

St Thomas High School
Band Syllabus and Grading Policy 2006-2007
Practice + Attitude = Performance

Attendance:

1. All members will attend required rehearsals, performances, and lessons throughout the year. This includes scheduled summer, weekend, and after-school functions if needed.
2. It is the student's responsibility to inform Mr. Thoede of potential conflicts with required rehearsals or performance as soon as possible. A student will not be given an excused absence if he/she does not give at least a one-week notice of any conflict, barring medical emergency or death in the family. A written excuse, e-mail, or phone call from a parent or guardian is required in a timely manner.
3. Students must arrive on time for rehearsals and performances. If a student is late, a written excuse, e-mail, or phone call from a parent is required or it will be noted as unexcused.
(3 unexcused tardies = 1 unexcused absence)
4. All unexcused absences will affect a student's grade. Absence from morning rehearsal will be evaluated as follows: If a student is excused as absent from school that day as per the attendance office, no penalty will occur. On the 6th or more unexcused absence a detention will be given as well as the student's quarter grade being reduced by 10 points.
5. All absences must be followed within one week by a note from the parent/guardian, teacher, or doctor. The director will decide if this reason is valid as an excused absence.

Uniform:

1. Band members are expected to be in uniform at all performances and football games. The uniform for football games consists of black pants (Dockers-style), black shoes, black socks, and the St Thomas Band Shirt (provided by the St. Thomas Music Guild). Black athletic shoes are **NOT ACCEPTABLE** if any stripe or other color is visible. The uniform for all concert performances is a tuxedo provided by the St. Thomas Music Guild. When in doubt, see **Mr. Thoede BEFORE** a performance.
2. The uniform is to be worn in full until the student leaves the performance site, including break time. Uniform infractions will affect the student's grade.

Grading:

1. 40% of a student's grade will be figured from rehearsal preparation (attendance, instrument, music) participation, 40% from performance (the same as for rehearsal plus uniform infractions), and 20% playing tests.
2. Rehearsal grade consists of daily effort in rehearsals, and the preparation and performance of assigned music. Students will be evaluated by "playing off" assigned music, and by observing the student's participation in each rehearsal. Playing tests will be given a number grade. Assigned music may include scales, band music and sight-reading music.
3. In order to earn a grade of 100 for each performance, a student must: 1) arrive on time with all his/her equipment and music prepared, 2) be in uniform, 3) not leave until all equipment is stored away. A student's grade for a performance will drop by one letter if the student is late, out of uniform, or leaves early (unless approved by **Mr. Thoede BEFORE** the performance). Student will be required to check out with **Mr. Thoede** at a designated checkout time after each performance.