

Band (Music)

Elective – Year – 9/10/11/12

Prerequisites: Consent of instructor

Course Description

Band is to provide the instrumental student with the opportunity to use their God-given talents in the instrumental ensemble setting. A number of concerts, a number of parades as well as participation in the WELS Mass Band and WSMA contest, both large and small group will allow the student to publicly display their abilities.

Course Goals

The Christian teacher will:

1. Lead the student to value music as a God-given gift and a way to praise Him.
2. Familiarize the student with the role of instruments in the performing ensemble.
3. Heighten the student's critical listening skills.
4. Foster in the student good practice habits and self-discipline.
5. Facilitate growth opportunities in both small and large group cooperative- learning experiences.
6. Develop musical attitudes and maturity, which contribute to a God-pleasing performance.
7. Expose the student to a variety of musical genres.
8. Acquaint the student with the historical settings of the band literature, including historical world events when applicable.
9. Reinforce the learning of the instrumental instruction program.

Course Objectives

The student should be able to:

1. Grow in relationship with his/her Lord and Savior while gaining insight and understanding of the gift of music and its appropriate use both in sacred and secular contexts,
2. Serve as a leader and gain insight into service in the church through playing in front of congregations and audiences.
3. Develop ensemble listing and watching skills.
4. Actively participate in the individual and cooperative learning techniques that are presented.
5. Demonstrate proper posture for a performing musician.
6. Improve his/her musical intonation.
7. Better understand how his/her performance fits into the ensemble's balance of parts.
8. Display proper rehearsal and concert etiquette.
9. Use the developed small and large ensemble talents in religious services here at Luther High and in their home congregations.

Course Outline

1. Band Camp
 - i. One week of intensive marching skills are taught, while giving opportunity for Christian fellowship and to introduce incoming freshman to upper classmates and Luther High.
2. Classroom Rehearsal
 - i. Proper warm-up techniques
 - ii. Tuning exercises
 - iii. Ear training
 - iv. Variety of music gender
3. Performances
 - i. Participation in church/school worship services
 - ii. Various fall and spring parades
 - iii. Various concerts
 - iv. Pep band at home games
 - v. WSMA Large Group and Solo - Ensemble Festivals
 - vi. Heidelberg Fall Festival

Instructional Strategies

1. Students will rehearse selections as a group.
2. Students will rehearse selections as necessary in sections.
3. The director will present concepts and ideas as lectures during Band Camp as well as during rehearsals.
4. Students will rehearse in their own sections as well as in mixed arrangements.

Grading Methods

Band Grading

SEMESTER ONE

Students enrolled in Band receive one full credit. Grades will be assessed in a fair and objective manner. The following document explains how students enrolled in Band will be assessed.

1. Public Performances

Apple Fest Parade	100 Points
Opening Day Parade	100 Points
Torchlight Parade.....	100 Points
Cranberry Festival Parade.....	100 Points(each)
Heidelberg (both performances)	100 Points
Parents' Day Field Show.....	100 Points
Christmas Service.....	100 Points

Absences that are excused ahead of time may be pro-rated at the discretion of the director.

2. Individual Assessment

Sight reading200 points

Freshmen and Sophomores will be assessed during lessons with the Director.

Criteria for lessons:

- 2 or fewer unexcused lessons per semester results in a grade of A
- 3 unexcused lessons per semester results in a grade of B
- 4 unexcused lessons per semester results in a grade of C
- 5 unexcused lessons per semester results in a grade of D
- 6 or more unexcused lessons per semester results in a grade of F

Lessons missed without prior notification (prior to the start of the school day on the day of the lesson) will be considered unexcused. If a student will miss a lesson because of a test, the band director must be notified prior to the beginning of the school day and a lesson will be rescheduled. Lessons missed due to an absence or field trip during the school day will be considered excused.

The students are to be responsible for keeping track of their own lesson times. Recording lesson times in the student agenda will help students to be punctual for their lessons. If the class period moves to a different hour, the band lesson moves with that hour, whenever it is held during the school day.

Juniors and Seniors must find time to meet with Director by Nov. 30th and demonstrate competency of Christmas Music.

3. Other Assessment (optional)

Concert Attendance25 points each

Band members who attend formal concerts not hosted by Luther High School will receive points for attending those concerts. A copy of the concert program must be signed by the director of the ensemble, or the student's parents. Attached to the program should be a summary of the concert including the name of the student, date of the concert, and their reactions to what they saw and heard. Summaries should be brief – 100 words or less.

Performance in a Worship Service.....director's discretion

Band members who use their time and talents performing for their church's worship service will be given points toward their Band grade. Students wishing to receive credit for these performances must bring in a service bulletin signed by their pastor or parent(s).

Volunteer assistance.....director's discretion

Band members may volunteer to help with the setup and takedown of concerts, filing music, organizing uniforms, cleaning the band room, and other activities to be mutually agreed upon. Points will be awarded based on the amount of time and assistance given.

Individual growthdirector's discretion

Students who seek individual help with their band music outside of the school day will be awarded points for the time spent improving their level of musical ability.

Total points, categories 1-3:..... 1,000 points

Student Materials

Music will be supplied to each student as needed throughout the year.

Classroom Procedures

1. Students who are not in the room when the period begins are considered tardy and marked as such.
2. Band rehearsal will begin two minutes after the bell. Students not in their chairs by this time will receive a tardy.
3. Rehearsals will begin with warm-ups and tuning.
4. Practice rooms may be used during study halls and before and after school for practicing one's instrument, otherwise they are off limits.
5. Students who display disruptive behavior will receive verbal warnings. If the inappropriate behavior continues, they will be written up and their membership in the band might be terminated.

Additional Information

More information about the Music Department policies and procedures can be found in the Music Department Handbook. Each family with a student involved in music at Luther High School is given a copy of the Handbook at the start of the school year.