Descriptions of Instrumental Ensembles (open to new students)

Symphonic Band (MUSA 157)

A large wind and percussion ensemble of 60-80 members open to all students regardless of major. This ensemble performs two concerts per semester and rehearses and performs standard wind band repertoire of a variety of genres, styles, and cultures.

- Music majors – Determined by audition.
- Non-Music majors - High School Band experience is required.
- Non-Music majors – Register for MUSA 157 no later than August 18th.
- Class Meeting Time - Tuesday and Thursday: 2:00-3:15pm, Byrnes Auditorium.
- Contact Dr. Kristin Jeri, jerik@winthrop.edu for more information.

Wind Symphony (MUSA 156)

A select ensemble of 35-45 members consisting of the finest wind and percussion players at Winthrop University. The group performs several concerts each year and tours every two years, performing throughout the throughout the Carolinas for premier high school programs. The Wind Symphony rehearses and performs significant repertoire for wind band.

- Audition is required.
- Meeting Time - Mondays and Wednesdays, 3:30-4:45. , Byrnes Auditorium.
- Contact Dr. Lorrie Crochet, crochetl@winthrop.edu, for more information.

Symphonic Band/Wind Symphony Audition Process
Fall 2025 (required of all music majors)

- Date and Time: Auditions will be held August 22-24. You will receive an email from Dr. Crochet in early August with the specific day and time for your instrument. If you do not receive this email, please contact Dr. Crochet.
- Place: Barnes Recital Hall – report to the Green Room, which is accessed from the hallway behind the recital hall.
- Audition Preparation: You will be given music to prepare. If your music is lost, please contact Dr. Crochet to receive a new copy. Your audition is behind a screen. In addition to the prepared selection, you will be asked to sight read, and you may be asked to play a full range chromatic and major scales.
- Schedule Planning: Register for Symphonic Band. If you feel that you may be selected to participate in Wind Symphony, leave that time open in your schedule.
- School-owned Instruments: Contact Dr. Debbie Loomer for rental information, loomerd@winthrop.edu.
- For more information: https://www.winthrop.edu/cvpa/music/

Jazz Ensemble (MUSA 159)

The Jazz Ensemble is a standard big band comprised of trumpets, trombones, saxophones (alto, tenor and bari) and a rhythm section comprised of piano, guitar, bass, and drums. A wide variety of styles will be covered throughout the semester. This ensemble performs two concerts each semester.

- Audition is required.
- Class Meeting Time - Mondays and Wednesdays, 5:00-6:00, CMUS120.
- Contact Dr. Noah Bruening, brueningn@winthrop.edu , for more information.

Winthrop University Orchestra (MUSA 161)

The Winthrop University Orchestra is open to all string students (violin, viola, cello, or bass) regardless of major. Selected wind, brass, and percussion students from Winthrop Bands are invited to perform with the orchestra for dress rehearsals and concerts. Only string students should register for MUSA 161 as their major ensemble. Wind, brass, and percussion students should register for a band as their major ensemble. The orchestra performs at least one concert each semester.

- Class Meeting Time - Tuesdays and Thursdays, 5:00-6:15, CMUS120.
- Contact Dr. Elisa Koehler, koehlere@winthrop.edu for more information.

Winthrop Screamin' Eagles Pep Band

A 40-member pep band open to students regardless of major who have playing experience on piccolo, clarinet, saxophone, trumpet, mellophone, baritone, tuba, electric bass, and drum set. This ensemble performs at most home basketball games and pep rallies, and travels to Big South and NCAA tournaments. This group is a powerful leader of the WU Spirit Squad.

- Requirement: Participation in one semester of Symphonic Band (fall 2025).
- Six evening rehearsals scheduled in September and October are mandatory.
- Scan the QR Code below to enter your contact information and instrument.
- Contact Dr. Kristin Jeri, jerik@winthrop.edu for more information.