

UT Martin

BAND

AVIATORS

INFORMATIONAL HANDBOOK

Director:
Dr. Bill Waterman

Aviators Athletic Band Faculty & Staff

Dr. Bill Waterman Director of Athletic Bands

Music Department Faculty & Staff (continued)

Dr. Julie Hill	Department Chair/Director of Percussion Studies
Mrs. Sherry Adams	Administrative Assistant
Mrs. Tammy Owensby	Administrative Assistant
Dr. Mark Simmons	Director of Choral Activities
Dr. Roberto Mancusi	Voice
Dr. Amy Yeung	Voice
Dr. Elaine Harriss	Piano
Dr. Chan Mi Jean	Collaborative Piano
Dr. John Oelrich	Director of Bands
Dr. Michael Mathenia	Music Theory
Dr. Angela Ammerman	Music Education
Mr. Charles Lews	Flute
Dr. Liz Aleksander	Clarinet
Dr. Doug Owens	Saxophone/Double Reeds
Dr. Kurt Gorman	Trumpet/Jazz Band
Dr. Jessie Thoman	French Horn
Dr. Joseph Frye	Trombone
Dr. Shane Jones	Percussion
Mr. Micah Barnes	Bass/Recording Engineering

Student Leadership

CAPTAINS

Brass Captain
Woodwind Captain
Percussion Captain

Cheyenne McMullen
Anna Wildes
Drew Hendron

ADMINISTRATIVE

Librarian Matt Scott

Equipment Alyssa Burrous
Logan Priestley
Georgia Emmons
Mary Emmons

Activities

Lockers Anna Wildes
Joe Ahne

SQUAD LEADERS

Woodwind

Matthew Wilson
Nate Matthews
Georgia Emmons
Jordan Hubbard
Alyssa Burrous
Anthony Whitaker

High Brass

Low Brass

WELCOME TO THE AVIATORS ATHLETIC BAND!

THE ROLE OF THE ATHLETIC BAND

The Aviators Athletic Band provides students with the opportunity to continue making music beyond high school. We feel that it is important to provide students with a musically stimulating activity that will continue to enhance their value of the art of music. Simultaneously, the Aviators Athletic Band will strive to serve the Department of Music, the University, the Community, the Athletic Department, and the Student Body through the highest level of performance and energy.

EXPECTATIONS & CONDUCT

Each member of the Aviators Athletic Band is responsible for his or her behavior in how they carry themselves through all rehearsals and performances. Some of the qualities include:

- **Respect:** Yourself, each other, directors and staff, our facilities and instruments, visiting teams and bands. Treat others as you would like to be treated.
- **Responsibility:** as part of a team, each member of our ensembles have the obligation to follow through on commitments
- **Attitude & Work Ethic:** At all times, maintain a positive attitude and give your best effort – not only in band. Work your hardest at all times and expect as much of yourself as the ensemble does. Come to rehearsals ready to work hard with a constructive approach – nothing worthwhile is easy to achieve!
- **Professionalism:** Approach everything you do with your absolute best effort and pride in an excellent outcome
- **Team:** We are a team; except on our team, no one sits the bench. Always be a good ensemble member – be on time, be prepared, be polite, work hard, be considerate and do what needs to be done without being asked. These are life skills, folks – these will get you a job.
- **Efficiency:** The productive use of energy and resources without wasted energy.
- **Performance:** The presentation of the Aviators Athletic Band shows and stands tunes to the best of the students' ability
- **Class:** All verbal and non-verbal behaviors are representative of the respect and professionalism we want to emulate; this is essentially a combination of all positive behaviors listed above. When someone speaks of the AAB, class should be one of the adjectives.

FACILITIES

We will be rehearsing at three main locations during the course of the semester:

1. Band Rehearsal Hall, Fine Arts Building
2. Practice Fields (beside Hardy Graham Stadium)
3. Hardy Graham Stadium (game days and some rehearsals)

The Fine Arts Building is an excellent facility and all people who use this building must assume personal responsibility for keeping it looking good. This includes, but is not limited to:

1. Be responsible for your own belongings and trash!
2. Absolutely no graffiti or vandalism anywhere in the building.
3. No squatters – keep your personal belongings in your room.
4. Advocate – if you witness misuse of the facility, please either speak to the individual(s) or report it to a faculty or staff member or Public Safety.
5. Do not tape or tack flyers, advertisements or any other paper to the walls. The Department of Music Office must approve all announcements before being posted.

REHEARSAL EQUIPMENT

Each student should come to every rehearsal with the following items:

- Instrument/Guard Equipment
- Music, flip folder, lyre
- Pencil
- Proper Footwear - tennis shoes only - please no flip flops or sandals or bare feet
- Water bottle and/or cooler, etc.

PERFORMANCES

FOOTBALL GAMES

The Aviators Athletic Band performs three shows at every home game: the Pregame Show, Halftime Show and Stands Show. Each of these components are equally important and are integral to a successful athletic band performance. The band does not typically travel to away games.

PARADES

The Aviators Athletic Band performs at various parades throughout the season: The Soybean Festival Parade (early September), UTM Homecoming Parade (late Sept to mid October), and the Veterans Parade (early to mid November). These performances are great opportunities to give back to the city of Martin and to connect with an audience we rarely reach. For these reasons, it is imperative that these performances are first rate.

EXHIBITIONS

On occasion, the Aviators Athletic Band performs at various exhibitions throughout the season. Typically, the band includes 2-3 of these within their schedule including their own marching contest, *The West Tennessee Marching Championships*. The schedule for these are available later and may not be released until after school starts.

ATTENDANCE

The purpose of this policy is to ensure that all students are present for the entirety of all rehearsals and performances and will be strictly adhered to by the director.

In the event of an unavoidable tardy, please contact Dr. Waterman and your student leader at least one hour prior to class. Anyone missing at the beginning of class will be counted absent. Students arriving late will be considered tardy and must check-in with their student leaders. If you have difficulty arriving to class on time due to a class conflict, please notify your student leader and Dr. Waterman within the first week of classes.

Unexcused absences will result in the lowering of the student's grade. Final decisions regarding excused/unexcused absences are the sole discretion of the director: no exceptions. For more information on attendance grading refer to the course syllabus.

ANY performance absence may warrant failure of the class and possible dismissal from the band.

GRADING

Athletic band grades will be based upon the following:

- Attendance, Preparation, Participation, Responsibility, and Conduct; students should reference the syllabus for the course for specific requirements

CELL PHONES

Cell phones should not be used for personal use during rehearsal. This includes text messaging, Facebook, Snapchat, other applications, or phone calls. If you have an emergency situation that requires you to be accessible by cell phone, you should consult with your captain. Please respect your peers and the Aviators Athletic Band by adhering to this policy.

LOCKERS AND LOCKER ROOM

All lockers are for instrument storage and are the property of the UTM Department of Music. Any personal items left out in the locker room will be confiscated or discarded. Please respect your peers and the UTM Band by disposing of trash. A fee of \$25 will be assessed and posted to Banner for all students using lockers. Students should adhere to the locker rental policy stated in the check-out form.

TRAILER PROTOCOL

Through generous donations and support from the UTM administration, we have access to an equipment trailer. All UTM owned brass, color guard and percussion equipment may be stored on this trailer. If you need to take your instruments or equipment home to practice, you must secure permission from your student leader. Each instrument will have an assigned space in the trailer and leadership will be responsible for enforcing protocol, including storage, retrieval and traffic flow.

INSTRUMENTS

A limited number of instruments are owned by UTM and are available for student use. We encourage the use of personally owned instruments whenever possible. A rental fee of \$25 will be assessed and posted to Banner for all students using UTM instruments.

UTM Instrument Check Out Procedure:

- Instrumental Rental Contracts (IRC) are available online and should be filled out only upon approval from a faculty member for each instrument the student is using (only one fee will be processed per student)
- Students using UTM instruments are responsible for completing the IRC. Any student in possession of or utilizing a UTM instrument without the proper forms on file may be subject to disciplinary action by the university and or prosecution by law enforcement authorities.
- All instruments will be returned in the same condition as issued. Any damage to the instrument will be the responsibility of the party who checked out the instrument
- It is **your** responsibility to make sure the correct serial number is recorded on your instrument check out form. All UTM instruments that are checked out to students must have correct serial numbers on file.
- The student leaders will inspect all instruments at checkout and return.

You are responsible for all damage, loss or theft of any UTM instrument in your possession.

MUSIC

Music is typically posted online in a secure members area that may be accessed over the summer. However, you will be given a music folio that includes all of the year's pre-game, show music, and stand tunes during band camp. These tunes will have an assigned number and will need to be placed in the flip folder in order. This is your course textbook. If you are missing anything, let your student leader know IMMEDIATELY! Student leaders are NOT responsible for providing extra copies of music if yours is lost. As a college student, you are expected to keep up with your music. Should you need additional music, it is your responsibility to procure it prior to the next rehearsal. You are expected to have a pencil and your music at every rehearsal, inside or outside.

UNIFORMS

Uniforms will be ordered or issued at Band Camp according to a pre-determined schedule. You have until the last refitting day to let the Uniform Manager know if there is a problem with your uniform. It is your responsibility to have your pants properly hemmed to the correct length.

We have three main uniforms at UTM:

1. **Standard Uniform:** member shirt, member shorts, member belt, approved band shoes, short black socks, member visor, member sunglasses (if applicable), and flight jacket (if applicable)
2. **Casual Uniform:** dark blue jeans WITHOUT holes/rips, member shirt, member belt, approved band shoes, long black socks, member visor, member sunglasses (if applicable), and flight jacket (if applicable)

It is expected that all band members will appear in proper uniform for all performances, including:

- Hair below the collar is entirely tucked inside the member visor or in appropriate pony tail
- No jewelry is worn (flesh-colored bandage may be used to cover piercings); auxiliary members may wear small silver studs in their ears;
- The Member Shirt is to be worn at all times
- All hooks are hooked
- All zippers are zipped
- **Any part of the uniform is not wrinkled;** (wash them and fold them properly after each performance)
- **Black socks** are worn
- Shoes are laced and in professional condition for each performance without dirt, mud, scuffs (**failure to keep shoes in professional condition may result in the purchase of new shoes as well as the lowering of grades**)
- **NO smoking, use of tobacco products, alcohol, or illegal drugs while in any uniform at any time**

Student leaders will be responsible for checking uniforms before each performance.

Jackets may be removed at the discretion of the Director; however, all students must be wearing the **official member shirt** in order for the entire band to remove the jacket. Uniforms will be collected in the issued uniform bag at a time designated by the Director. Return times will be dependent on post-season schedule. If a member's uniform is not returned at the designated time it will be considered stolen and the proper authorities may be contacted.

SOCIAL MEDIA

You are responsible for anything you post on social media. Members are strongly encouraged to keep any posts regarding the Aviators Athletic Band positive in nature. Your actions, verbal, physical, and electronic, are representative of the entire ensemble and the University. Under no circumstances should students post audio or video recordings of rehearsals or performances of the Aviators Athletic Band without instructor permission.

STADIUM EXPECTATIONS

- You are representing the University of Tennessee at Martin at all times. The performance begins when you put on any part of the uniform. The actions of individuals will inevitably reflect upon the group as a whole; therefore, responsible behavior and proper mental attitude are expected of all members at all times.
- When the UTM Band plays in the stands, all members are expected to stand, participate and perform at the highest level possible. Students should play only when instructed.
- In order for the band to sound its best, students must remain in their assigned sections. If you need to go to the restroom, check out and back in with your student leader. Please have no more than one (1) student missing from the section at any time.
- Cell phones should not be used in the stands (including text messaging)
- Headsets or other electronic equipment are not permitted in the stands
- Public displays of affection are to be limited to holding hands and hugs
- No unauthorized personnel may sit in the band block
- Students are expected to refrain from the use of profanity
- All members are expected to wear the uniform correctly (see above).
- No alcohol or illegal substances should be consumed prior to or during rehearsals or performances. In addition to disciplinary action within our ensemble, including potential removal from band, students who choose to disregard this rule will be subjected to the policies and procedures of the University.

STUDENT LEADERS

Student leaders are chosen at the discretion of the Directors based on past performance, leadership ability, and demonstration of loyalty to the band program. These individuals understand that Leadership Team Members selflessly serve the organization and their peers.

Leadership Team Members are in a position of service, not power. UTM Band Members are expected to respect and appreciate the extra time and effort that these individuals contribute. Responsibilities of the student leaders include:

- Conduct music and movement sectional rehearsals
- Assist the section in the preparation of music and drill
- Facilitate music and movement assessment
- Assist with attendance
- Responsibility for equipment, uniforms, and promptness
- Ensure the section appears in proper uniform at each performance
- Assist the Director in maintaining proper rehearsal discipline
- Facilitate student transition to the college environment, including growth and development of personal relationships and familiarization with band traditions
- Encourage optimal performance and rehearsal standards
- Serve as the primary voice of the section
- Perform other duties as assigned

TRAVEL POLICIES

When traveling with the Aviators Athletic Band, you are representing both UTM and the Department of Music, and you need to conduct yourself in a suitable manner. Things to remember:

- Alcohol and illegal substances are strictly prohibited
- Follow all directions given to you by Directors, Student leaders and other band staff
- Respect private property

Failure to comply with these rules of travel may result in immediate dismissal from the band, with the student sent home at his or her expense.

REHEARSAL PROTOCOL

- Students with questions should seek counsel in the following order: squad leaders, captains, and director. Most of our band students have experience in leadership positions. While this is very beneficial to the band, students should consider the timing and relevance of questions or comments.
- During rehearsal, only captains or squad leaders should direct questions to the director from the field.
- Final instructions will come from the director.

COMMUNICATION

Communication and announcements may come in the form of email, text applications, and/or group messages. You are responsible for this information and should check your devices regularly. If you have an announcement, please communicate with the director via email, in person, or other professional communication. Announcements for rehearsal must be received 24 hours prior to posting. In case of inclement weather check your devices regularly.

CODE OF CONDUCT

All band members are here by choice and will be treated as adults. In return, they are to act as Ambassadors of UT Martin while treating others with respect and courtesy. Any behavior deemed disruptive or inappropriate (either in rehearsal or performances) by the Directors may result in removal from the event. If the deviant behavior occurs on a school sanctioned trip or performance, the student will be sent home at his or her own expense.

STATEMENT OF PROFESSIONALISM

All faculty, staff, and students in the UTM Department of Music have the right to work in an environment conducive to learning and creativity. As a music major/minor at the University of Tennessee at Martin, I understand the expectation to represent myself and our department in a professional and positive manner at all times. Communication with faculty, staff, and student colleagues will always be conducted in the spirit of mutual respect. Furthermore, public displays of behavior deemed unprofessional (either in person and/or electronically including social media applications) will result in departmental reprimand. Failure to comply may result in, but is not limited to, contacting the Office of Student Conduct, the Department of Public Safety, and/or the loss of scholarship funding.

Attendance is required at all UTM Band functions including rehearsals and performances. If a situation arises that prevents your attending a rehearsal or performance, please follow the guidelines included in this handbook.