SAN DIEGO STATE UNIVERSITY
PEP AND VARSITY BANDS

Syllabus / Grading and Attendance Policy

Please read carefully! Your grade may (will) depend on it!

Semester grades are based entirely upon engagement and class participation. Because any “band” is a group activity, full participation from each individual at every rehearsal and performance is crucial to the success of the group. A perfect attendance record is the directors’ goal for every member of the University Band program. However, emergencies do arise and the grading policy allows for unforeseen occurrences. Funerals, family emergencies, illnesses, and other emergencies are accounted for on an individual basis. Work conflicts, travel arrangements, outside class activities, and scheduled medical appointments are NOT excusable. You must participate in order to earn the grade!

All students begin the semester with ZERO points, or a grade of ‘A’. As tardies and absences accumulate, they are converted into points, which add up to a letter grade. The following explains the point system regarding tardies, absences, emergencies, and make-ups. Failure to meet minimum passing standards in band will jeopardize your position in the band(s), both this semester and beyond. Also be aware that this is a two-semester course; we have performances over the winter break. You are responsible for getting a director-approved sub. if you are going to miss any winter break performances.

- Absence -3 points
- Tardy1 -1 point
- Leaving Rehearsal Early -1 point
- No Instrument -1 point
- No Music -1 point
- Inappropriate Rehearsal Behavior -1 point
- Excused Absence2 -2 points
- Unexcused Performance Absence3 -14 points
- Emergency Performance Absence3 -0 points
- Wind Symphony Concert Attendance4 +3 points
- Volunteer Band Office Work5 +1 point (per half hour – 6 points max)

1. A student is considered tardy if they are not prepared to rehearse or perform at the given down-beat time.
2. An excused absence is any absence from a rehearsal or performance, submitted in writing to the director, approved by the director prior to the rehearsal or performance. Additionally, a director-approved sub must be obtained by the student for both rehearsals and performances.
3. This must be a serious and verifiable event. The student must notify the director immediately following the date in question, and must bring documentation if possible. Any student with more than one Emergency Performance Absence for one semester will receive an Incomplete grade.
4. Not available for Wind Symphony members. Students must provide signed, dated programs to receive points.
5. Students can raise grade a maximum of one letter (e.g. from a C to a B, a B- to and A-, etc. Highest raise is to an A-)

GRADING SCALE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>A</th>
<th>0 TO -3 POINTS</th>
<th>B</th>
<th>-11 TO -12 POINTS</th>
<th>D+</th>
<th>-19 TO -20 POINTS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A-</td>
<td>-4 TO -6 POINTS</td>
<td>C+</td>
<td>-13 TO -14 POINTS</td>
<td>D-</td>
<td>-21 TO -22 POINTS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B+</td>
<td>-7 TO -8 POINTS</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>-15 TO -16 POINTS</td>
<td>D-</td>
<td>-23 TO -24 POINTS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>-9 TO -10 POINTS</td>
<td>C-</td>
<td>-17 TO -18 POINTS</td>
<td>F</td>
<td>-25 POINTS OR MORE</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Attendance is taken at the beginning of a rehearsal or performance. Anyone not in their seat, with their instrument, ready to play will be marked absent. If you show up after the downbeat, it is your responsibility to check in with the director to have the absence changed to a tardy. This is very important. If you do not check in with the director, the grade will go in the book as an absence.

Students will be able to read, rehearse, and perform appropriate music literature for their ability level and ensemble instrumentation. Students will be able to perform in public an amount of music that is commensurate with their performance ability and the level of their musical development. Students will demonstrate an increase in focus, concentration, and self-discipline through physical and mental readiness.

The SDSU Bands policy on alcohol and drugs is consistent with the University and State guidelines; additionally, no substances are to be consumed while in “uniform”, or in the 8 hours prior to a rehearsal or performance. Period. Any one found under the influence of drugs or alcohol is subject to lifetime dismissal from all University Bands and possible expulsion from the University.