

# Band Syllabus

## Teacher

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<http://uintahband.net>

# UintahBands



## Course Objective

The objective of the Band is to continue to refine each student's musicianship and skills so they can perform both individually and within a group setting to the best of their ability. This course will engage students in an active relationship with instrumental music and encourage independent learning and exploration. It will also encourage the growth of creative, reflective and communication skills through practical work. This course is designed to aid students in developing self-confidence, self-esteem, poise and strength of character. Specific subject areas may include (but are not limited to): individual/small-group/large-ensemble performance, music composition, music improvisation, music theory, and music history.

## Supplies & Class Materials

You must have the following at every rehearsal

- Music folder with all music in it. Or a suitable electronic version (ie. iPad)
- Instrument in working condition with good reads, etc.
  - This means a stick bag and required mallets for all percussionists.
- A Pencil
- A good attitude

Gibson's Schedule	Monday	Tue - Fri
1st Period Concert Band	9:17 - 10:08	7:45 - 8:53
2nd Period Jazz Band	10:15 - 11:08	9:03 - 10:11
3rd Period Prep	11:08 - 12:08	10:11 - 10:49
4th Period 8th Grade Band	12:08 - 12:50	10:49 - 11:47
5th Period MB / Perc / Appreciation	1:34 - 2:25	1:17 - 2:25

## Band Uniform

The 8th grade band should have the following for performances:

- Boys:
  - Dress Shoes, Dress socks, Slacks, Dress Shirt, and Tie (Suit is optional)
- Girls:
  - Either 1. Dress (dark colors preferred), and dress shoes, 2. Skirt and blouse, and dress shoes, or 3. a business style suit with dress shoes.

Pandemonium will be required to purchase a shirt and wear the following:

- Black dress shoes
- Black slacks
- The Pandemonium shirt
- Black tux coat provided

HS Concert Band will be required to purchase a shirt and wear the following:

- Concert Black
- This will be explained and order opportunities available
- This should be a one time purchase for the length of the HS time in band

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## Student Expectations

Class Etiquette & Behavior — The instrumental music classroom is designed to be a safe place, where all opinions are valid and all students feel free to express themselves. Trust is central to all work in music, and is especially important in a classroom/ensemble setting. All students are expected to exhibit appropriate audience etiquette during class, rehearsals, performances, field trips, etc. Failure to do so will negatively impact the student's participation grade. Likewise, student comments on work being conducted in class should be constructive and positive in nature. Negative remarks, put-downs and comments directed at the person rather than the work will not be tolerated and will negatively impact the student's participation grade.

Performance & Rehearsal Obligations — Being a member of an instrumental music ensemble is a privilege which must be taken very seriously. Some rehearsals for Uintah Band Concerts & Performances will be scheduled for after school. Every effort will be made to accommodate individual and family needs. Rehearsal and performance schedules will be distributed in advance. Performances, Concerts, and after school rehearsals are graded activities for the Uintah Bands and are required for members of the bands. In other words, they are not optional.

Other considerations — The students should strive to come to class prepared to be involved in the whole rehearsal. Bathroom breaks should be taken on the way to class not during. The student should be in their seat ready to begin the warm-up no more than 2 minutes after the bells ring. No gum, candy, food, or drink is allowed in the band rooms. (Water in a bottle is the exception.) If you absolutely must leave during rehearsal you must get permission from Mr. Gibson prior to leaving, and take a hall pass.

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## Practicing

Practicing is essential to the progress of the individual student and how the individual positively contributes to the whole band. Emphasis is placed on the quality of practice, rather than the quantity of practice time. In other words, Practice it until you know it! And don't get it wrong.

The practice sheet on the web site may be filled out to earn points lost in class, but is not required on a regular basis. The student should strive to practice every day something that pushes them to reach beyond their current level. A Rubank method book would be a great choice, but any music

that is challenging is acceptable. A home subscription to Smart Music is another great choice to encourage pushing your abilities.

The chart below will be a help to you in know how to practice and what to practice:

<i>I am having trouble with...</i>	Tone	Rhythm	Notes/fingerings	Intervals (skips)	Intonation	Articulations	Dynamics
1. Play long tones (Lip slurs also for brass)	•				•		
2. Refer to fingering chart			•				
3. Recognize patterns		•	•	•		•	•
4. Sing pitches	•			•	•		
5. Buzz on Mouthpiece (brass)	•			•	•		
6. "Bop"			•				•
7. Say, finger, play		•	•			•	
8. Isolate one measure		•				•	•
9. Slow -----> Fast		•	•				
10. Say the rhythm (count out loud)		•					
11. Play down an Octave (if in upper register)		•	•		•		
12. Play without rhythm (one note at a time)							
13. Play the rhythm on one note		•					
14. Play without articulations			•			•	
15. Play all articulations, but on one note						•	
16. Play without dynamics							•
17. Play all dynamics using only one note							•

#### **Tips For Successful Practice:**

It is best to practice for **less time, more often** than in large chunks (for example, it is better to practice 20 minutes four days of the week instead of practicing one day for 90 minutes).

Try to **establish a routine**. Designate the same times from week to week instead of practicing whenever and wherever.

**Warm-up!** Before jumping right in be sure you play a warm up, either something we use in class or something on your own. Remember, Low, slow and focus on playing with **GREAT TONE**.

Try to find a spot that is comfortable for you to practice and use that spot as often as possible.

Keep others in mind, sometimes your family members appreciate quiet time. Shut the door, or find another time that works better for

**Don't practice mistakes.** Be sure you are practicing the right notes and rhythms. Slow down the tempo when you are first starting a piece to ensure that you are correct.

## **Band Fees**

The band program is very expensive to run and to help fund it nominal fees are required of the students:

- Band Fee \$40 (Everyone pays this for each band class taken)
- Instrument Rental Fee \$30 (If you use a school instrument)
- Percussion fee \$30 (A school instrument rental fee. You need to provide your own mallets etc.)

## **Instrument Security**

The Uintah HS / Vernal JH music faculty and administration make every effort to provide safety and security for each student's musical instrument. This is chiefly done by providing instrument lockers to each student. Students should take use the lockers and the locks. It has taken a lot of work to provide these and prior to their installation many items went missing or were damaged.

However, the school is not responsible for lost or stolen instruments. Parents should record the make, model, and serial number of their child's instrument and consider covering the instrument under your homeowner's insurance policy.

All school instruments should be taken care of just as if they were the property of the student. Damage or loss of a school instrument is the responsibility of the student using the instrument. This includes all percussion equipment owned by the school.

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## Class Norms

- Be Respectful
  - Come to class, rehearsals, and performances on time.
  - Respect the teacher and students by following the school code of conduct.
  - Respect the band materials and instruments by showing proper care and handling.
  - Contribute to class in a positive and polite manner.
- Be Responsible
  - Bring your instrument, pencil, and class materials to class every day.
  - Keep the band room clean and orderly by putting band materials away at the end of class.
  - Keep your instrument in good working condition.
  - Come to class prepared by practicing your music at home.
- Be Safe
  - Walk around the band room, and remember that it is not the gym.
  - Do not allow other people to play your instrument or the school instruments.
  - Only play school instruments with permission from the band director.

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## Grading

70% of the grade by policy must be based on assessment. This is broken down into two categories in Band: 20% Assessments in class 50% Performance

20% of the grade will be based on participation. (Missed days can be made up with the practice sheet available at <http://uintahband.net>)

10% of the grade will be based on other assignments given in class. (Points lost here may be made up according to district policy.)

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## Keep Informed

Several modern technologies are being used to make sure that all band students and parents are kept up-to-date on what is happening and what is expected. The first and foremost place anyone should go to for questions is the band web site: <http://uintahband.net> All of the other items mentioned below can be found from the band web site.

The best two ways to keep up-to-date:

charmsoffice.com and uintahband.wordpress.com

The charms number for your student should be their SIS/Lunch ID number. If it doesn't work email me.

Other great ways to keep up-to-date:

Uintah Bands on Facebook

Uintah Band Parents Group on Facebook

@uintahband on Twitter

text @uintahbands to 23559 and follow the instructions

# UintahBands



SIGN, DATE AND RETURN THIS PAGE TO MR. GIBSON BY FRIDAY. OR FILL OUT THE FORM AT <http://uintahband.net>

*I acknowledge that I have received and read the syllabus provided for Band at Uintah High School / Vernal JH. I also understand that all class supplies must be purchased by the first Friday of the new term. Band students also agree to have a working band instrument at school no later than the second day of class.*

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Work Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian eMail: \_\_\_\_\_

Student eMail: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student Signature Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent/Guardian Signature Date

## How to access parent/student information in

**CHARMS**

- Log on to [www.charmsoffice.com](http://www.charmsoffice.com), and click the “ENTER” link at upper right.
- Locate the “PARENT/STUDENT/MEMBERS LOGIN” section of the web page.
- Login to your child’s program account using the following School Code:

\_\_\_\_\_ UintahHSBand \_\_\_\_\_

- This will bring up the main parent page. This will allow you to look at the “public” calendar for your organization, event list, handouts and other files.
- Clicking on an event on the calendar brings up the details for that event, such as times, attendance requirements and equipment/uniform necessities. Clicking on “event list” puts all of the calendar information in a list form for easy printing. Note that if a calendar event is specifically assigned to your child, it may NOT show up on this calendar – check the “Student” calendar after entering the student’s ID number (see below).
- When you enter your child’s ID NUMBER (provided by your Director) as a **Student Area Password**, another more detailed screen appears with even more options to view your student’s uniform assignments, music assignments, financial records, forms and inventory. Once you have first entered this ID number, you may create your own, unique password by clicking on the “keyhole” (**Change Password**) button.
- Two areas in which you can help the director maintain his/her records:
  - **Update Personal Information** – if the director has allowed it, you may help make changes to your child’s student information page (such as updating phone numbers and email addresses if they change) to help the teacher communicate with you more effectively. Click the **Personal Info** button.
  - **If your program has setup online payments, you can make credit card payments for fees, trips and deposits to your student’s account.** If credit card payment is activated, you will see blue buttons in the four main areas of the financial statement indicating your ability to make online payments.
- You will also see links to enter **Practice Logs**, view **Grades**, and use the **Recording Studio** if the teacher has enabled these options.
- Most importantly, the parent page assists both you and the teacher to communicate with each other. Stay up to date on what’s going on with your student!!!

Student Password:

SIS ID #

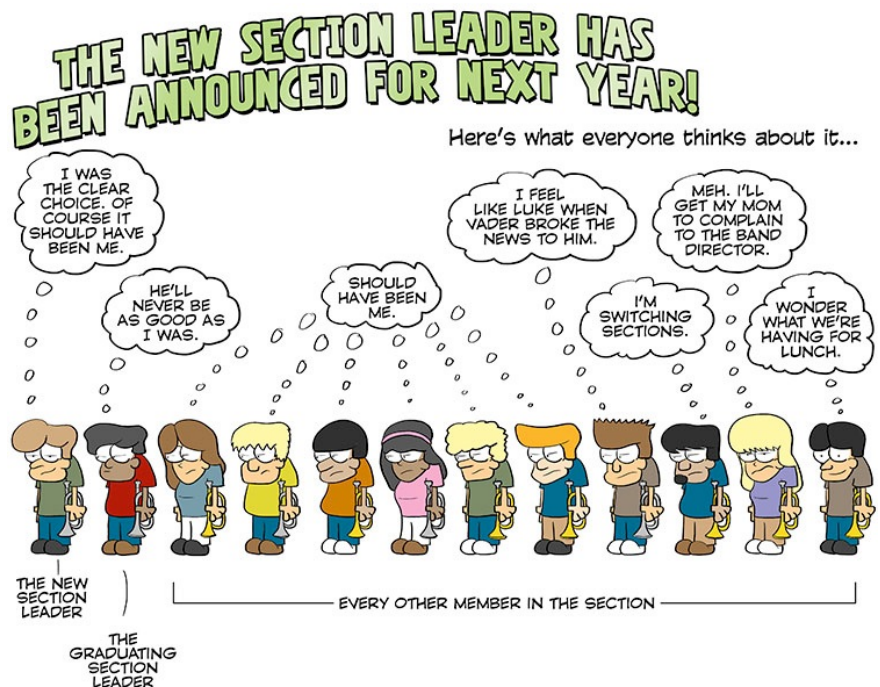
**In order to keep informed and up-to-date please do the following things:**

1. Go to Charms and make sure all your information is up-to-date. Especially e-mail addresses and phone numbers.
2. Text @uintahbands to 23559 and follow the instructions
3. Go to uintahband.wordpress.com and at the bottom of the page sign up for e-mails.
4. Go to facebook.com/uintahband and like the page
5. Search for the uintahbands parent group and join it.
6. follow us on Twitter @uintahband
7. Bookmark the page uintahband.net
8. Sign up for ischoolmusic.org
  - a. To sign up, go to [www.ischoolmusic.org/registration/student/signup](http://www.ischoolmusic.org/registration/student/signup), enter your student code, then follow the instructions.
  - b. Student Code: UHS3
  - c. When prompted, enter your parent(s) name(s) and email address(es) and an account will be created for them. They will then receive an email to complete registration.

I try very hard to make sure that all information needed can be found on the web. This year I will be relying heavily on the Charms system. If you only do one of the steps above make sure it is to update all information in Charms. If you use texts at all make sure to sign up for Celly (That is the 23559 number). I send out group texts for last minute changes and reminders. And as always itineraries, take home forms, etc. will be posted on the wordpress blog. ischoolmusic will be used less this year, but will still be accessible.

Finally: every student needs a Smart Music account. These are free, but a paid subscription offers more benefits to the student. The price is \$40. With the subscription you can use SmartMusic on any computer or device anywhere. And they have an iPad app that is almost the full program. I would highly encourage anyone to get the student subscription. You can sign up on the web at SmartMusic.com. The free account sign up will be done in class.

2013-2014 Calendar for Music



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www.ToneDeafComics.com

## August:

22 MB/PepBand Football  
23 MB Fall Preview @ UHS 7pm

## September:

11&12 Magic Show Fundraiser  
18&19 US Marine President's Own Band  
Visists  
23 MB @ Weber State  
26 Homecoming Game and Parade MB/  
PepBand Football  
27 MB @ Payson  
30 Showtime Uintah Opens

## October:

1-3 Showtime Uintah  
3-4 MB @ Logan Trip  
7 MB @ Herriman  
10-11 MB @ BYU Trip  
15 MB/PepBand Football  
21 MB @ Davis  
22 Band Concert  
24 MB/PepBand Football  
25 MB at Pleasant Grove  
29 MB Fall Review @ UHS 7pm  
30 MB Leaves for St. George  
31 MB @ State (Dixie State)

## November:

1 MB @ Western Regionals (Desert Hills  
HS)  
14 End of 1st Trimester

## December:

17 Christmas Concert  
18 Christmas Concert

## January:

## February:

18 Jazz Concert  
21 SUU Jazz Festival  
25-27 Peaks Jazz Festival

## March:

4 Region Jazz @ Union  
11 JH Concert  
13-21 School Musical  
18 Region Solo and Ensemble @ Juan  
Diego  
26 Band Concert  
27-28 State Jazz

## April:

1 Region Band @ Uintah  
16 Region Choir  
22 Region Orchestra  
25 State Solo and Ensemble

## May:

1-2 State Band  
5-8 Spring Play  
8-9 State Choir  
14 Band Concert  
15-16 State Orchestra  
22 Graduation  
26-29 MB Camp