



Indiana Christian Academy Band Syllabus

2011-2012

Dear Band Family,

I hope you are as thrilled as I am about the exciting and challenging year ahead for the ICA Band Program!

The Lord has done some amazing things in our band program over the past 15 years. We've seen an unfortunate decline in the number of instrumentalists, but I believe that is all about to change! With my vision for the program, with your excitement as members, and through the Lord's help, the ICA Band Program is going to reach some great new heights! Let's do it together!

I have posted this syllabus on the school's web page for your convenience should you or your parents need to consult it throughout the year. That web address is www.indianchristianacademy.org. If you have a question concerning something that is not here, please feel free to call me at school (643-7884 ext. 215), at home (810-3478) or you may e-mail me at sherrydubois.ica@gmail.com. Communication is key!

In order to justify giving you as students credit for your involvement in the music program and in order to provide accountability and consistent direction, we'll be operating on a Points System for the music program again this year. This is detailed in the pages to come and will be further discussed in choir, band, and handbells. This system will be a bit different than in years past, but we believe you'll appreciate that difference! We're truly looking forward to a great year of music!

Your parents should really read through this as well. I ask you to read this syllabus with them and sign the portion that indicates both you and they have done so. Detach that section and return it to me by Tuesday, August 30 (one per family).

Sincerely,

Miss Sherry DuBois
Indiana Christian Academy
Director of Music

2011 Secondary Band Calendar 2012

Aug. 24	GBC Orchestra Rehearsals Begin (Music Hall)	6:30 p. m.
Aug. 30*	Syllabus must be signed and returned to Miss DuBois	
Sep. 26*	Article 1 Due	
Oct. 31*	Article 2 Due	
Nov. 4*	Grandparents' Day concert (GBC Auditorium)	8:30 a.m.
Nov. 28*	Article 3 Due	
Dec. 13*	ICA Christmas program	6:30 p.m.
Jan. 9-10	Junior and Senior High Academic Meet Try-outs	TBA
Jan. 30*	Article 4 Due	
Feb. 27*	Article 5 Due	
Mar. 16*	Sr. High Academic Meet (South Bend)	TBA
April 9-12	AACS - Bob Jones University	
April 24*	ICA Spring Concert	7:00 p.m.
April 27*	Junior High Academic Meet (Colonial)	TBA
May 7*	Article 6 Due	
May 25*	ICA Year-End Awards Ceremony.....	.8:30 a.m.

*These events are required for all band members (where applicable).
Grades will be docked and/or demerits given for failure to meet these requirements.

ATTENDANCE

Attendance to all scheduled events is crucial. The group's morale and overall performance suffers when you are either late to or absent from rehearsals or performances. Your participation in the group mandates your attendance to the required events. Any exceptions to this will be made on an individual basis, but please try to plan vacations and weekends away so that each student will be able to fulfill responsibilities to the group.

AWARDS

John Philip Sousa Band Award –This annual award recognizes superior musicianship, leadership, dependability, loyalty, cooperation, and testimony. It is awarded to the most deserving student in the 9th-12th grades.

Letter - Any student can letter in band as many as four times, once each of his or her high school years, by the accumulation of 1,600 points, as well as by displaying the qualities of musicianship, dependability, loyalty and cooperation, and maintaining a good testimony.

COSTS

Each student must have an "I Recommend" book which will be used daily for warm-up exercises. These books presently cost \$6.95 per book. These can be purchased individually, or the cost can be applied to your school bill. Reeds, oils, creams, and other accessories may be purchased in the bookstore at a discounted rate or through Miss DuBois.

DRESS

For every performance, the dress code will be as follows:

Ladies:

Black hose and black dress shoes

Men:

Black dress pants and belt

Black dress shoes and socks

White dress shirt

White t-shirt

The students will be asked to purchase or rent a necktie (guys) or an outfit (girls) that is chosen for the entire group. **Please have these outfits clean and pressed as needed, and the shoes polished for every concert.** The cost for these outfits will be applied to your school bill unless you contact the school office to make different arrangements.

Hair standards should also be met by young men before all performances. Young ladies should avoid heavy make-up and should not wear large earrings, large rings, large bracelets, large hair accessories, or colored necklaces. (Diamond-looking, clear, gold, or silver is acceptable, provided it is small and does not draw attention to the wearer.) Also, young ladies are requested to pull hair away from the face as much as possible. We want to see your lovely eyes!

INSTRUMENT RENTAL AND REPAIR

A student who uses an ICA-owned instrument will need to pay a \$10 *per month* rental fee. This fee will be used for any needed repair on these instruments. Any accessories (i.e. reeds, oil, cream, etc.) will still be the student's responsibility. Each payment will be due by the first of each month and will be handled through the office. Also, students and families can rent-to-own through Muncie Music, who also handle our instrument repair. Please contact Miss DuBois for details!

PASSES

If a student wishes to practice during a study hall, he or she must obtain a pass before the day he/she wishes to practice. Please follow the school's study hall regulations when obtaining any pass.

PRIVATE LESSONS

Private lessons are available on a weekly basis from trusted, talented local area teachers. These teachers come to ICA and make themselves available for 30 minutes per student for private or group lessons. PRIVATE LESSONS ARE HIGHLY RECOMMENDED FOR ALL BAND STUDENTS! There are many incentives for students to take lessons, but the most important reason is so they can master their instruments and use the talents the Lord has given them! Lessons occur during the school day, and each student will receive approximately 28 lessons per year at a low rate of \$10 per lesson. Group lessons are also a great way to save a little money on lessons, so please, consider helping our program and your student by enrolling him or her in private or group lessons! Please sign up for these lessons TODAY, if you have not already done so.

REHEARSAL PROCEDURES

Students must be to our weekly rehearsals ***on time!*** Each person should tune before finding his/her place. Most rehearsals will begin with the “I Recommend” books. The order of rehearsal will usually be posted before each rehearsal. Music should be placed in that order on the stand immediately. Announcements will also be posted. Each student is responsible for reading these.

Music is needed for each rehearsal. If a student takes the folder home to practice, but fails to come to school the following day of rehearsal, he or she is still responsible to get the folder back to school if sharing that particular folder. Failure to do so will result in points being subtracted from his/her grade.

GRADING

Grades are based on four areas: practice, points, articles, playing exams, and effort. The most important part of the grade is practicing. If a student accumulates enough points for an A, but cannot play the band music, he/she will not receive an A. Practicing is such an important part of progress! Points are also given for practicing; the breakdown is listed below. The playing exams will be given somewhere near the end of first semester. Each student must read an article from “The Instrumentalist” magazine every month. Please consult the band calendar located in the music hall for due dates and assignments. After reading an article, a report, located in my office must be filled out. Each report will be graded on effort, content, and whether or not it was turned in on time. While a student may work ahead, reports turned in late will only receive partial credit and only partial points. Extra articles may be read for extra points, as well.

Points are tallied quarterly as follows: A=400 points, A-=350 pts, B+=300 pts, B=250 pts, B-=200 pts, C+=150 pts, C=100 pts, D+=75 pts, D=50 pts, D-=fewer than 50 pts, F=0 pts.

BAND POINT SYSTEM

A. Positive points

1. Take private lesson.....35 points per lesson
2. Listen to a band, orchestra, or instrumental recording, classical radio or watch a TV program.
 - No soundtracks from R or PG-13 movies will be accepted without first checking with Miss DuBois
 - Please turn in the following information: title and performers
 - Listening must be at least ½ hour in length.....15 points per event
3. Weekly practice: 2.5 hours (A).....35 points
 - 2 hours (A-).....30 points
 - 1.5 hours (B).....25 points
 - 1 hour (C).....20 points
 - .5 hour (D).....10 points

*****Practice time is cut in half for percussion students and those taking more than one instrument*****

*****1/2 of rehearsal time each day in school counts as practice time*****

4. Preparing an outside report.....50 points or more
5. Read articles from music periodical or chapter from music book....30 points or more
6. Attend an approved concert (bring in a program).....50 points
7. Play in church orchestra (congregational acc.).....20 points per service
8. Play in an ensemble or orchestra in public/church.....40 points
9. Play a solo in public/church.....50 points
10. Compete in any competition—solo/ensemble.....75/50 points

- 11. Help to the conductor.....20 points
 --*specific date and function must be listed on point sheet for credit!*
 - 12. Accompany a solo or a group musical performance.....25 points
- B. Penalty points
- 1. Absence from required performance -100 points
 - 2. Unexcused absence from rehearsal/class* -50 points
 - 3. Unexcused tardy to rehearsal/class* -15 points
 - 4. Mistreating any instrument/improper storage* -25 points
 - 5. Forgetting instrument or music for rehearsal -35 points
 - 6. Abuse of music* -25 points
 - 7. Dress code violation at concerts* -35 points

****Penalty points will also carry a demerit penalty as stated in the ICA handbook.***

WRAPPING THINGS UP

I know that learning to play an instrument can be costly, taxing, and difficult. But, having learned to play several myself, I know for certain that there are few things more rewarding in life than making beautiful music. I appreciate the sacrifice each parent and student (and teacher!) will make in our journey together in the coming year (and hopefully years to come!). I ask for your best—and plan to deliver nothing less myself! I ask you students to be dedicated to this program—just as I am dedicated to serving you. Together we can not only make beautiful music, but we can bring glory to the One Who created us and that music. And we can grow, learn, and experience so many wonderful things! It’s worth our time, our talents, and our efforts—let’s make this year the best yet!

Please sign and detach, returning signed portion to Miss DuBois by Tuesday, August 30th.

I have read and understood the rules and regulations set forth in the syllabus. I also understand the corrective action that may occur as a result of not following the rules and regulations contained herein.

 (Student’s Signature)

 (Parent/Guardian Signature)