

**NORTHWEST MISSISSIPPI
COMMUNITY COLLEGE**

**RANGER
BAND**

HANDBOOK/SYLLABUS

2009-2010

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Susan VanVelsor, Guard Instructor (662) 292-2096

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Kenneth Siple, Fine Arts Division Director

DRUM MAJOR

Daniel Waller

Danielle Baker

SECTION LEADERS

Spencer Gray, Flutes

Annah Bailey, Clarinets

Meagan Meador, Saxophone,

Thomas Mullinaux, Horn

Tim Goss and Carl Jenkins, Trumpet

Tommy Jasmin, Trombone

Megan Leach, Baritone

Blake Walker, Tuba

Devon Miller, Percussion

Charlie Wright, Front Ensemble

Jessica Percy and Rebecca Middleton, Guard Captains

Caroline Harris, Rangerette Captain

Band Council

Drum Majors, Band Officers, Section Leaders,

Freshmen Representatives: To Be Announced at Band Camp

Sophomore Representatives: Robert Sapp, Ashley Hansen

If you wish to be considered for drum major, section leader, or drill captain, please remember that you are auditioning for that position every day of your career at Northwest.

Band Officer Positions:

President: Daniel Waller

Vice President: Carl Jenkins

Public Relations: Spencer Gray

Librarians: Anna Mullinaux, Thomas Mullinaux, Megan Leach

Instrument Chairmen: Charlie Wright

Uniform Chairpersons: Annah Bailey

2009 – CAMP SCHEDULE INFORMATION :

Monday, July 27 through Thursday, July 30, 2009 (Rangerette / Color Guard and Percussion Camp) – Rangerettes, Color Guard and Percussion will check in dorms beginning at 8:30AM - 10:00AM. Come to the Band Hall first to get any updated information.

Monday rehearsal will begin at 10:15 AM. We will start with a meeting in the band hall first.

Rangerettes, Color Guard and Percussion daily rehearsal schedule will be as follows:

8AM – 12 / 1:30 – 4PM / 6 – 8PM except Thursday July 30 – (Thursday we will finish at 4PM)
Females will be housed in Bobo Hall and Males will be housed in Gainey Hall during the week of July 27th.

Meals will begin with Lunch on Monday and will end with Lunch on Thursday, July 30th. The Thursday, July 30th schedule will be 8AM – check out of dorms - 9AM rehearsal / 12 Lunch / 1:30 – 4 Rehearsal and dismiss at 4PM.

Thursday, August 6 – Full Band Camp Begins and continues through Wednesday, August 12 ending at 11:30AM.

Each day except Sunday, August 9 will the same schedule as listed below.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 6 Schedule:

9:00 AM – 11:00 AM - All resident students check in to assigned dorm – commuter students will check into Taylor or Quitman dorms.

ALL STUDENTS WHO NEED TO CHECK OUT SCHOOL OWNED INSTRUMENTS SHOULD BE ISSUED EQPT. BEFORE 12:00 on Thursday, August 6.

Lunch is on your own for Thursday, August 6.

1:00 – Meeting with all – Rangerettes / Color Guard / Percussion / Woodwinds / Brass

1:45 – Begin rehearsals in assigned areas

The daily schedule:

8AM – Begin Rehearsal each day

11:30 AM – 12:50 – LUNCH

1:00 – 4:30PM – Rehearsal

4:30 – 5:50PM – Dinner

6:00 – 9:00PM - Rehearsal

WE WILL NOT REHEARSE ON SUNDAY, AUGUST 9th. NO MEALS WILL BE SERVED TO BAND STUDENTS ON SUNDAY, AUGUST 9TH. Please refer to the Band Handbook posted on the website for any further information.

REMEMBER TO:

*CHECK YOUR INSTRUMENT FOR PLAYING CONDITION

*PACK SUITABLE LIGHT CLOTHING (COLOR AND TEXTURE)

*MAKE CERTAIN TO HAVE COMFORTABLE SHOES, A HAT AND PLENTY OF SUNSCREEN!!!!

*BRING YOUR OWN BED LINENS, PILLOWS, TOWELS, AND PERSONAL TOILETRIES

THE RANGER BAND WEARS BLACK SHOES. You may order the band shoes through Fear Nothing Music Gear 1-800-361-GEAR* 901-937-8652. **TENNIS SHOES ARE NOT ACCEPTABLE.** Make sure your shoes look good. Band Caps and Band T-Shirts will be ordered for all Band /Rangerette/Color Guard. **Uniform bags are mandatory for all Band, Guard and Rangerette members. Guard Members and Rangerettes must have Hooded Jackets. Other jackets and Hooded Sweat Shirts may be ordered as well from Fear Nothing. An order form is in the mail out and on the NWCC Website – go to quick links then Band / Fine Arts Calendar then Uniform Orders. Take care of this NOW!**

**2009 FOOTBALL GAME/FALL PERFORMANCE SCHEDULE FOR THE
2009 RANGER BAND:**

THURSDAY, AUG. 20—MEET THE RANGERS 7:00 PM

THURSDAY, SEPT 3—Hinds – Home 6:30 P.M.

THURSDAY, SEPT. 10 —Pearl River - Home 6:30 P.M.

THURSDAY, SEPT. 17 – Itawamba – Fulton, MS 7:00 P.M. – We will Travel to this game!

THURSDAY, SEPT. 24 – East – Home 6:30 P.M.

SATURDAY, SEPT. 26 – NORTHWEST MARCHING CLASSIC.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 8 – Coahoma – Home 6:30 P.M.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 24 – Northeast – HOMECOMING – 2 P.M.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 3 – SYMPHONIC WINDS CONCERT 7:30 PM

MONDAY, DECEMBER 7- SENATOBIA CHRISTMAS PARADE—SENATOBIA 6:00 PM.

**PLEASE NOTE THAT ALL GAMES ARE ON THURSDAY EVENINGS EXCEPT FOR
HOMECOMING, WHICH IS ON SATURDAY, OCT. 24th, 2009**

**ALSO BE AWARE OF OUR CONTEST DATE—THIS IS PROBABLY OUR BIGGEST
RECRUITING TOOL OF THE YEAR—SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 27th, 2008! WE WILL
NEED EVERYONE WORKING ALL DAY AT THE “CLASSIC”.**

**Play-off games are set for the 1st two Saturdays of November. WE WILL ATTEND AND IT IS
REQUIRED OF EVERYONE TO MAKE PLANS.**

We are going to have lots of FUN and a terrific band with lots of outstanding folks like you! IF FOR
WHATEVER REASON YOU ARE NOT GOING TO BE WITH US – PLEASE CALL SO WE DON'T
HOLD A SPOT FOR YOU. We would really appreciate that.

There is no better way to start a great marching season than a with a great band camp---SEE YOU
Thursday, AUGUST 6!

Sincerely,

John B. Ungurait, Director of Bands
Northwest MS Community College
662-562-3335

jbungurait@northwestms.edu

John Mixon, Assistant Director
Northwest MS Community College
662-562-3336

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GUIDE TO THE RANGER BAND PHILOSOPHY

The Northwest Ranger Band exists for its members. Our primary goal is to provide an outstanding musical experience for every member of the Ranger Band. Our purpose is to have an educational organization that supports our athletic events and promotes Northwest Mississippi Community College, while at the same time serving as a musical and social outlet for everyone involved. Educationally, we strive to provide the best quality experience possible, constantly pushing parameters for our music education majors as well as for the students from other academic areas that will be transferring to four year institutions to complete their educational goals. An objective of the band program is to teach the individual elements of music which culminate in performances that may lead the student to an aesthetically valuable experience in music.

In order for us to meet our goals and fulfill our purpose there are three things you must do:

- 1. DO YOUR BEST!**
- 2. RESPECT OTHERS!**
- 3. HAVE FUN!**

(#3 can never be at the expense of #2)

**They say “The place you find yourself is home.”
WELCOME HOME TO NORTHWEST!**

GENERAL GUIDELINES

- 1. To be early is to be on time, to be on time is to be late!**
- 2. No talking during rehearsals. We cannot accomplish our goals unless we concentrate. It is impossible to talk and listen at the same time.**
- 3. When a problem arises see Mr. Ungurait or Mr. Mixon during office hours – Not In Rehearsal. Problems cannot be solved until they are discussed!**

GRADING AND ATTENDANCE POLICY

Attendance, attitude, and performance are the determining factors in earning a grade for the Ranger Band. Perfect attendance is expected from every member. The following examples are NOT valid excuses for missing Ranger Band, which is a class and which, for most of you, is paying your tuition.

NOT VALID EXAMPLES:

- “I had to study for a big exam”**
- “My fraternity (student organization, church group, intramural sports team, etc. called a meeting (practice, party, trip).”**
- “I overslept”**

The attendance policy for Ranger Band conforms to that of the Division of Fine Arts at Northwest Mississippi Community College:

Students are expected to attend all classes. No “cuts” are authorized. There are times, however, when students must miss a class. The following regulations for class attendance have been established.

An excused absence occurs only because of death or accident in the student’s immediate family, illness of the student, illness of an immediate family member or an official absence.

Official absences are defined as those which occur when the student is involved in a **college-sanctioned activity**. To qualify for an excused absence you must CALL Mr. Ungurait, 562-3335,

The Ranger Band has four rehearsals per week, and your grade will reflect this standard:

4th UNEXCUSED ABSENCE – Requires Failure of the class and loss of scholarship

AN UNEXCUSED ABSENCE FROM A PERFORMANCE REQUIRES AN AUTOMATIC FAILURE, DISMISSAL FROM THE PROGRAM, AND LOSS OF SCHOLARSHIP. The instructors reserve the right to remove from the ensemble any student whose conduct or attitude is disruptive to the learning process and ensemble's performance.

- ATTENDANCE AT A REHEARSAL MEANS ATTENDANCE FOR THE **WHOLE** REHEARSAL!
- **THREE UNEXCUSED TARDIES EQUAL AN ABSENCE!**

MUSIC MEMORIZATION POLICY

Generally speaking, music will need to be memorized by the day we start setting drill for that particular music. Refer to your schedule for these dates during camp. If memorization does not seem to be progressing, then some sections may have memory checks from the section leader. Don't stress! Grades will only be affected if it is obvious that little or no effort has been made in this area.

GENERAL RULES FOR RANGER BAND

1. You are responsible for memorizing the music for the half-time and pre-game shows. You will also have all MUSIC, DRILLS, and a pencil at each rehearsal. Failure to bring all items to rehearsal will result in a lowered grade. This will be monitored by section leaders.
2. You will be charged \$20 for the replacement of a lost flip folder. You will be charged \$10 for replacement Large Rehearsal Folders. It is imperative that you report a missing folder or music IMMEDIATELY.
3. You are expected to cooperate fully with the band staff (ANY staff member), section leaders and the drum major.
4. NEVER assume a rehearsal is cancelled due to inclement weather. Come to the Band Hall.
5. You are financially responsible for an undue damage or loss of your school-owned instrument or uniform.

6. You are responsible for any lost uniform parts – please get them replaced BEFORE the day of the game.
7. We will be sitting in the stadium by instrumentation. Please do not move from your section to sit with your girl/boy friend or others. If you have guests, they must sit outside the band section.
8. It is very important that the band participate in all aspects of the football games. Therefore, we will play OFTEN throughout the game. When the band stands up to play **EVERYONE** will stand up and play.
9. You are not excused from a football game until after the band has concluded its post-game performance. Do not ask to leave early!
10. You must be mentally and physically prepared for all rehearsals and performances. This means taking care of yourself and not taking any substances that would impair your ability.
11. It is important to remember that any time you are in uniform you are a representative of Northwest Mississippi Community College. Any behavior that reflects poorly on the college or the band will not be tolerated.

Any inappropriate actions may result in instant dismissal from the band and loss of scholarship as well as other disciplinary actions

12. The Ranger Band is well-known as one of the greatest supporters of our football team. Please cheer for the team when we are not playing!
13. Don't memorize music, play scales or silly solos while the game is going on. NO HACKING or PECKING!
14. Get your priorities in order. When it is time to rehearse, give 110%. When it is time to study, give 110%, and when it is time to _____ (fill in your favorite activity), give 110%.

ABSOLUTELY NO USE OF DRUGS OR ALCOHOL WILL BE TOLERATED WHILE YOU ARE WITH THE RANGER BAND, EITHER AT REHEARSAL, PERFORMANCE, OR ON A TRIP. Violation of this rule will require instant dismissal from the band and loss of scholarship.

RANGER BAND T-SHIRTS and CAPS

You will be issued your very own Ranger Band t-shirt and cap before the first football game. You are required to wear the shirt and cap to all functions of the Ranger Band. We may also wear the t-shirts to other group functions as a quasi-uniform, so keep up with both cap and t-shirt!

UNIFORMS AND EQUIPMENT

A. UNIFORM

1. Band Cap (provided from band budget)
2. Uniform Bag (you need to buy from Fear Nothing Music)
3. Cleaned and polished BLACK band shoes.
4. Black socks. Never white. NEVER!!
5. Clean, complete uniform
6. Hat with plume
7. Ranger Band t-shirt. NO EXCEPTIONS.
8. Hair either cut above the collar or tucked inside the hat.
9. The complete uniform should be worn at all times unless given special permission by the directors.

B. INSTRUMENT

1. Entire instrument must be in working order. (valves, slides, etc.)
2. Outside of instrument must be cleaned and shined.
3. Always carry your OWN extra reeds and valve oil. We can order these items for you at camp, and we also furnish certain types of reeds and valve oil.

IMAGE OF THE RANGER BAND

The efforts of thousands of hours by many dedicated individuals to present a fine image of this organization can be destroyed in a matter of minutes by a careless, foolish person. We are a BAND – a group of persons dedicated to the same purpose. We must leave behind personal desires for the group to achieve its goals. Smoking in uniform, improper dress, lack of cooperation, obscene gestures, untimely or stupid cheering, and profanity are all examples of INAPPROPRIATE BEHAVIOR. If you have to ask yourself “Is this okay to do?” – IT PROBABLY ISN’T!

PRIORITIES FOR PERFORMANCE

1. **BIG SOUND**
2. **VISUAL EXCITEMENT**
3. **STYLE AND DEMEANOR**

**ANY ORGANIZATION WILL ONLY PERFORM
AS WELL AS IT REHEARSES – PERFORM AT
EVERY REHEARSAL!**