



Sehome High School Bands

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2015 - 16

Day 1 Handout



INTRODUCTION:

This outline applies to all Sehome Bands: Symphonic and Concert Band.

As a Sehome Band student, you will begin in the Symphonic Band, progressing to Concert Band in your second year. In Symphonic Band you will acquire the skills necessary to progress to Concert Band.

It is my goal that you acquire the following skills. In all bands, attention will be given to the following basic elements of music, in varying degrees, depending on the level of the group and it's musicians with **listening and the communication of music** as a central focus:

Rhythm - dynamics - phrasing - style - intonation - balance/blend - articulation - and diction. We will also utilize the basic elements of music theory: key signatures, time signatures, counting, chords, scales, etc.

PURPOSE:

A variety of music will be rehearsed and performed in each group, depending on the level of musicianship. Time will be spent in developing the tone production of each instrument, stressing intonation, sight-reading, and developing the general musicianship elements mentioned above. Generally speaking there is a yearlong preparation for Band Tour that will be discussed during class.

EXPECTATIONS:

Attendance -

The Sehome attendance policy will be followed in all Bands. Because bands are participation in nature, excessive absences will be reflected in the final grade.

General-

1. Instruments: Your musical instrument is one of the tools musicians use for learning and is expected to be at school and in working order for every day rehearsals are scheduled.
2. Music: You are responsible for the music and music folders assigned to you. Treat these important documents as you would your library or textbooks.
3. Talking: Keep talking to a minimum and listening to a maximum. Nature has given each of us two ears (for listening) and only one mouth - probably a good indication of what should be used more than the other.
4. Food: Do not consume food or drink in the band room during rehearsals. Water is acceptable.
5. Music and equipment: Treat all music and equipment with respect. Please respect all other equipment and personal possession. Rules of thumb: **Do not touch what is not yours! & Put away things after you use them!**
6. Fund-raisers: Participation in fund raising activities is voluntary, but encouraged to help the group. When you do participate you are held accountable for all items checked out to you.
7. Uniforms and School Instruments: All band members are responsible for uniforms and instruments checked out to them and for maintenance and cleaning when necessary. A \$15.00 uniform fee will be paid by each band member to be used for general upkeep of the uniforms and for uniform and uniform parts replacement. During the first semester the Band will design and then order Pep-Shirts for all members of the Band, cost to be determined.

GRADING

Because there is very little written work in band class, attendance, performances, and class participation become the main criteria for evaluating your performance. The following are some guidelines that will be used to determine your grade. Grading percentages:

50% - Concerts and other performances

50% - Attendance/class participation and tests

GRADING SCALE:

100% - 92.5%	=	A	92% - 89.5%	=	A-
89% - 86.5%	=	B+	86% - 82.5%	=	B
82% - 79.5%	=	B-	79% - 76.5%	=	C+
76% - 72.5%	=	C	72% - 69.5%	=	C-
69% - 66.5%	=	D+	66% - 60%	=	D
00% - 59%	=	F			

ATTENDANCE:

This a participatory class so your warm body and alert mind and superb talents are needed and required on a daily basis.

Instruments: Every day that you come to class without your instrument, it will be counted as 1/2 of an absence. An exception can be made here if the instrument is being repaired.

Concerts and Performances (Parades, etc...): Students are expected to perform in all concerts and parades with only the rarest of exceptions. An unexcused absence at any of these events will result in an automatic reduction of one full grade at the end of the semester. An excused absence will also receive 1/2 of a full grade reduction. Concerts are extremely important to the Group (big G).

Football Games: We will be putting on 4 to 6 half time shows and performances at football games and everyone is expected to be at all of them. There may be some Wednesday evening practices at Civic to prepare for halftime performances. For every unexcused absence, **your grade will be lowered by one full grade**.

Basketball Games: The Sehome High School 'Pep Band' will perform at basketball games and will receive points that will be counted toward a grade and a special 'Pep Band' Letter.

* **Note:** To qualify as an EXCUSED absence at performances, you should give the director a written note from your parents/guardian (this should be done before the event, if possible). All other circumstance will be considered UNEXCUSED.

UNIFORMS:

Marching Band uniforms will be provided for each student. It is recommended that each student purchase his own marching shoes (described as the shined black dress shoes with heels). Each student is asked to take **great** care of these uniforms and to dry clean them when necessary otherwise marching uniforms will be cleaned by the school (covered by the yearly \$15 uniform fee).

Concert Band and Jazz uniforms (the color scheme is black and white) will be provided by each student and are described as:

Men - black slacks, white (preferably long-sleeved) shirt, dress black shoes, black socks, and a black tie.

Women - suggested dress will be - black skirt/dress or pant suit with white or black blouse with dress shoes.