



VALDOSTA STATE UNIVERSITY
BLAZIN'
BRIGADE

Welcome Blazers!

Thank you for signing up for the 40th Season of the Valdosta State University Blazin' Brigade Marching Band!

As a member of Blazin' Brigade, you are invited to share in the *foot-and-a-half* experience which is guaranteed to each member who belongs to our organization. This *foot-and-a-half* of prime real estate on our field belongs to *you* as a reminder of our commitment to music and our appreciation of the tradition upheld by Blazin' Brigade. By joining Blazin' Brigade, you have committed yourself to be a part of one of the deepest held and most valued traditions at Valdosta State University.

BAND CAMP KICKOFF IS SUNDAY, AUGUST 7th. We do not limit the number of students we accept into the program. Our members are actively engaged in making positive contributions to Blazin' Brigade and the university community.

Blazin' Brigade is a spirit organization and a university course; the musical demands of our organization are highly valued. We want you to be successful, so we provide opportunities for you to receive instruction from faculty, student leaders, and graduate assistants throughout the season.

If you have additional questions, check out our Facebook page or visit our website:

<https://www.valdosta.edu/blazinbrigade>

We look forward to having everyone be a part of our team this year; this will be one of the best experiences you will have in your collegiate career!

Go Blazers!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Skye Holmes". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Skye Holmes, DMA
Director of Athletic Bands
Valdosta State University
(229) 333-5809
skholmes@valdosta.edu

IMPORTANT SUMMER DATES

- July 4th** Priority deadline to order required apparel to arrival by Band Camp.
- August 3-7** Drumline, Guard and Twirler Camp
- August 5-7** Leadership Camp (Leadership Team)
- August 7** **Early Move In & Blazin' Brigade Orientation Meeting (All members)**
- Aug 8** **New Member Day (for new members only)**

AUGUST 9-13	BAND CAMP (All members)
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AUGUST 15 First day of classes

MEMBERSHIP CHECKLIST

- ✓ **Fill out the online registration form: <https://www.valdosta.edu/blazinbrigade>**

We collect this information, like your instruments, dietary needs, etc., as a part of running a large band program. *You must fill out the online registration form as soon as possible to make sure you receive all communications!*

- ✓ **Register for Blazin' Brigade: MUSC 3880 (CRN 80564, 1 credit, MW 4:00-5:50 PM, F 3:00-4:50 PM)**

Since Blazin' Brigade is a university course, everyone must sign up for the class. Additional information is available in the class registration guide later in this packet. Take this information when you see your advisor. If you have questions, please contact the band office immediately!

- ✓ **Purchase additional items you will need: <https://2022valdostastaterun1.itemorder.com/>**

Woodwinds and brass will need a flip folder with at least 20 sheets. *Woodwinds:* You DO need to purchase a lyre. *Brass:* You do NOT use lyres. You should be able to purchase these through your local music store. Percussion will provide your own sticks/mallets and a black, three-ring binder with plastic page protectors.

- ✓ **Early dorm move-in: Sunday, August 7, 2022 9:00 AM-4:00 PM**

When you fill out the online registration form, please check **"Yes"** if you will be living in a dorm this fall and will need to move in before band camp (most freshman).

Drumline, guard, twirlers, and leadership will need to find accommodations to arrive early in Valdosta for your required rehearsals that begin Wednesday, August 4th. Leadership begins on Friday, August 7. Unfortunately, we cannot do dorm move-in any earlier than August 9. If you have having difficulty finding accommodations, please contact Dr. Holmes (skholmes@valdosta.edu) asap. Meals are on your own.

ONLINE REGISTRATION GUIDE

Go to <https://www.valdosta.edu/blazinbrigade> to fill out the Online Registration form as soon as possible.

This does not register you for MUSC 3880. See the class registration guide below. This will take you approximately 10 minutes to complete if you have the following:

- Your basic contact information (name, phone, etc.)
- Contact information for at least one person you want us to contact in case of emergency
- Additional information on dietary or medical concerns we should know about

If your information changes, you can contact the band office or correct it at Band Camp when you check-in.

CLASS REGISTRATION GUIDE

Blazin' Brigade is a University course and **all members of Blazin' Brigade must register for MUSC 3880**. Speak with your advisor about making sure Blazin' Brigade is on your schedule. If any questions arise, please do not hesitate to contact us!

Register as soon as possible! Incoming students will register during summer orientation. Please attend the earliest orientation session you can; you will have a better opportunity to take the classes you want/need at the times that are most convenient for you.

COURSE: MUSC 3880

CRN: 80564

1 credit hour – MW 4:00-5:50 PM, F 3:00-4:50 PM

CLASS CONFLICTS

Class conflicts are handled on a case-by-case basis. If the conflicting class is an elective or offered another semester, it does not qualify for you to receive an exemption. Any course that overlaps more than 15 minutes of rehearsal does not qualify for exemption.

Work, Club Events, Greek Life, Vacation, etc., conflicts are not excused absences. *By joining Blazin' Brigade, you have committed yourself to be a part of one of the most valued traditions at Valdosta State University. You will have opportunities not available to other students.*

1. All class conflicts must be resolved by August 15th, 2022 (first day of classes). Please e-mail Dr. Holmes directly (skholmes@valdosta.edu).
2. If approved, you will be required to fill out a form with the university to approve your class conflict. Please speak to your advisor to obtain this form.

REQUIRED APARELL

All required apparel will be available for you to order online. All members need at least one of each item marked "Required," but you may want to order more (we recommend at least two t-shirts and multiple pairs of gloves). Place orders as soon as possible to receive by Band Camp.

Website: <https://2022valdostastaterun1.itemorder.com/shop/sale/>

Ordering opens: May 1, 2022, 12:00 AM

Last order deadline: July 4, 11:59 PM

After the July 4th deadline, all items will be purchased through the University and supplies will be limited. Please place orders ASAP!

These items are available **only on our online store:**

Item	Woodwinds	Brass	Percussion	Guard	Twirlers
Official t-shirt	Required	Required	Required	Required	Required
White spats	Required	Required	Required	N/A	N/A
Official band hat	Required	Required for everyone except sousaphones	Required	N/A	N/A
Official Warm-ups	Optional	Optional	Optional	Required	Required
Water Bottle*	Required	Required	Required	Required	Required
Draw String Bag*	Required	Required	Required	Required	Required

*Returning members may use last year's water bottle and draw string bag

Some of these items are available on our store, but may be purchased elsewhere:

Item	Woodwinds	Brass	Percussion	Guard	Twirlers
BLACK gloves	Required (fingerless options for woodwinds)	Required	N/A	N/A	N/A
Black athletic shorts	Required	Required	Required	Required	Required
Black calf-length socks	Required	Required	Required	N/A	N/A
Black marching shoes	Required	Required	Required	N/A	N/A
Dance shoes (as determined by instructor)	N/A	N/A	N/A	Required	Required
Skin-toned base layer for cold weather	N/A	N/A	N/A	Required	Required
Practice Flag and Poms	N/A	N/A	N/A	Required	N/A
Practice Flag Bag	N/A	N/A	N/A	Optional	N/A
Guard/Twirler Costume, Batons, and Bag (Ordered by instructor)	N/A	N/A	N/A	Required	Required
Blazin' Brigade Backpack	Optional	Optional	Optional	Optional	Optional

BAND CAMP FALL 2022 SCHEDULE

All events during Band Camp are required.

SUNDAY AUGUST 7

Dorms are open for move-in beginning at 9:00 AM. Dining services open.

2:00-4:00 PM	Check-in <i>Confirm personal information, instrument check-out, and apparel distribution</i>	Lobby, Fine Arts Building
4:00 PM	Clarinet, trumpet, trombone part placements <i>Music for part assignment auditions and room assignments will be available at check-in</i>	2nd Floor, Fine Arts
5:00 PM	Dinner break	
6:30 PM	All Members Meeting	Whitehead Auditorium

MONDAY AUGUST 8 (NEW MEMBER DAY)

9:00AM-Noon	Rehearsal	Reames Field
12:00 PM	Lunch break	
1:30-4:30 PM	Rehearsal	TBD

TUESDAY AUGUST 9 (ALL MEMBERS START)

9:00AM-Noon	Rehearsal	Reames Field
12:00 PM	Lunch break	
1:30-4:30 PM	Rehearsal	TBD

WEDNESDAY AUGUST 10

9:00AM-Noon	Rehearsal	Reames Field
12:00 PM	Lunch break	
1:30-4:30 PM	Rehearsal	TBD

THURSDAY AUGUST 11

9:00AM-Noon	Rehearsal	Reames Field
12:00 PM	Lunch break	
1:30-4:30 PM	Rehearsal	TBD
4:30 PM	Dinner break	
7:00 PM	CONVOCATION	Whitehead Auditorium

Wear "Sunday Church" attire (khaki pants, collared shirts, dresses/skirts, etc.)

FRIDAY, AUGUST 12

9:00AM-Noon	Rehearsal	Reames Field
12:00 PM	Lunch break	
1:30-4:30 PM	Rehearsal	TBD
TBA	TRADITIONS NIGHT	PE Complex

SATURDAY AUGUST 13

VSO auditions

9:00 AM-12:00 PM	GAME DAY REHEARSAL	Bazemore-Hyder Stadium
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Wear your band t-shirt and hat, mid-calf length black socks, black shoes, spats, black athletic shorts, and black gloves

FALL 2022 BLAZIN' BRIGADE SCHEDULE (AS OF APRIL 2022)

A final schedule will be issued on the first day of class with the course syllabus. Items in **bold** are required for all members.

Date	Event	Notes
August 3-7	Drumline, Guard & Twirler Camp	Info sent by Instructor
August 5-7	Leadership Camp	For Leadership Team Only
August 7	Early Move In & Orientation Meeting	All members
August 8	New Member Day	Required for new members only
August 9-13	Band Camp	All members, 9:30am-4:30pm
September 1	Stadium Rehearsal	9:00-11:00AM
September 1	VSU vs Keiser	7:00PM Kickoff
September 10	Stadium Rehearsal	9:00-11:00AM
September 10	VSU vs. Virginia Union (Band Day)	5:00PM Kickoff
September 17	District Two Jamboree, Lee County HS	TBD
October 8	Stadium Rehearsal	9:00-11:00AM
October 8	VSU vs. West Alabama (Alumni Day)	7:00PM Kickoff
October 13	Homecoming Pep Rally	6:00-8:00PM
October 15	Homecoming Parade	TBD
October 15	Stadium Rehearsal	9:00-11:00AM
October 15	VSU vs. Mississippi College (Homecoming)	3:00PM Kickoff
October 22	VSU Away Game: West Georgia	TBD
October 31	Leadership Applications Due	11:59:59 PM
November 1-4	Drum major, leadership, staff playing auditions	By appointment - TBD
November 5	Open House	9:00-10:30 AM
November 5	VSU vs. West Florida (Senior Night)	7:00PM Kickoff
November 7-11	Leadership Teaching Auditions	TBA
November 12	Gulf South Conference Challenge	TBD
November 18	Band Banquet (Powell Hall)	TBD
November 19	NCAA Football Playoff	Required
November 26	NCAA Football Playoff	Required
December 3	NCAA Football Playoff	Required
December 10	NCAA Football Playoff	Required
December 14-19	NCAA National Championship (McKinney, TX)	Required

*****All non-home game events are subject to change at this time – Please continue to check the website, e-mail, and Band App frequently for any updates***

One additional exhibition will be added to this schedule – TBD