Course Description and Prerequisites

Concert Band is open to students of all majors and colleges. Emphasis is placed on the art of ensemble playing: listening and responding to ideas of balance, accompaniment, etc. The ensemble presents at least one concert per semester, and occasionally performs off-campus. The repertoire is chosen from the standard literature as well as contemporary music.

Band Web Page

http://www.uvm.edu/~music/?Page=concertband.html&SM=ensemblesubmenu.html

Concerts

Friday, Sept. 23 – Homecoming Concert, 7:30 p.m., Recital Hall (Mon. 9/19 + Wed. 9/21 rehearsal in Recital Hall)
Friday, Nov. 11 - 7:30, Recital Hall, Music Building (sound check at 6:30 p.m.; Mon. 11/7 + Wed. 11/9 in the Hall)

Concert Dress

"All Black with a splash of color"
Men: Dress shirt, pants, and shoes; optional tie can be your color splash; don't forget black socks + belt!
Women: Black skirt/pants, black blouse, and black shoes; optional scarf for color splash

Attendance

Attendance at rehearsals is mandatory - you are an important part of a group effort! – but if you do have to miss rehearsal, please let me know in advance. The attendance portion of your grade starts as an "A". You are allowed two absences with no penalty. After that, each absence lowers this part of your grade one degree (i.e. A-, B+, B, etc.). You can "make up" an absence by scheduling a time to play for me during an office hour, or another mutually convenient time, BEFORE the concert (roughly 10 minutes per absence). You must let me know at least two weeks in advance and in writing if you have a conflict with a concert date or dress rehearsal. Failure to attend a dress rehearsal will be equal to missing two rehearsals. Failure to attend a concert will be equal to missing four rehearsals. (NOTE: UVM policy requires that students MUST be allowed to re-schedule group exams that conflict with a class [i.e. Band].)

1 Absence = A+  2 Absences = A  3 Absences = A-  4 Absences = B+    etc.

Grading

Attendance 90%  Improvement/Initiative/"Citizenship" 10%  [NOTE: there is no final exam in Band!]

Office Hours

If you would like extra help, feel free to make an appointment for one of my office hours or another time. You can get extra credit for this, which can come in handy if you miss rehearsal....

Practicing

You can achieve a lot with a only a little bit of focused practice. Please see me if you'd like to borrow a metronome and/or a tuner. Look on the band website for a links to Smart Phone apps and other helpful links.
What I Expect of You...
- that you are in your seat, with your instrument assembled at 3:30.
- that you bring a pencil and your own copy of the music to every rehearsal.
- that you not be distracting to others during rehearsal.
- that you practice your parts outside of rehearsal (this includes practice away from your instrument).
- that you listen to the recordings on the website.
- that you respect yourself, one another, and the conductor, try your best, and have a positive attitude!

Skills in Band that transfer to “real life”...
- being aware of what is going on around you and adjusting.
- learning to make changes on the fly (split-second decisions).
- looking to improve even when there isn’t a “problem.”
- building group dynamics and strengthening trust.
- developing better non-verbal communication.
- in general, learning how your role fits into the big picture.
- staying committed to long-term goals.

Music Department Policy on Use of Cell Phones and Laptops
approved Aug. 26, 2011

Students are expected to turn off and stow all electronic devices (cell phones, iPods, etc.) before class begins, as well as during ensemble rehearsals, lessons, and concerts.

Classroom Code of Conduct (from the UVM Catalogue)
Faculty and students will at all times conduct themselves in a manner that serves to maintain, promote, and enhance the high quality academic environment of the University of Vermont. To this end, it is expected that all members of the learning community will adhere to the following guidelines:

- Faculty and students will attend all regularly scheduled classes, except for those occasions warranting an excused absence under the University Attendance Policy (e.g., religious, athletic, and medical).
- Students and faculty will arrive prepared for class and on time, and they will remain in class until the class is dismissed.
- Faculty and students will treat all members of the learning community with respect. Toward this end, they will promote academic discourse and the free exchange of ideas by listening with civil attention to comments made by all individuals.
- Students and faculty will maintain an appropriate academic climate by refraining from all actions that disrupt the learning environment (e.g., making noise, ostentatiously not paying attention, and leaving and reentering the classroom inappropriately).