



Liberty Middle School

281 Dock Murphy Drive, Madison, Alabama 35758

Symphonic Band

Mrs. Sims and Mr. Curtis

Teacher Contact Information	Email: ksims@madisoncity.k12.al.us wecurtis@madisoncity.k12.al.us Classroom Phone: 256-430-0001 ext. 83500 (Sims), or ext. 83501 (Curtis)
Classroom Digital Platforms	Band Webpage Link: https://www.madisoncity.k12.al.us/domain/562 Schoology Link: https://madisoncity.schoology.com/home CHARMS platform Link: https://www.charmsoffice.com/
Textbook Information	Tuned In, A Comprehensive Approach to Band Intonation, arr. Balmages/Herring Woodwind/Brass: Rubank Advanced Method Volume I, Gower and Voxman Percussion: Intermediate Snare Drum Studies, Mitchell Peters
Course Description	This course is designed for students that already know how to play an instrument. An audition is required. Instruments must be provided by each student. Students in this band continue to develop and refine basic individual and ensemble skills as well as begin to learn more advanced concepts and skills. Students in Symphonic Bands are eligible for the (optional) Spring Band trip. Mandatory graded performances include (but are not limited to) three evening concerts per year, all Pep Band performances, and Music Performance Assessment for a major portion of their grade. All students in the Symphonic Band are required to audition for District 1 Honor Band/ Alabama All-State Band.
Course Objectives	Students in the Symphonic Band will produce a consistent characteristic tone, and exhibit good intonation alone or within the ensemble. Students will demonstrate rhythmic proficiency up to sixteenth notes and sixteenth rests in both simple and compound meters. Students will develop awareness and understanding of ensemble playing; with consideration for balance, blend, style, and expression. Students will exhibit proper musical and mechanical fundamentals on their instruments. Students are expected to master their assigned musical selections at performance level accuracy.
Course Outline	Overarching Objective: Advanced Music Reading and Instrument Fundamentals Unit 1: Pep Band Music Preparation (Pep Band Performances count as test grade) Unit 2: Holiday Music Preparation (Assessments - Halloween, Veterans, and Winter Concerts) Unit 3: All-State Audition Music Preparation (Assessments - All-State Audition) Unit 4: State MPA Music Preparation (Assessments - Dessert Concert and MPA Performance) Unit 5: Spring Concert Music Preparation (Final Assessment - Spring Concert)
Classroom Expectations	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Be seated and ready for class when the bell rings. Students tardy to class will receive a detention per LMS policy. 2. Students must have all required equipment for every rehearsal: instrument, book, music, pencil, instrument accessories (ie. reeds, mouthpiece, neck strap, sticks/mallets, etc). 3. Respect your directors, your classmates, and yourself. 4. Listen and follow directions. 5. Do not touch other student's instruments or equipment. Do not play other student's instruments. Do not trade instruments. 6. Follow all school rules. 7. There is no eating or drinking (except water) in the band room. Gum is never allowed during class time. 8. Only band students are allowed to enter the band room. 9. The teacher dismisses the class, not the bell.

<p>Progressive Discipline (LMS Policy)</p>	<p>Step 1: Verbal warning Step 2: Student/teacher conference Step 3: Parent contact/conference Step 4: Detention and a parent contact Step 5: Office referral</p>
<p>Grading Policy (MCS Policy)</p>	<p>60% = Assessments (Playing Tests, Required Performances) 40% = Daily Grades (Music Checks, Quizzes, Homework) 70% = High School Credit Assessments 30% = High School Daily Grades</p>
<p>Late Work Policy</p>	<p>A student may make up missed assignments; however, they will lose points for work turned in late:</p> <p>Work that is <u>less</u> than 1 week past due (minus 10 points) Work that is <u>more</u> than 1 week past due (minus 20 points) Work may NOT be submitted after the grading period ends</p>
<p>Make-up Work/Test Policy</p>	<p>Students with excused absences will be allowed to make-up all work within 1 week of returning to school without being penalized. It is the student's responsibility to ask for make-up work. Students can consult with a classmate or teacher for help. Work that is not made up will become a zero (including quizzes/tests).</p> <p>Please see the <i>LMS Band Handbook</i> for policies pertaining to missed playing assignments or missed performances due to absences.</p> <p>Students will not be allowed to make up work for unexcused absences as per Madison City Schools policy. Work missed in these instances will result in a zero.</p>
<p>Materials & Supplies</p>	<p>Tuned In, A Comprehensive Approach to Band Intonation (specific to each instrument) Assigned All-State Audition book for your instrument (listed in "Textbook" section above) Instrument and required instrument accessories (i.e. reeds, neck straps, valve oil, slide grease, etc.) Flip folder and lyre (specific to each instrument) Appropriate instrument cleaning supplies (varies by instrument) Pencils Folding stand (recommended for at home practice - not required for class)</p>
<p>Homework</p>	<p>Students are encouraged to practice 15-20 minutes each day. During weeks without a mandatory performance, students may be assigned a recorded (video) playing excerpt to be submitted on Schoology.</p>
<p>Band Booster Organization</p>	<p>The LMS Band Boosters is a parent organization which supports the band by providing fundraising, chaperoning, and logistical assistance. The Boosters meet once each 9-weeks in the LMS Band room. Parents of students in all ensembles are encouraged to attend. The first meeting of the LMS Band Boosters will take place on Aug. 28 at 6:30pm. All other meeting dates can be found in the LMS Band yearly calendar of events.</p>
<p>Parent & Student Acknowledgment Form</p>	<p>Please read the <i>LMS Band Handbook</i> which is available on CHARMS, the Liberty Middle School Band website, and Mrs. Sims' and Mr. Curtis's teacher pages on the LMS website. Please also print and sign the <i>Parent and Student Acknowledgement Form</i> on the Liberty Middle School Band website.</p> <p>By signing the Signature Page, the student and parent acknowledge understanding and agreement of the policies, procedures, and expectations of the Liberty Middle School Band program outlined in the Band Handbook and Band Syllabus.</p>

This syllabus is subject to change.