

7th/8th Grade Band Syllabus

Instructor	Christopher Garcia
School	Luehrs Junior High School
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Course Overview

This year-long course develops instrumental performance skills, music literacy, and ensemble collaboration, culminating in concert and festival performances. Curriculum aligns with TEKS for middle school music.

Required Materials

- Instrument in working condition (Personal or School Instrument)
- Band music
- Pencil for marking music
- Band binder/folder for music storage

Course Objectives

1. Demonstrate proper instrument setup, posture, and tone production.
2. Perform major scales up to four sharps and flats from memory.
3. Sight-read and perform grade 2–3 concert literature in an ensemble.
4. Apply expressive qualities, dynamics, and articulation in performance.
5. Develop personal responsibility through consistent practice and preparation.

Grading Policy	Weight
Daily Participation & Rehearsal Etiquette	20%
Playing Tests & Quizzes	30%
Performances (mandatory)	30%
Written Assignments & Practice Logs	20%
<u>LATE POLICY</u>	1 day late = 80 2 days late = 70 3 days late = 60 4 days late = 50 5+ days late = 0

Classroom Expectations

1. Be prepared daily with instruments and materials.
2. Follow all school and band classroom rules.
3. Respect director, peers, and equipment.
4. Participate actively and give your best effort.
5. Only water is allowed in the band room.

Practice Expectations

- 20–30 minutes per day, 5 days per week
- Weekly practice logs submitted for accountability
- Include warm-ups, scales, assignments, and sight-reading

Units	Focus
Weeks 1–9: Foundations of Music TEKS:1B,1C,1E,2A,2B,2C	Tone production, posture, scales, first concert prep
Weeks 10–18: Musicianship & Technique TEKS:2D,3A,3B,4A,5B,5C	Expanded scales, dynamics, sectionals, winter concert
Weeks 19–27: Concert Preparation & Evaluation TEKS:2E, 3C, 3D, 4A, 5A	UIL prep, phrasing, expressive performance
Weeks 28–36: Performance & Expression TEKS:3E, 3F, 3G, 5A, 5E	Final concert, sectionals, reflection

Performance Calendar

October: Pep Rallies/Football Games
December: Winter Concert
March/April: UIL Concert & Sight-Reading
May: End-of-Year Concert

Eligibility Requirements (UIL)

- Maintain a 70 or higher in all classes to perform
- Eligibility checked at each grading period per UIL rules
- Ineligible students may rehearse but not perform

Beginner Band Syllabus

Instructor	Christopher Garcia
School	Luehrs Junior High School
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Course Overview

This year-long beginner band course introduces students to the fundamentals of instrumental music performance. Students will learn proper instrument care, posture, tone production, rhythm, and basic music reading skills. By the end of the year, students will perform in ensemble settings at concerts and school events. Curriculum aligns with TEKS for middle school beginner music.

Required Materials

- Instrument in working condition
(Personal or School Instrument)
- Beginner Band Book
(Tradition of Excellence Book 1)
- Pencil for marking music
- Band binder/folder for music storage

Course Objectives

1. Demonstrate proper instrument setup, posture, and tone production.
2. Perform major scales up to four sharps and flats from memory.
3. Sight-read and perform grade 2–3 concert literature in an ensemble.
4. Apply expressive qualities, dynamics, and articulation in performance.
5. Develop personal responsibility through consistent practice and preparation

Grading Policy	Weight
Daily Participation & Rehearsal Etiquette	20%
Playing Tests & Quizzes	30%
Performances (mandatory)	30%
Written Assignments & Practice Logs	20%
<u>LATE POLICY</u>	1 day late = 80 2 days late = 70 3 days late = 60 4 days late = 50 5+ days late = 0

Classroom Expectations

1. Be prepared daily with instruments and materials.
2. Follow all school and band classroom rules.
3. Respect director, peers, and equipment.
4. Participate actively and give your best effort.
5. Only water is allowed in the band room.

Practice Expectations

- 20–30 minutes per day, 5 days per week
- Weekly practice logs submitted for accountability
- Include warm-ups, scales, assignments, and sight-reading

Units	Focus
Weeks 1–9: Foundations of Music TEKS:1B,1C,1E,2A,2B,2C	Instrument introduction and care, posture, hand position, breathing, reading basic rhythms and pitches
Weeks 10–18: Building Technique TEKS:2D,3A,3B,4A,5B,5C	Tone production, articulation, scales, simple melodies, ensemble rehearsal procedures
Weeks 19–27: Ensemble Performance TEKS:2E, 3C, 3D, 4A, 5A	Balance and blend, concert repertoire preparation, performance etiquette
Weeks 28–36: Culmination & Public Performance TEKS:3E, 3F, 3G, 5A, 5E	Refining full concert pieces, stage presence, final performances, reflection, goal setting

Performance Calendar
December: Winter Concert
May: End-of-Year Concert

