

2023 Herd of Thunder Marching Band Handbook



Updated July 12th 2023

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Syllabus Information

Course Prefix, Number: MUN1110.001
Course Title: University Marching Band
CRN: 80760
Credit Hours: 1-3
Semester: Fall 2023

Class Meeting Days and Times:
M 7-9:30pm, W 7-9:30pm, F 6-8pm
Class Meeting Location: USF Fowler Fields
Instructor of Record: Trevor Butts
Office Location: MUS 306
Office Hours: By Appointment

University Course Description

Description verbatim from USF's course inventory (<http://ugs.usf.edu/course-inventory/>): This course provides performance experiences with the Marching Band. The course is open to any major area.

Standard University Policies

Policies about disability access, religious observances, academic grievances, academic integrity and misconduct, academic continuity, food insecurity, and sexual harassment are governed by a central set of policies that apply to all classes at USF. These may be accessed at:

<https://www.usf.edu/provost/faculty/core-syllabus-policy-statements.aspx>

Additional details are available on the University's Core Syllabus Policy Statements page:

<https://www.usf.edu/provost/faculty/core-syllabus-policy-statements.aspx>

Herd of Thunder Mission Statement

The USF Herd of Thunder Athletic Bands aim to provide quality entertainment to a wide variety of audiences, support our athletic teams with pride, perpetual spirit, and integrity, and create a musically enriching and enjoyable experience for every member. Current and alumni members of the band are invested in creating and maintaining a warm and welcoming environment where the contributions of all are valued and appreciated. We consistently strive for the highest degree of performance while representing the University of South Florida with class, dignity, and enthusiasm.

Faculty and Staff

Director of Bands

Dr. Matthew McCutchen

Director of Athletic Bands

Trevor Butts

Assistant Director of Athletic Bands

Devin DeDon

HOT Band Operations

Devin DeDon

Drumline Director

Panos Valavanis

Colorguard Director

Elizabeth Bannon

Graduate Assistants

Alfonzo Kimbrough

Reed Stricsek

Alain Rodriguez

Voice of the HOT

Beau Edwardson

Staff Contacts

Panos Valavanis	valavanisp@gmail.com	-	N/A
Elizabeth Bannon	ebannon@usf.edu	(727) 439-7898	N/A
Alfonzo Kimbrough	akimbrough@usf.edu	(702) 682-4318	HOT Workroom
Reed Stricsek	reedstricsek@usf.edu	(813) 453-5344	HOT Workroom
Alain Rodriguez	alainr@usf.edu	(305) 321-5129	HOT Workroom



Student Leadership

Executive Team

Band Captains: Emma Nelson, Luis Hernandez Contacts: usfbandcaptain@gmail.com	Drum Majors: Alec Jimenez, David Grullon, Lauren Chisholm hotdrummajors@gmail.com
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Instructional Team

Fliccolo Section Leaders: Bella Holton, Rachel Paul
Clarinet Section Leaders: Rachel Fischer, Sidney Colino
Alto Saxophone Section Leaders: Amber Fleary, Matthew McCardell
Tenor Sax Section Leaders: Sarah Dematos, Emily Morris
Trumpet Section Leaders: Emma Nelson, Sam Cody, Timothy Trice
Mellophone Section Leaders: Andrew Little, Erica Wright
Trombone Section Leaders: Dylan Cantin, Zachary Larimer
Baritone Section Leaders: Joshua Hardison, Kaitlyn Sewell
Tuba Section Leaders: Alyssa Mazzuca, Dante Amaya-Pearce, Steven Alsina
Percussion Section Leaders: Jenna Casey (Drum Captain), Branch Shiver, Elijah Williams, Kyle Murphy, Matthew Korloch
Color Guard Section Leaders: Kylah Stubee, Megan Silvey, Nancy Turpin

Administrative Team

New Member Advisors: Ishali Rajguru (Lead), Jules Cunard, Abigail Martin, Rafael Benitez hotnewmemberadvisors@gmail.com
Logistics: Brianna Moreno, Matthew Montes, Riley Grimsley
Marketing Coordinator: Brianna Moreno herdofthundermarketing@gmail.com
Social Media Coordinator: Emily Towner
Librarian: Eva Kragelj
Historian: Jules Cunard, Matthew Montes

Assistance

Course Registration	USF Registrar's Office
Performance Excuses	Dr. Butts
Course Grade	Dr. Butts
Attendance	Graduate Assistant
Staff Concerns	Dr. Butts
Leadership Concerns	SL - BC/DM - GA - Directors
HOT Merchandise	Online Store Committee
Instrument Repair	Graduate Assistants
Music	Librarians
Uniforms/Alterations	Tau Beta Sigma
Special Events	Band Captains

Membership Selection Process

Membership in the USF Herd of Thunder Athletic Program is open to full-time, college degree-seeking students who are enrolled in a minimum of nine credit hours per semester at any of the University of South Florida's branch campuses, the University of Tampa, or any of the area community, two, or four year colleges. **Students who attend an outside institution that offers an Athletic Band Program are not eligible to participate with the USF Herd of Thunder Athletic Program.** There is a five-year limit for marching in the Herd of Thunder. Note: NDS students must submit a copy of their class schedule to Dr. Butts no later than the last Friday of Band camp.

Membership Categories:

Colorguard, Drumline, Drum Majors, and Feature Twirlers: Must participate in the Spring/Summer sessions and the audition process. The instructors of these groups will post audition information on the HOT website by March.

Returning Winds - Same Instrument:* Any member returning to the band on the same instrument will be automatically granted membership unless there is a compelling reason for that not to be true. All members will perform a music assessment during band camp to determine part assignments and alternate positions. (The director reserves the right to notify any returning member that they are not "automatically granted" a position if deemed necessary.)

Returning Winds - Changing Instruments:* Any member returning to the band who wishes to perform on a new instrument must: A) Notify Dr. Butts B) Be prepared to audition following the audition procedures outlined on the Herd of Thunder Website. If the member does not pass the audition, they are invited to return to their original instrument and will be automatically granted membership. If the member passes the audition, they will be automatically granted membership on the new instrument. (The director reserves the right to notify any returning member that they are not "automatically granted" a position if deemed necessary.)

New Winds: All new members are required to follow the Audition Procedures as outlined on the Herd of Thunder website.

**Any USF student, or properly registered Non-Degree Seeking (NDS) student, who has completed a full season of USF Marching Band with a final grade of "B" or higher*

Course Registration

The vast majority of HOT members are required to enroll in USF's Marching Band Class - MUN 1110 - for academic credit. Students who attend other institutions, such as Hillsborough Community College, must enroll with USF as a Non-Degree Seeking (NDS) or transient student. Detailed explanations of the NDS enrollment procedures are posted on the HOT website under the "Members" section.

A second section of Marching Band - MUN 3113 - is only open to select members of the band. This is a zero-credit option, meaning you will not pay for the course, nor will you receive academic credit. Students wishing to enroll for this course must receive permission from Dr. Butts and meet the following criteria; A) Have previously marched in HOT Band, B) Have used up all elective credits with the university, and C) Are full-time USF-Tampa students.

Rehearsal Schedule

- Rehearsals are mandatory and will factor heavily into member's grades. Refer to "Grades and Attendance" for how rehearsals factor into your grade.
- Band Camp rehearsals begin nine days before fall classes begin. Band camp is mandatory for all members.
- Regular HOT rehearsals begin on the first day of school and meet as follows:

Monday	7:00 - 9:30 PM
Wednesday	7:00 - 9:30 PM
Friday (IPF)	6:00 - 8:00 PM

Gameday Schedule

- Game Day schedules will be announced via the HOT Student Resource Page and Email on the Monday preceding the game.
- **HOT MEMBERS MUST BE AVAILABLE ALL DAY ON GAME DAYS AND PERFORMANCE DAYS**
- DO NOT schedule activities in the morning of Game Days, even if the kickoff time is listed at 7:00pm.

2023 USF Herd of Thunder Performance Schedule

THIS SCHEDULE IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE THROUGHOUT THE SEASON

Saturday, September 9	Football game - USF vs. FAMU (HOT Day)
Saturday, September 16	Football game - USF vs. Alabama
Saturday, September 23	Football game - USF vs. Rice
Saturday, October 14	Football game - USF vs. FAU (Homecoming/Alumni Day)
Saturday, October 28	Hillsborough County MPA - Gaither High School
Saturday, November 11	Football game - USF vs. Temple
Saturday, November 25	Football game - USF vs. Charlotte (Senior night)
Thursday, November 30	Bullapalooza Performance - USF SOM
Saturday, December 2	AAC Championship (Location TBD)

Bowl Games

Post-Season Bowl Game Attendance is Mandatory

Failure to attend a bowl game will result in a grade of "F." Conflicts for any of the possible bowl trips must be made known in writing, to Dr. Butts, by the first day of band camp. Vacations will NOT be excused. All Winter Break plans should be "tentative" until the bowl game is announced on or around December 6th. Students should plan for a Bowl game trip between the dates of December 10th through January 2nd.

List of Bowl Games USF is eligible for: TBD

MANDATORY attendance for Bowl games will include up to four days BEFORE the game date for rehearsals, and up to two days AFTER the game date. Students will be given more information as soon as Dr. Butts receives it from our Athletics Department.

Weather Policy

It is crucial that you understand that there will be times during the season that we will rehearse and/or perform in the rain. It is your responsibility to keep your instrument protected (woodwinds) while still playing if at all possible. The HOT Band will not pay for your instrument damage due to rain.

Grading and Attendance

Absences: Students are permitted two (2) rehearsal absences to be used at their discretion during the season. Each absence thereafter will result in the lowering of the final grade by one letter. Exceptions are made for unavoidable situations that have been brought to Dr. Butts' attention far in advance. Attendance will be taken by section leaders at the beginning of each rehearsal.

Any member who is absent without a compelling reason from the last regular rehearsal prior to a game (i.e. Friday night's rehearsal before a Saturday game), may not be allowed to perform on the field with the band at that game.

In general, absences are not "excused" or "unexcused". An absence is an absence. Students may appeal to Dr. Butts for possible excusal or grade adjustment. Absences will only be reviewed when due to EXTREME and UNAVOIDABLE circumstances. Any attempt to excuse an absence must be within ONE WEEK of returning to rehearsal.

0-2 absences from HOT rehearsals = Semester grade of "A" 3 absences from HOT rehearsals = Semester grade of "B" 4 absences from HOT rehearsals = Semester grade of "C" 5 absences from HOT rehearsals = Semester grade of "F"
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ANY STUDENT WHO REACHES THEIR FOURTH ABSENCE MAY BE DISMISSED FROM THE BAND

Students who arrive at rehearsal after 7:00pm will be marked tardy. After 7:15pm (6:15 PM on Fridays) the tardy becomes an absence unless there are extreme mitigating circumstances. Students who arrive late must notify their section leader upon arrival in order to not be considered absent. The tardy policy is: One tardy to HOT rehearsal = No penalty. Every subsequent tardy = ½ an absence.

Games, Parades, and Exhibition performances are **MANDATORY**. **A missed performance of any kind will lower the student's grade by two letters.** Exceptions are made for unavoidable situations that have been brought to Dr. Butts's attention far in advance. For example if you have a wedding you must attend and let us know at the beginning of the season we will simply write you out of that show and there will be no penalty.

Illness may be considered an excuse for missing a game only with a **Doctor's Note**.

USF Bowl Trips are MANDATORY. **A missed Bowl trip will cause a student to fail and possibly not be invited back to HOT.** Conflicts for any of the possible bowl trips must be made known in writing to the director by the first day of band camp. Vacations will NOT be excused.

Emergencies must be documented by the hospital, doctor, or police to receive consideration for excusal. **An email must be sent to Dr. Butts directly within five business days explaining the situation accompanied by this note.**

Students must have music and drill at practice. directors will do periodic checks and if you do not have your materials when we ask to see them, it will count as a tardy.

The use of cell phones during rehearsals for purposes other than drill and music learning and/or performances will not be tolerated.

Athletic shoes are **REQUIRED** at rehearsals. Flip-flops and bare feet are **NOT** allowed. A violation may result in members being replaced with an alternate.

CLASS CONFLICTS: Students who will be coming to rehearsal from a class across campus and may be slightly tardy on a consistent basis, must fill out a "HOT Class Excused/Tardy" form, provided at the end of this syllabus, in order to have those tardies excused This applies to math/chemistry tests and other class conflicts as well. **A**

completed form, with an attached copy of the students schedule, must be submitted to GRAD STUDENT by Friday, August 18th, 2023.

Instruments and Uniforms

Instruments - The Herd of Thunder will supply its members with instruments (Tenor Saxophones, Brass and Drumline) free of charge **AS AVAILABLE**. Available instruments are on a first-come-first-serve basis and will be distributed first to leadership, then veteran marchers, then rookie members. Brass mouthpieces are also available for check out on the same first-come, first-serve basis, although members are encouraged to provide their own mouthpiece. If you are providing your own brass instrument, the instrument **MUST** be silver plated. Prior to being checked out, HOT instruments have been inspected and played by staff members and sections leaders to ensure that it will play properly. Therefore, once an instrument has been checked out to a member, the student assumes full responsibility of the instrument. If the instrument is damaged in any way while in the student's possession, the student will be responsible for paying the band to have the instrument serviced and repaired and will be billed for the cost of the repair. Students are not permitted to take the instrument themselves to have the instrument repaired. Students will be responsible for general maintenance of the instrument while it is checked out to them, including keeping all valves and slides moving and keeping the instrument clean and polished. **Students who lose (including theft), damage, or destroy any USE equipment will be held financially responsible for its repair or replacement. A hold will be placed on the student's records and account until restitution is made to USE.**

Uniforms - Students will be sized for uniforms during Band Camp. All uniforms will be kept in the School of Music between performances and professionally dry cleaned throughout the season. Students are not permitted to take home at any time the marching band bibbers or jacket for ANY REASON.

Full marching band uniform will consist of the following:

- White HOT hat (HOT headbands – TUBAS ONLY)
- Marching band jacket
- Green HOT shirt
- White gloves
- Gray bibbers
- Spandex-like or bicycle-type shorts
- Black socks (socks must be mid-calf. No ankle socks)
- Black, flat, non-shiny marching band shoes (no other shoe type is permitted)
- **SUNGLASSES NOT PERMITTED FOR PREGAME AND HALFTIME**

Road Show/Team Walk Uniform will consist of the following:

- White HOT hat
- Official HOT green polo
- Black shorts
- Black socks (ankle socks preferred only this uniform)
- Black, flat, non-shiny marching band shoes (no other shoe type is permitted)

- **OPTIONAL** Sunglasses (must have black or dark colored frames and lenses)

Band Camp Registration Fees

All students registering for Band Camp are required to pay a package fee to the HOT Student Association (HOTSA) that covers required uniform items, uniform cleaning, and other required game day items. **All fees will be collected by the first day of band camp in August.** Students can prepay on the shopify website, or pay in person via cash or money order (made payable to HOTSA). In addition, students will also be able to purchase several “non-required” items at Band Camp, such as backpacks, sunglasses, shorts, etc. Please see the package pricing below for more details. To prepay, purchase non-required merchandise, or for veteran members to purchase new uniform items, please visit the HOT Store website (<http://herd-of-thunder.myshopify.com/>).

<p>New Wind Performer Cost: \$150 <i>includes tubas</i></p> <p>Green T-shirt HOT Polo Hat or Headband Gloves Raincoat Clear Bag Dry Cleaning</p>	<p>Vet Wind Performer: \$130 <i>includes tubas</i></p> <p>Green T-shirt (this is different from past years and returning students will be required to wear the new green T-shirt) Hat or Headband Clear Bag Gloves Dry Cleaning</p>
<p>New Drumline Performer cost: \$220 <i>plus sticks, bass drum mallets, or cymbal sleeves</i></p> <p>Green T-Shirt HOT Polo Hat Wristbands Raincoat Clear Backpack Dry Cleaning</p>	<p>Vet Drumline Performer cost: \$200 <i>plus sticks, bass drum mallets, or cymbal sleeves</i></p> <p>Green T-shirt (this is different from past years and returning students will be required to wear the new green T-shirt) Hat Clear Bag Dry Cleaning</p>
<p>Female Colorguard Performer: TBD</p> <p>Roadshow Shoes Roadshow Tank Roadshow Leggings Roadshow Crop Top Jazz Shoes Tights Jacket Earrings Bookbag Dry Cleaning Raincoat</p>	<p>Male Colorguard Performer: TBD</p> <p>Roadshow Shoes Roadshow Tank Roadshow Shorts Jazz Shoes Jacket Bookbag Dry Cleaning Raincoat</p>

**USF Students are not required to pay the registration fees above in order to be enrolled in the University Marching Band class. However, they are required to pay these fees in order to perform and/or travel with the band.*

Program Expectations

- The use of alcohol or any illegal substances that impair an individual's ability to represent the Herd of Thunder, School of Music, or the University of South Florida in a positive manner will not be tolerated. Violators may be dismissed from HOT, and/or reported to USF for additional consequences.
- Smoking is not tolerated during any rehearsal or performance. Anyone smoking in uniform or during a rehearsal may be dismissed from HOT.
- Students with long hair must keep it off their shoulders for all performances. The length and style of one's hair should not set one apart from the other band members while in uniform.
- Profanity is not tolerated in uniform.
- Students are responsible for upholding the condition of the USF uniform and USF Equipment. Please keep all uniform parts properly maintained and all instruments in good working order. **"Students who lose, damage, or destroy any USF equipment will be held financially responsible for its repair or replacement. A hold will be placed on the student's records and account until restitution is made to USF."**
- Uniforms must be worn COMPLETELY and correctly at all times in a performance venue from arrival to departure. Only a director is authorized to make the decision that the band will be in half uniform due to the heat.
- Members may wear sunglasses and ear plugs for the Team Walk, Road Show, and in the stands. There will be no sunglasses or ear plugs allowed during Pre-Game or Halftime Shows. Sunglasses should have black or dark colored frames.
- HOT members must have their music and visual work prepared and **MEMORIZED** for the best possible performance. All pregame and halftime shows will be memorized.
- In the stands the band will stand and sit together as decided by a director or drum major. Snacking in the stands is allowed, but must be done discreetly.
- All members must be on their best behavior at the games, and enthusiasm is expected. Rudeness, profanity, and disorderly conduct will not be tolerated. Negative and derogatory language or behavior towards coaches, players, or any USF personnel will not be tolerated. Negatively engaging fans at any time, for any reason, is not allowed. The Herd of Thunder has a well-deserved reputation as a first-class organization that has the very best students representing our great university, and all members are expected to uphold this reputation in every aspect of their behavior, in and out of uniform.
- During football games students may not enter the stands where the general audience is sitting.
- Bus Captains (band captains/drum majors) are responsible for checking attendance. In addition, they are responsible for making sure the buses are clean at the end of each trip. All Herd of Thunder leadership is expected to assist with this process.

Communication Requirements

- Students must check Slack and the HOT Student Resource Folder regularly.
- Students are expected to have notifications turned on for the "Important Business" channel at all times, and to regularly check this channel. Notifications will be sent out primarily between 5:00 and 6:00 PM on M/W/F. Students should get in the habit of checking Slack during this time.
- Attendance and Grade updates will be managed through Canvas.

- Students are expected to check Slack and their E-mail for announcements and rehearsal and performance itineraries. **If HOT rehearsal is delayed or canceled, it will be announced via Slack.**

Social Media and Internet Guidelines

Social Media:

HOT members will not post, or allow others to post images or descriptions of themselves engaging in any of the following on any social media platform or website. This includes any activity in or out of uniform:

- A. ANY illegal activity
- B. Underage alcohol consumption or possession
- C. Irresponsible legal alcohol consumption
- D. Illegal drug use or possession, or abuse of legal drugs
- E. Inappropriate stages of undress
- F. Any behavior that could reflect a negative image on the USF Athletic Band program. Examples include but are not limited to: Disparaging individuals or groups associated with USF, use of racial or ethnic slurs, anything that could be perceived as bullying or cyberbullying, derogatory gestures, etc.

Announcements & Emails:

Members are fully expected to read all communications regarding Herd of Thunder business. Any communication from the director or staff to HOT members should be considered private information for the band. These communications should not be forwarded to message boards or the media. If a HOT Band communication is for public release, it will be sent to the media from the director.

Media Interviews:

HOT members will NOT grant interviews with news media (print, television, or internet) without specific permission from the director. This includes "The Oracle". When reporting the interview request to the director, include: publication, reporter & topic.

Message Boards:

HOT members will NOT comment on ANY message board on the topic of university athletic bands (even if the comment is positive in nature, or to "defend" a school's athletic band program). When commenting on message boards about non-band subjects, members will NOT identify themselves as members of the Herd of Thunder.

Consequences for Violations of any HOT Handbook Policies

Any violation of USF policies (i.e. USF Student Code of Conduct), the Herd of Thunder Mission, program expectations, rehearsal expectations, social media & internet guidelines, or other policies listed in this handbook may result in a variety of consequences at the director(s)' discretion, including but not limited to immediate dismissal from HOT Band, proper reporting to USF entities, and reduction of a student's grade of "F". Students may also be barred from enrolling in the Herd of Thunder if compelling information comes to light while the Herd of Thunder is not formally meeting as a class (i.e. the spring and summer months).

Rehearsal Etiquette

- Section leaders and officers will be called upon to fulfill numerous responsibilities including: setting drill, leading music sectionals, and ensuring that rehearsals run smoothly. These leaders were chosen for a purpose and must be given the same respect as instructional staff to ensure a productive rehearsal.
- HOT rehearsal is a time to practice. Please leave any other outside issues or personal concerns behind. Be prepared to learn and clean drill/music as quickly as possible.
- Full band stretching begins 10 minutes before each scheduled rehearsal. All students are expected to attend stretching.
- Talking during rehearsals will negatively affect our performance abilities. Do not treat rehearsal time as a social event. It is imperative that the director and HOT Leadership have your undivided attention during rehearsals. Engaging in distracting behaviors - such as using your phone not for UDB purposes - during rehearsals is strictly prohibited.
- Be courteous and respectful to all band staff at all times. They are required to do the same to you.
- Students are reminded that marching band is an athletic activity that requires participants be in good shape and pay attention to their physical well-being. All HOT members are responsible for their own hydration and should bring water to every rehearsal.
- Instructions will be given to you from both the tower and the field. When the speaker system is being used, it is the priority and all other instruction should cease.

Gameday Etiquette

- Students are expected to play their own instrument in the stands and not trade throughout the game.
- During football games students may not enter the stands where the general audience is sitting." Add - "Band members will not exit their designated seating area to talk to others outside of the band section during football games.
- Bathroom breaks in a timely manner and in pairs.
- Snacks in the stands are permitted, but it must be discrete as we are being filmed for national television regularly.
- Profanity in uniform is inexcusable

Alternate Selection Process

Alternates

The HOT alternate system exists to ensure that there are never holes during rehearsals and/or performances, while providing an opportunity for all members to develop their performance abilities. Each section's number of alternates will vary from show to show. When a member is not present, an alternate should begin learning that spot. In the event of an excused absence, the director's discretion will be used in deciding who continues in that spot. The responsibility of an alternate is significant because they must be able to perform the show whenever and

wherever a vacancy occurs. Any alternate not actively participating may forfeit their opportunity to have their performance assignment changed.

Alternate Implementation Details

- The number of alternates MAY vary from show to show
- Alternates are full members of the band and are expected to participate fully in every rehearsal.
- The Herd of Thunder utilizes alternates in learning every show to avoid ever having holes in a performance.
- Alternates will be assigned to shadow specific drill spots for each show.

An overview of the selection process is as follows:

- **Alternate selection will be determined based on the Band Camp placements, attendance, musicianship, marching ability, and attitude.**
 - Musicianship, refer to “Program Expectations.”
 - Marching ability, refer to “Program Expectations” and the “HOT Marching Manual.”
 - Attitude, refer to “Rehearsal Etiquette,” “Gameday Etiquette,” and “Social Media and Internet Guidelines.”
- Alternates may change each show
- **Alternates for the first show and pregame will be based solely on music placements during band camp.**
- After band camp, the alternate selection process takes effect
- All alternate and shadow assignments are ultimately at the discretion of the staff of the Herd of Thunder.

Uniform Inspection Policies

Before loading the buses for each performance, section leaders will conduct an inspection of uniforms and instruments to ensure that all pieces of the uniform are present and professional, and all equipment is in top performing condition. Uniform inspection will be conducted as follows:

- All uniforms must fit correctly.
- Uniforms must not be wrinkled.
- The official HOT T-shirt must be worn underneath the uniform.
- Shoes must be flat (not shiny) black marching shoes. Tennis shoes and shiny black shoes are not acceptable.
- Gloves must be white, long wrist, marching gloves with no holes.
- Socks must be **Black** and at least reach mid-calf. Ankle socks are **NOT ALLOWED!**
- Hair must be pulled back and kept off the shoulders, inside the hat.
- Ear plugs! These must be worn while in the stands. This is for your safety.
- Earrings: No hoops bigger than a dime, and no more than three earrings per ear.
- Facial hair must be well groomed.
- No ribbons, of any color, may be tied in your hair, uniform, or equipment.
- Only “officially licensed” temporary tattoos are allowed and only one per side of face.
- Sunglasses are allowed at the Team Walk and Road Show, but are not permitted for Pre-Game and Halftime. When sunglasses are not allowed, they must be stored out of sight (i.e. inside jacket, not on top of hat.) Sunglasses should have **black or dark colored frames (no neon, white, etc.) and lenses.**

- Wind instrument inspection will include:
 - Mouthpieces & Reeds: Clean and playable (discretion of the section leader).
 - Saxophone neck straps must be green.
 - Flip Folders / Music as necessary.
 - Slides / Valves: Must move freely.
 - All brass instruments must be polished before each performance
- Percussion inspection will include:
 - Sticks and mallets properly taped.
 - Drums and Cymbals must be cleaned and in excellent working condition.
 - Must have all needed accessories (wrist bands, gloves, bags, sound projectors, etc.)
- Colorguard/Feature Twirler inspections will include: **Refer to Colorguard handbook for all game day procedures and uniform items that apply only to the Colorguard/Feature Twirlers**

Any Inspection failures will result in One Absence being added to the student's Attendance record.

HOT Crew

HOT requires the support of student volunteers known as the HOT Crew. These students assist the band with equipment, water, and other physical support at football games. HOT Crew does not typically attend rehearsals, but may be requested to under special circumstances. In order to be eligible to travel with the band, members of the HOT Crew must register for the course MUN 3113 and be aware that they will not receive a stipend. Students who are not selected for the Marching Band may apply for membership in the HOT Crew; however, former members of the band who are unable to march this year will have first priority.

Stipends

STUDENTS ENROLLED IN MUN 3113 ARE NOT ELIGIBLE TO RECEIVE A STIPEND

Stipends are NOT Guaranteed - YOU MUST ACCEPT THE POSSIBILITY THAT STIPENDS CAN BE REDUCED OR WITHHELD COMPLETELY.

Members of the Herd of Thunder who complete the season in good standing and who finish the course with a grade of "C" or above, are eligible to receive a stipend of \$150 (leadership will receive an additional \$100). The intent of this stipend is to help offset the costs of registration fees. Registration in the USF Course "MUN 1110 - University Marching Band" is required to receive the Marching Band stipend. Stipends are posted to each student's USF account at the end of the semester and once any university charges have been deducted (including any non-subsidized loan interest payments) the remaining balance for which you are eligible to receive will be deposited into your account or mailed to the address on file at USF. *Note: If your stipend exceeds the amount of financial aid that you are eligible for, the University will retain the excess funds.*

Travel

The USF Athletic Bands have traveled extensively during their existence. Members of the HOT Athletic Band program may have the opportunity to travel to a variety of locations as athletic events are scheduled. Recent out

of state trips have included Rome, Italy; London, England; Los Angeles, CA; El Paso, TX; Birmingham, AL; Charlotte, NC; New York, NY; Hartford, CT; Dayton, OH; and Nashville, TN. In-State trips to Orlando, Ft. Lauderdale, Boca Raton, Daytona Beach, Miami, St. Petersburg, Pensacola, Gainesville, and Tallahassee are also possible.

As a member of HOT, be prepared to travel and represent USF, Tampa, and the State of Florida at the highest level of performance and maturity as we perform for over a half a million people each year!

Other HOT Affiliated Ensembles

Rumble Basketball Pep Band:

The USF Rumble Pep Band performs at all Men's and Women's home basketball games in the newly renovated 10,000 seat Yuengling Center on the Campus of USF. Students who have not marched with the Herd of Thunder must complete a short audition for the directors to be granted admission to the ensemble. The Pep Band will travel to support our basketball teams at the Men's and Women's Conference tournaments for the American Athletic Conference. The band will also travel to perform at any NCAA tournament appearances. All members of the Rumble Pep Band must register for the course and pay the applicable tuition and fees.

University Policies

Disruption to Academic Progress:

Disruptive students in the academic setting hinder the educational process. Disruption of the academic process is defined as the act, words, or general conduct of a student in a classroom or other academic environment which in the reasonable estimation of the instructor: (a) directs attention away from the academic matters at hand, such as noisy distractions, persistent, disrespectful or abusive interruption of lecture, exam, academic discussion, or general University operations, or (b) presents a danger to the health, safety, or well-being of self or other persons.

Academic Grievance Procedure:

The purpose of these procedures is to provide all undergraduate and graduate students taking courses within the University of South Florida System an opportunity for objective review of facts and events pertinent to the cause of the academic grievance. An "academic grievance" is a claim that a specific academic decision or action that affects that student's academic record or status has violated published policies and procedures, or has been applied to the grievant in a manner different from that used for other students.

Disability Access:

Students with disabilities are responsible for registering with Students with Disabilities Services (SDS) (SVC 1133) in order to receive academic accommodations. SDS encourages students to notify instructors of accommodation needs at least five (5) business days prior to needing the accommodation. A letter from SDS must accompany this request.

Sexual Misconduct / Sexual Harassment:

USF is committed to providing an environment free from sex discrimination, including sexual harassment and sexual violence (USF System Policy 0-004). The USF Center for Victim is a confidential resource where you can talk about incidents of sexual harassment and gender-based crimes including sexual assault, stalking, and domestic/relationship violence. This confidential resource can help you without having to report your situation to either the Office of Student Rights and Responsibilities (OSSR) or the Office of Diversity, Inclusion, and Equal Opportunity (DIEO), unless you request that they make a report. Please be aware that in compliance with Title IX and under the USF System Policy, educators must report incidents of sexual harassment and gender-based crimes including sexual assault, stalking, and domestic/relationship

violence. If you disclose any of these situations in class, in papers, or to me personally, I am required to report it to OSSR or DIEO for investigation. Contact the USF Center for Victim Advocacy and Violence Prevention: (813) 974-575

Hazing

(1) The University of South Florida system (USF system) prohibits any form of hazing of its students, including hazing by students or other persons associated with any student organization, at any time, and at any location.

(2) Definition: As used in this regulation, "hazing" as defined by Section 1006.63, Florida Statutes, means any action or situation that recklessly or intentionally endangers the mental or physical health or safety of a student for purposes including, but not limited to, initiation or admission into or affiliation with any organization operating under the sanction of a postsecondary institution, regardless of a person's willingness to participate. "Hazing" includes, but is not limited to, pressuring or coercing the student into violating state or federal law, any brutality of a physical nature, such as whipping, beating, branding, exposure to the elements, forced consumption of any food, liquor, drug, or other substance, or other forced physical activity that could adversely affect the physical health or safety of the student, and also includes any activity that would subject the student to extreme mental stress, such as sleep deprivation, forced exclusion from social contact, forced conduct that could result in extreme embarrassment, or other forced activity that could adversely affect the mental health or dignity of the student. Hazing does not include customary athletic events or other similar contests or competitions or any activity or conduct that furthers a legal and legitimate objective. In addition to Florida Statutes Section 1006.63, hazing as defined by the University of South Florida system also includes, but is not limited to: the forced use of alcohol, morally degrading or humiliating games and activities, physical and psychological shocks, deception, verbal abuse, personal servitude, kidnapping, deprivation of privileges granted to others in the organization, by use of force or duress, and any other activities which are contrary to academic achievement, the stated purpose of the local and/or (inter)national organization and/or the mission, policies or regulations of the University of South Florida system or applicable state law.

(3) Investigation and Response: The USF system will respond and investigate reports of alleged hazing received from any source and will determine whether to proceed with campus disciplinary action, to forward a report to appropriate law enforcement officials for prosecution as a criminal matter, or both. All reports of hazing will be directed for investigation to the appropriate department depending on the nature of the report. (a) Persons who know, or suspect that hazing has taken place are required to report hazing to the Office of the Dean for Students and/or Fraternity and Sorority Life. (b) Individual: In most cases, an individual will be referred to the campus conduct officer and will be subject to the terms and conditions of the Student Code of Conduct. The USF system Student Code of Conduct is available on-line at WWW.SA.USF.EDU/SRR.

Legal Process: If criminal charges are filed against an individual, group, or organization, the USF system reserves the right to proceed with its investigation and adjudication process according to the Student Code of Code as the USF system handles the educational aspect of the alleged violations separately from any criminal legal procedures.

University Policy 10-045 on Observance of Religious Holy Days

Students who seek to be absent under the university policy on religious observances must give notice no later than the **second class meeting (August 28th)** by providing the director with an email stating the date and name of the observance.

Learning Disabilities

Any student with a disability is encouraged to meet with the director privately during the first week of class to discuss accommodations. Each student must bring a current Memorandum of Accommodations from the Office of Student Disability Services, which is prerequisite for receiving accommodations. Accommodated examinations through the Office of Student Disability Services require two week's notice. All course documents are available in alternate format if requested in the student's Memorandum of Accommodations.



CLASS EXCUSED/TARDY FORM

Use this form if you will be consistently tardy to HOT Band because of a class that releases AFTER 6:45. Work schedule is NOT grounds for excused tardy.

BE ADVISED: This form only excuses you as late as 7:15. If you arrive after that time, you will be counted tardy.

YOU MUST ATTACH A PRINTOUT OF YOUR CLASS SCHEDULE TO THIS FORM.

STUDENT NAME: _____

INSTRUMENT/SECTION: _____

Course #1 (Circle one) Class/Rehearsal conflict OR Exam Conflict

Course Title: _____

Course Number: _____ Day/Time: _____

Course #2 (Circle one) Class/Rehearsal conflict OR Exam Conflict

Course Title: _____

Course Number: _____ Day/Time: _____

Turn this completed form in (with attached schedule) to the Graduate Assistants by Friday, August 20, 2021