

RMS Course Syllabus 2009/2010

Course Title: RMS Band - 7th grade

Instructor Contact Information: Ext. 3524, www.ronank12.edu,

Textbooks and Other Materials: Standard of Excellence Book 2 (Blue), pencil, 3 ring binder, instrument, a positive attitude and good work ethic. There is an instrument show Fall where students can purchase instruments, books, cleaning supplies, and reeds. Smart Music is also used to evaluate student progress.

Course Description: 7th grade RMS Band is the second year of band study.

Objectives: Students will continue to learn more advanced musical concepts and skills. They will play out of method books but also learn to play band arrangements. They will continue to work on ensemble playing and attend concerts, including the JH Band Festival in April. Students will be responsible for attending all concerts. Students will play a variety of styles of music: overtures, marches, pop, jazz, etc.

Course Content: Students will:

Review previously learned concepts, be introduced to the following keys; g minor, Ab Major, c minor, C major, and chromatic

Learn to play in a variety of time signatures including; cut time, 3/8, 6/8,

Learn advanced rhythms including; 16th note patterns and triplets

Learn about musical forms, styles, terms, multi-cultural and historical impacts on music, and composers

Evaluation (Grading Scale, Grading Procedures & Requirements):

GRADING POLICY: Band students are offered the opportunity to learn music through both classroom work and as a member of a performing ensemble, and are evaluated on their achievement in the Band Program. Grades are “performance” based, meaning we will strive for the highest level of performance in all endeavors. Everyone will have the opportunity for personal musical growth and a rewarding ensemble experience. The goal is to have a group of student musicians achieve their personal best together. There are several components to the grade. Quality, effort, practice, participation, performance, and attendance all are important considerations in determining a student’s grade.

1. Class Work / Attendance / Daily Grade 0 – 10 points

Students have the opportunity to demonstrate their musical growth on a daily basis This grade may include use of daily preparation, class participation, class assignments, and general Band “citizenship”. Any behavior that distracts from the instructional goals may result in a lowered Daily Grade. See classroom policies and student handbook.

2. Weekly practice time 0 – 10 points

Students are expected to practice outside of class 90 - 100 minutes for an A, 80 – 89 for a B, etc. Weekly practice sheets will be turned in. Practice sheets need to be turned in promptly. Students involved in extra-curricular activities may reduce practice time by 50%. Students may do extra practice time for bonus points.

3. Performances

50 points

Performances / Concerts are essential components of this course, and are often considered mid-term or final exams. Your grade is based on your attendance, quality of your performance, and concert etiquette. If you are going to miss a performance, you must notify the teacher before absence, if possible. 676-3390 Ext. 3524 alicia.lipscomb@ronank12.edu A makeup assignment will be expected with-in 2 days of the students return. See make assignments below for what is required.

4. Quizzes and tests

5-50 points

Performance exams and written exams will be given on occasion to assess student performance skills and knowledge

97-100	A+	= Superb Performance Level, does work well beyond requirement.
94-96	A	= PERFORMANCE LEVEL
90-93	A-	= Slightly below Performance Level, one or two daily grade issues every once and awhile
87-89	B+	= Slightly further below Performance Level, one or two daily grade issues occurring more often
84-86	B	= Below Performance Level, more practicing needed, a more serious approach to rehearsal
80-83	B-	= Below Performance Level, more practicing needed, a more serious approach to rehearsal
77-79	C+	= Further below Performance Level, considerable practice is needed, student is not striving to excel in band
74-76	C	= Barely Acceptable, diligent practice is required, student needs to work harder
70-73	C-	= Barely Acceptable, diligent practice is required, better effort needed, instructor may call for meeting
67-69	D+	=Work is not acceptable, diligent practice required, effort required
64-66	D	=Work is not acceptable, drastic changes necessary
60-63	D-	=Work is not acceptable, drastic changes necessary
0-59	F	=Work is not acceptable, and has broken school or band rules

Procedures for Absences (Make-Up Work):

- Any written work that is missed because of a verified absence must be done within two days of that absence.
- Rehearsal time does not have to be made-up unless it is for an absence of longer than 3 days, then the student needs to turn in 50 minutes of practice.
- If a student misses a performance they can either turn in a taping of them playing the songs or a two page report on a composer, performer, or musical period. This paper must be in their own words. Get assignment from Mrs. Lipscomb.

Class Rules and Procedures:

1. Follow directions the first time and work hard.
2. Be set-up (instrument, music and pencil) 5 minutes into class.
3. NO drinks or food during class.

4. Put instruments and music in their appropriate places
5. Listen, follow cut-offs and preps, be prepared to become a good musician.

CONSEQUENCES

1. Prompt
2. Refocus
3. Call to parent
4. Meet with principal and possible removal from class

I will try to keep parents informed of any continuous problems as well as student success stories.

Additional Requirements and Information:

CONCERT DATES:

November 4	All – Band Fall Concert
December 15	Christmas Concert
February 16	MS Concert
March 23	HS Band Concert
April 9	Jazz Band Dinner Dance (8 th grade band)
April 20	MS Concert
June 1	Spring Recital – Lunch time Concert

*all concerts in Ronan will be held in the Events Center at 7:00 unless you are advised differently.

**Students will wear black pants or a skirt with a white shirt for concerts unless you are advised differently. If this is a problem let me know we have black pants at school.

***If your student will not be able to make it to a concert please follow call Mrs. Lipscomb listed above.

PARENT'S GUIDE TO A SUCCESSFUL BAND STUDENT

Success in any venture comes from 95% drive and effort and 5% talent and inspiration. It also comes from knowing what to do, how to do it and the willingness to work over a long period of time to get the job done well. With this in mind, I hope you will consider the following suggestions that will guide you helping your child be a successful instrumental student.

1. When getting an instrument for your child, please make sure it is in good working order. I can check it or you can take it to a qualified technician. I have phone numbers available.
2. Encourage daily practice at home (20 minutes or more daily) 100 minutes per week.
 - A. Start practice with long sustained notes, 4 counts at first then 6, next 8, etc. Students can use new notes or notes they already know. Strive for clear, straight, easy blowing sound.

- B. Repeated notes can be played next. Play all the notes or use scales.
 - C. Practice exercises in the book for next class, especially problem measures and test exercises.
 - D. If possible, practice at the same time daily, without distractions (TV, radio, etc.)
 - E. Write number of minutes practiced on the weekly practice card your child will have each week. Exercises to work on will be notated with the date assigned.
3. I will teach your child how to care for his or her instrument properly.
 4. If your child is playing an instrument that needs reeds, he/she will need at least 3 good reeds at all times, cork grease, and a swab to clean saliva and moisture from the horn. Students can \$10.00 for a reed card to get reeds as they are needed. Reed prices vary. These supplies can be purchase at music stores. I will give you a list.
 5. If your child plays a brass instrument he/she will need valve oil, tuning slide oil, a cleaning brush, and a soft cloth. Again, these supplies can be bought at a music store.
 6. For your protection keep the make and serial # of your instrument at home. Instruments will be kept in lockers in the band room. I have locks available for students to checkout. I would rather they use my locks because I have all the combinations when they forget.
 7. Please keep the following in mind: *Progress comes with consistent effort. Words of praise always help. A firm hand can sometimes do wonders, show he/she you care. Don't give up on your child and he/she won't. The harder your child works the greater sense of accomplishment he/she will feel.*

If your child needs a reed to be able to play, I will supply one at a charge. It is the child's responsibility to have all supplies needed for class. All charges need to be paid at the end of each quarter. If there are circumstances that make it impossible to pay please contact me. In the past I have taken instruments to the repair shop and students paid for their repairs through the school. This will no longer be an option. Students will be responsible for their own repairs. There is a possibility that the instruments can be picked up at the school. If your child has an outstanding band charge, he/she will not be allowed to go only any band trips until the bill is taken care of.

Music Shops in our area:

Morgenroth's Music Center
 1105 Sussex
 Missoula, MT
 1-800-462-0013
 *pick-up available

J-Mar Music
 525 Central Ave
 Great Falls, MT
 1-800-749-1985
 *pick-up available

Eckroth Music
 2855 N. 19th
 Bozeman, MT
 1-800-580-8007
 *comes quite often to our school
 ½ price reed sale beginning of the year.

If you have any questions about band this year, how I grade, my expectations or anything else please contact me.

The band room is located by the main entrance to the MS.

My phone numbers in the band room is 676 – 3390 ext. 3524 or call me at home 644 – 2806.

Don't forget to stop by during PTC.

I have read the MS Band syllabus including the Practice Policy, Parent's Guide and Rules, Grades and Expectations.

Parent's Signature

Student Signature

Date