performing ensemble. Students with three or more absences throughout the semester will be required to verify the absences with doctor’s notes or other pertinent materials.

*Individual performance effort will be determined by assessing individual attendance with the student’s ability to prepare for rehearsal and subsequently perform. Individuals with frequent excused absences that are still able to perform the assigned parts and drill with 85% accuracy.

Excused absences are typically defined as unavoidable circumstances, or time conflicts beyond the control of the individual.

Absence from all or any part of rehearsal will be considered one unexcused absence pending justification.

Absence from all or any part of a dress rehearsal or performance will result in the grade of F for the semester:
Extenuating Circumstances: Any unavoidable absence from a rehearsal must be cleared in advance* with Dr. Douglas R. Overmier

(Best) 1. Contact the director in person in advance.*
2. Telephone the director in advance and explanation your situation: (678) 839-6271 or dovermie@westga.edu.
3. As a last resort, leave emergency messages with the secretaries at the above numbers.

* The director will determine if the requested absence is to be considered excused. If illnesses occur frequently, you may be asked for written documentation from a physician. The mere fact that you have informed the director in advance does not guarantee you will be excused. Please be sure not to schedule routine health appointments, auditions, job interviews, academic advising appointments, car repairs, etc. during rehearsal time. Avoidable conflicts such as these will not be excused even when permission is requested in advance.

Zero to One Absence No Effect
Two Absences Final Grade B
Three Absences Final Grade C
Four Absences Final Grade F and/or “Withdraw Failing”

Performance Dress
All members of the Marching Band will perform in uniform. All members will wear the entire uniform or none at all. Please refer to the UWG Marching Band Handbook for the specifics regarding this issue.

Marching Band Handbook
A Marching Band Handbook will be distributed during the first week of classes. This handbook covers policies and rules specific to marching band that may not be listed in this syllabus. Please refer to the Handbook in all cases.

Season Itinerary
A season itinerary is distributed during band camp. Listed dates are required for all members. Additional dates may be added, but are contingent on the band members’ availability and willingness to perform.
University of West Georgia
2005 Marching Band Schedule

AUGUST
10  Staff retreat
12  Guard & Percussion Camp
13  Rookie Camp
14  BAND CAMP
20  Season Preview & Picnic
27  Presbyterian  Clinton, SC  1:30 PM

SEPTEMBER
  1  @ Carson Newman, Rome  1:30 PM
  10 HARDING  CARROLLTON  7:00 PM
  15 Carroll Co. Exhibition  9:00 PM
  17 FREE
  19 Gwinnett Co. Exhibition (South)  8:00 PM
  24 AR-MONTICELLO* CARROLLTON  7:00 PM

OCTOBER
  1 FREE (Arkansas Tech, Russellville, AR)  7:00 PM
  7 PEP RALLY  UWG  8:00 PM
  8 Parade  10:00 AM
          WEST ALABAMA (HC)* CARROLLTON  2:00 PM
  15 SOUTHERN AR* CARROLLTON  7:00 PM
  22 GA Bandmasters  8:00 PM
          Atlanta, GA
  29 NORTH ALABAMA* CARROLLTON  7:00 PM

November
  5 Valdosta State* Valdosta  1:00 PM
  6 Preview Day UWG  Noon
  9 Varsity Show
11-12 RECORDING SESSION
PREFACE

This handbook, the course syllabus, and all verbal communication shall act as the governing policies for the University of West Georgia Marching Band, “The Sound That Lights the South.” Members of the Marching Band Guidelines Committee in meetings with the Director of Bands, Dr. Douglas R. Overmier, determined the guidelines contained within. The meetings are open to all members and suggestions are welcome from all interested members and alumni.

ARTICLE I: GENERAL INFORMATION

Section 1: Pre-Season Procedures

Information concerning the University of West Georgia Marching Band (UWG) is available upon request to persons expressing an interest. Information regarding auditions will be sent to those persons along with materials detailing the web site and other pertinent sources. Included will be a band camp application, audition procedures, general information, itinerary, fees, and other necessary information.

Section 2: Eligibility

Membership in the UWG Marching Band is open to all current and registered UWG students. Eligibility is based upon:
1. Previous band experience in either junior high, high school or both
2. Current enrollment as a student at UWG
3. The ability to play a wind or percussion instrument or a successful audition for the visual ensemble
4. Acceptance by audition into the UWG Marching Band.
5. Persons are limited to 7-semester maximum membership.

Section 3: Alcohol and Drugs

The use of alcohol and non-prescription drugs is discouraged at all times, but is specifically and strictly prohibited whenever a marching band member travels as an official representative of UWG. Possession of and/or use of illegal drugs are strictly prohibited.

Section 4: Electronic Devices

All cell phones, pagers, and other non-essential devices are prohibited in rehearsals, performances, and in all other gatherings of the band.

UWG Marching Band Handbook Agreement

The information enclosed in the band handbook is an integral part of our organization. The enclosed methods, regulations, procedures, and references allow us to attain the highest degree of performance and accountability that we currently enjoy at UWG.

1. I, the undersigned, have read the UWG Marching Band Handbook and syllabus.

2. I understand the policies and information contained therein.

3. I agree to follow all rules, regulations, and guidelines prescribed within the Handbook, including the payment of all fees per the handbook.

4. I realize that this agreement must be signed in order to establish and maintain an active role in the UWG Marching Band.

____________________________________
Name (Signed)

__________________________________________
Name (Printed)

__________________________________________
Date
**Sigma Alpha Iota, Kappa Kappa Psi, and Tau Beta Sigma**

The West Georgia Department of Music is home to the Eta Gamma chapter of Sigma Alpha Iota, the Lambda Eta chapter of Kappa Kappa Psi, and the Iota Delta chapter of Tau Beta Sigma. These three organizations assist many aspects of the UWG Marching Band and Department programs. Specific outlines of each organization follow.

**Sigma Alpha Iota** is a music fraternity for women. This organization is open to both music majors and non-music majors. Membership in Sigma Alpha Iota requires that you have at least one collegiate credit of music. SAI promotes musicianship and sisterhood and is involved in many musical events on the UWG campus. For more information about the Eta Gamma Chapter of Sigma Alpha Iota, please contact the fraternity President, Lanie Adams or Vice President of Membership, Renee McCarty. Many SAI sisters will be available to answer any questions during band camp and throughout the year.

**Kappa Kappa Psi** is a leadership, recognition, and service fraternity whose efforts are directed solely toward the college and university band program. K K Psi is dedicated to creating an important educational experience, a medium for musical expression, and a positive means of demonstrating loyalty to the alma mater. The primary mission of the fraternity is to provide quality support to the school of music, the college or university band, and the sponsoring institution. This support is designed to build and maintain the finest band program possible. Active members must be currently enrolled in the college band or wind ensemble and must have met uniformly high standards of performance, attitude, technical proficiency on their chosen instrument, and shown a definite interest in and appreciation for the best in music.

**Tau Beta Sigma** is a National Honorary Band Service Organization. It was first established in 1946 at Texas Tech University and is located on more than 135 college and university campuses nation wide. The goal of Tau Beta Sigma is to build better bands through service, leadership development, social interaction and community service.

**ARTICLE II: BAND CAMP AND COMPOSITION OF THE BAND**

**Section 1: Band Camp**

Every potential and current member of the UWG Marching Band must attend camp. Persons not attending camp jeopardize the status of their participation. Camp will convene at least one week prior to the start of classes.

**Section 2: Size of the Band**

The size of the Marching Band will consist of a maximum of a 220-member block, auxiliary, and alternates. The director’s decision is final concerning the exact number of persons and positions in the band. Alternates participate and travel with the band.

**Section 3: Instrumentation**

The UWG Marching Band will consist of the following instrumentation: Piccolos, Clarinets, Alto Saxophones, Tenor Saxophones, Trumpets, F Horns (Mellophones), Trombones, Euphonium/Baritones, Tubas, and Percussion. The visual ensemble will be determined in conjunction with the visual coordinator and be based on previous auditions.

**Section 4: Auditions**

There will be two auditions for the Marching Band. The first will be a playing audition consisting of previously forwarded music and sight-reading. The second will be a marching audition consisting of a routine given to each person at camp.

All auditions will be based on a point system. The persons accumulating the most points will be chosen as regular members while those with fewer points will be designated as alternates. In the event of a tie, the person with the highest score in the marching segment will be selected. A second tiebreaker will be based on a new audition in a marching routine. Alternates may challenge only after the band has performed a first halftime performance and only challenge within their respective section.

All tryouts for the Marching Band will be conducted during camp. Persons desiring membership will be placed as alternates until deemed ready to perform with the band or at the discretion of the director.
Section 5: Audition Point System

Marching and music auditions will be rated according to the following scale:

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<tr>
<td>Poor</td>
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<td>Below Avg.</td>
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<td>Average</td>
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<tr>
<td>Above Avg.</td>
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<td>++</td>
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<td>++++</td>
<td>++++++</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Outstanding</td>
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Outstanding: A high quality performance free of errors.
Above Average: A high quality performance containing one or two perceptible errors
Average: A quality performance with three perceptible errors
Below Average: A good performance with more than three obvious errors
Poor: A performance involving numerous errors, omissions, and stops

Section 6: Judging Auditions

A panel chosen by the Director of Bands does judging of all auditions. Judging will be done on an impartial basis using the point system described above.

Section 7: Alternates

A potential or returning member scoring too low to be named a regular member will be placed as an alternate. An alternate is a full member of the marching band. Alternates will practice and rehearse at every rehearsal. Alternates will perform in the stands, and other musical appearances utilizing the entire ensemble. Marching performances will be limited, however, to those persons named to the band block. Alternates may also be determined by limited availability in sections (instrumentation), marching scores, playing scores, and exceptional cases.

Students may arrange to challenge a regular member by first contacting the Director of Bands. The director will then schedule a date and time for the challenge. The alternate’s status may change at any point in the season based on extraordinary improvement, fulfillment of drill design, reinforcement of desired sound, or the suspension of a regular member due to absence, illness, disciplinary action or injury.

Regular members will become alternates in the case of unexcused absences, missed rehearsals, disciplinary action or missed performances. Any member missing any part of a performance will be placed on alternate status and an alternate placed in that position. For further information, please refer to ARTICLE IV, Section 3: Attendance.

discipline. The standards for such persons include positive attitudes, top musical and marching abilities, and leadership qualities.

Section 3: Grievances

All members are reminded of the rule: “What happens on the field stays on the field – what happens off the field has no place in rehearsal.” Problems, however, may evolve over the course of the season. As a result, a grievance may occur. Students should seek the proper methods of conflict resolution of any problem. These include approaching the person(s) involved, asking for a staff member to mediate, or calling for higher authority to resolve the conflict. If these steps have proven unsuccessful, the student(s) should bring the matter to the attention of the field commanders.

Any member may bring concerns about the running of the band, treatment of an individual, or a perceived problem to the attention of the field commanders. All grievances will be discussed with the band director and may include a vote by staff members where policy is in question. The director always has the final say in disputes involving the running of the marching, pep, and concert bands. To take this away would undermine the position for which the director was hired.

Any decisions may be appealed to a student board. Any band member may ask to present complaints, extenuating circumstances, and the like as a reaction to a decision by the Director of Bands. The board will be chaired by the graduate assistant and consist of the field commanders, a section leader, and a member designated by the grievant. In the absence of a graduate assistant the field commanders will head the committee. The board will render a written decision to the Director of Bands no later than three (3) days after convening. The Director of Bands will render a final written decision within five (5) working days of receiving the board’s decision. While the Director of Bands must consider the Student Board’s decision, the Director’s decision will be final.

It should be noted that the Chair of the Department of Music is available for concerns regarding the Director of Bands. The Division of Student Services is also available to assist students with grievances.

ARTICLE VI: CONCLUSION

The UWG Marching Band is composed of physically oriented, dedicated, and accomplished musicians striving for the highest standards of excellence in musical entertainment and performance. All personal conflicts must be left at home. Success is only accomplished by each individual thinking as a unit and also performing as a unit. The cohesiveness and unity of the organization make it unique in that individuals not only have the opportunity for creating their own excitement and enthusiasm, but arousing and becoming a part of the entire group’s strengths and capabilities. The UWG Marching Band has been, is, and certainly shall remain “The Sound That Lights The South!”
a quality performance would be impossible from that member. Therefore, an alternate will be permanently assigned to that position. The regular member may challenge for his/her original position after the subsequent performance. In the event that no alternates are available the position may be eliminated or suspended for a period of time.

All rehearsals will be announced as much ahead of time as possible. Any changes will be made known to members as soon as possible. Extra rehearsals are called as seen fit by the director and it is expected that all members attend no matter what time or where the rehearsal is scheduled.

Refer to the current syllabus for specific dates and requirements.

**ARTICLE V: STAFF AND LEADERSHIP**

**Section 1: Field Leadership**

The director, the graduate assistants, and the field commanders provide leadership on the field. The director and assistants are responsible for the shows, music, routines, and the level of performance of these elements on the field. The field commanders are responsible for warm-ups, drills and fundamentals. The field commanders must be upperclassmen capable of outstanding leadership. The field commander is selected by the Director of Bands from the band members. The qualities of the field commander should include the following:

- a. excellent marching and musical credentials
- b. excellent leadership capacity
- c. strong ability to set examples for other members
- d. work 110% at all times, both on and off the field.

The field commander should be someone who is respected by other band members. Once the field commander is chosen, he/she is the only person who will fill that capacity, except in the case of absence. In such a case, the director will appoint someone to temporarily fill the responsibilities for the length of the absence.

During the season, the field commander will begin rehearsals with various stretching and callisthenic exercises. The field commander will then lead a review of the various fundamentals, including enough repetitions so the moves may be perfected.

**Section 2: Band Staff**

The band staff is a group of student leaders who have been chosen to fulfill various responsibilities throughout the season. The band staff will meet regularly during the marching season to discuss responsibilities, band matters, and scheduling. The primary function of this staff is to provide leadership and the foundation of the band’s inner

**ARTICLE III: BAND POLICIES**

**Section 1: Name of the Organization**

The official name of this organization is “The University of West Georgia Marching Band.” The band is also known as “The Sound That Lights The South,” the “UWG Marching Braves,” and the “UWG Marching Band.”

**Section 2: Travel**

Travel is one of the finest experiences about membership in the UWG Marching Band. On trips, the band serves as an ambassador of the school, the town, and frequently, the state of Georgia. Normally the mere presence of the band attracts attention. When the impression left behind is good, the chances are very high that students will become interested in UWG as their choice for continuing their education.

During most trips, the marching band travels by bus. Persons seeking alternative arrangements must receive permission, and present a signed release form, to the Director of Bands no later than 24 hours prior to departure from Carrollton. The release form may be obtained in the University Bands Office.

**Section 3: Housing**

Accommodations for the UWG Marching Band will be in hotels/motels on most trips. On some occasions, the band may be staying in private homes. The variation depends on the nature of the trip. Regardless of the accommodations, members are expected to follow the UWG codes of student conduct, UWG Marching Band Policies and Procedures, as well as proper ethical behavior. Nothing but impeccable conduct will be tolerated.

**Section 4: Performance Appearance and Personal Appearance**

Members of the UWG Marching Band are expected to comply with standards regarding overall appearance. The standards for the band are set and enforced by the members of the marching band. These standards will be reasonable and will avoid discrimination against any band member on the basis of race, sex, religion, or national origin. Compliance with these standards is expected by the end of band camp. Strict adherence will be maintained throughout the season.

Performance is defined as any time a band member is in uniform. This includes while in transit, rest, breaks, in concert, on the field, or walking to and from performance venues. Any article breaking uniformity must be adjusted. Performance appearance
includes the standard Marching Band uniform, one (1) ring per hand, a watch but noracelets, one (1) small studded earring per ear, natural looking make-up for band
members, all-natural-looking hair color, hair tied up and tucked inside the hat, and
trimmed beards, mustaches and sideburns. No temporary facial tattoos. No sunglasses
except in the stands. No visible piercings on the face or neck.

Personal appearance applies to those situations when the Marching Band is making an
appearance in a non-performance capacity. Dress will include dress pants (NO
JEANS), collared-shirt and casual shoes (NO TENNIS SHOES). All make-up should
be natural looking. All members should strive to maintain a professional appearance at
times.

**Section 5: Band Jackets**

All members of the UWG Marching Band are encouraged to purchase a band jacket.
On a selected night, a representative will take orders from band members. The
merchant sets the price of the jacket. A predetermined amount will be required as a
deposit. The purchase price of this jacket includes the band’s emblems and identifying
letters.

The jacket may be worn on band trips for uniformity and in place of dress clothes. Use
of the jacket by persons not associated with the band is to be discouraged. Those
persons who order a jacket and are no longer members of the marching band will
forfeit their deposit and will not receive a jacket.

**Section 6: Uniforms**

The uniform parts include: pants, coat, hat, plume, marching band t-shirt*, white
socks*, black shoes*, white gloves*, and ball-cap*. All parts marked with an asterisk
(*) must be provided by the individual members. Any part of the uniform not returned
at the end of the season will result in a fine and a cost of replacement levied against the
responsible person.

The uniform manager will issue uniforms to all band members during camp. At the
time uniforms are returned, a fee may be assessed to help defray the cost of cleaning
and maintaining the uniforms. Members are expected to clean the uniform at least
once during the season, and must dry clean the uniform at the end of the season and
before it is returned. Members are expected to clean the uniform as situations demand.
Any undue amount of damage to an individual’s uniform during the course of the
season will result in the member’s being charged for repairs/replacement. Hats,
gloves, shoes, and uniform parts MUST be clean for each performance.

**Section 7: Monetary Penalties**

A staff member will assess fines for any material item lost, forgotten, improperly
discarded, or damaged that require an adjustment. Examples include, but are not
limited to, lost or forgotten drill charts, music, writing utensils, instruments, instrument
accessories, or the condition of your uniform. All funds will be applied to defray costs
for the end of the year banquet. Members will have one week to settle fines. If the
funds are not paid in one week the member will be placed on the sidelines for the next
performance.

**ARTICLE IV: STYLE OF THE BAND**

**Section 1: Marching**

The marching style of the UWG Marching Band is a physically demanding style that
requires a great deal of stamina from each band member. Correct style will be stressed
at band camp and throughout the marching season. The style is the earmark of this
band, and a constant striving for perfection is demanded of each member.

**Section 2: Music Memorization**

All music performed by the UWG Marching Band will be memorized. With
memorization, more attention may be devoted to marching, accuracy, marching style,
drill, and overall improvement of performance.

**Section 3: Attendance**

With time so precious to a marching band, it is imperative that each member be on
time for all rehearsals. Each performance is important enough that each member must
be there. One member cannot allow the other members to carry his/her contribut-
tion; each must do his/her own part.

If a person misses any part of a rehearsal, the director may appoint an alternate to that
person’s position. If a band member continually misses practices or a performance
without any prior excuse given to the Director of Bands, that member shall, first,
become an alternate and then, possibly, dismissed from the band entirely. The
discretion lies with the Director of Bands. When a regular member misses a rehearsal,
an alternate will be assigned to march that spot. The regular member may regain
his/her position upon return. If, however, the same member misses more than one (1)
practice, with or without cause, it is obvious that
HANDBOOK

Dr. Doug Overmier
Director of Bands

Stacy Gay
Graduate Assistant

2005