

# BUTLER UNIVERSITY MARCHING BAND HANDBOOK

## The Lexicon – 2012

Hello and welcome to the Butler University Marching Band. This Lexicon will contain information you will need to make a smooth transition into a collegiate marching band like ours, and some other general information of interest. This serves as our course syllabus and is the product of collaboration between the directors and the Band Leadership Council.

**BUMB** – Butler University Marching Band, *“A great place to play!”*

**BUBB** – Butler University Basketball Band

**Accessory Store** – If you need anything (music flip folio, reeds, lyre folio holder, valve oil, etc.) the best bet is to bring them from home, but if you need something during the season contact the Accessory Store Manager, Grant Pfifer at [gpffier@butler.edu](mailto:gpffier@butler.edu). We have most common items, but for special orders please give Grant some lead time.

**Band Camp** – Collegiate bands differ in several ways from most HS bands. Besides the “no competitions” for college bands, (*no college band, while respecting the hard work and effort of another college band, does not want to out perform any college band when they share the field! Butler is no different, and although many bands are bigger than us*) college bands do not come in for rehearsals that seem to start on the 4th of July. We never call extra rehearsals either! The two days of rehearsals on Saturday, Aug. 25 and Sunday, Aug. 26 are our only Band Camp days.

**Band Day** – We invite high schools from across our state to attend Butler Band Day, and a guest artist performs a feature with our band. We also include a feature performance of all those in attendance who play the instrument of our guest soloist and we hold master-classes on each instrument for our high school guests. Check with your high school band and see if they plan to attend.

**Band Office** – located in room 316 of Atherton Union. The phone number is 317-940-9876.

People with keys to this room include:

Key #1 - David McCullough

2 – *there is no key #2*

Key #3 - Will Trachsel (graduate assistant)

Key #4 - (Drum Major)

Key #5 - (Summer Office Assistant)

Key #6 - Lisa Delmedico (band head librarian)

**Band In-Stands Behavior** – During the game we tend to stay in full uniform, minus the uniform hats, but weather can change this and the drum majors will make the call. We often just wear the bibs and under-uniform shirts and our in-stands hats. We will have water and ice in the stands. If you have friends/family members not in the band, they can sit in the section beside us, but we sit on the visitor’s side in the east stands. Your parents may find it more fun sitting on the west side with the Butler fans and a better ability to hear us. (*See Will Call Tickets below*)

After the half time show we play the team back onto the field and then the third quarter is yours. You must be back in the bandstand with 2:00 minutes left on the game clock so we can play at the third quarter break.

**Black Band Shoes** – One of only two items you need buy/have to march in our band. We are asking all band members (not guard) to get a pair of all-black non-high-gloss marching shoes. Acceptable brands include Drill Masters and Dinkles, and at Director’s Showcase; “The MTX,” and The “Pinnacle Marching Shoe” Any quick Internet search will get you to these if you don’t have them already from high school marching band. Information on shoes is also on the member’s Blackboard site.

**Blackboard** – To find the BUMB Blackboard page, navigate to [blackboard.butler.edu](http://blackboard.butler.edu) Click on the “Community” tab and then search for “band” you will find us. From here you will get your music and drill, and be able to hear recordings of the songs we will perform. For incoming freshmen or new members without a Butler username and password: Log in to Blackboard with the following information: username: Band password: Butler

Once you have your unique Butler username and password, navigate to Blackboard but find the BUMB community. From this site you will get all your music and drill. If you have any questions, or problems logging in, please contact the band office at [dmccullo@butler.edu](mailto:dmccullo@butler.edu) or (317) 940-9876

**BUMB AA** – The Butler University Marching Band Alumni Association. Good folks. They even provide a picnic for you at the end of Band Camp and fill in during volunteer-performance football games and basketball games when school is not in session.

**BUMB PO** – Butler University Marching Band Parents Organization, more information can be found on the “Parents and Alumni” page of the band’s web site. Info on tailgating at football games is there too.

**Business School “Get Real Weekend”** - If you're an incoming freshman business major you need be aware that you will have a conflict with band if you take MG 101 (CBA Freshman Experience) in the fall. The class contains a required “out-of-class” event called “The Get Real Weekend.” This important event's date is tied to which section of MG 101 that you place in your schedule, and all of the fall dates conflict with BU football games. Since we perform for all BU home football games incoming business majors in the band simply register for MG 101 in the Spring Semester. No conflicts and no problem.

**Butler Bowl** – The football stadium

**CBA “Donald Pike & Janet Pike Off” Band Scholarships** – There are scholarships in the CBA and in the College of Education that are prioritized for business and education majors who participate in the marching band. They are the “Pike” scholarships, and CBA & COE band members will want to investigate these awards. The applications for these and two other band scholarships are on our Blackboard site.

**Hinkle Room** - The band's storage room and library in Hinkle Fieldhouse. You get there by going up the ramp immediately inside Gate 4 of Hinkle. The Hinkle Room is where you can keep your instruments between rehearsals. We share this space with the cheerleaders and mascots, so we all have to keep it clean and tidy. The uniform room is just across the hall.

**Instrument Rental Fee** – \$10 to use a university instrument for the semester. This money funds instrument repairs. Drumline, Pit, and Guard members pay this fee as well since you are the most expensive portions of the band. You pay this at band registration.

**Kappa Kappa Psi & Tau Beta Sigma** – These are the national band service fraternity and sorority. We have chapters of both here at Butler. You will hear more about these groups, and what they do to help our entire band program, when you arrive. They are abbreviated KKΨ and TBΣ and tend to be called “Psi” and “Sigma” so be ready for those nicknames of these terrific organizations. Presidents are Brian Skinner and Emelia Abbe, respectively.

**“New Member Arrival Information”** and **“Welcome Week Band, Flagline & Drumline Info”** – These two schedules tell the BUMB new members and BUMB returning members what will happen during Welcome Week. Both of these schedules are available on Blackboard and will be e-mailed to every member of the band over the summer. If there is a conflict between something in the Welcome Week Orientation schedule and anything you see on the band schedules, just let your section coordinator know and go attend the orientation event.

Make special note of the rehearsal during the “Bulldogs Into the Streets” (BITS) program on Tuesday of Welcome Week. The university wants all freshmen to be involved in BITS, but if you have decided not to participate, come over to our rehearsal. It will be our most “low key” rehearsal of the year and more fun than sitting in your room alone!

**Rehearsal Lot** – The parking lot between Hinkle Fieldhouse and Apartment Village.

**Section Coordinators (SCs)** - This is a good place to explain how leadership positions work in our band. The only auditioned leadership position in the band is that of Drum Major. The Section Coordinator is responsible for contacting all section members with the latest info, and making recruiting contacts to prospective members. If you have any questions about anything, ask your Section Coordinator first. This is not like most High School leadership structures. Being a leader in this band is NOT having your name listed as a leader someplace and then you get to sit back and tell other people what to do. Trust me, your coordinators will not do that.

Remember the two paramount rules of leadership:

**The best way to lead is by example.**

**The only person you can truly lead is yourself.**

Each section can elect to appoint a Music Section Leader and/or a Marching Section Leader, decided at a later date.

**Weekly Rehearsal Schedule** – Monday 5:15-6:45, Wednesday 5:15–6:45, and Friday 4:15–6:30

**Welcome Week** – The 3 or 4 days at the start of the school year that are required of freshmen and transfers. This year it starts for band members on Thursday, August 16. Also referred to as “Orientation.”

**Welcome Week Band** – Abbreviated as WWBand. When we combine all the new BUMB members and the volunteer upperclassmen returning to campus during the Welcome Week Orientation program, we call this ensemble the “Welcome Week Band.” This group presents four performances during Welcome Week. Incoming BUMB members may pick up your keys at the Res Life Office, Room 303 Atherton Union anytime between 8:30 am & 4:30 pm on the day you told the band office you will be moving in. (For 90% of the band this will be Thursday, August 16<sup>th</sup>.) Dinner Thursday and Friday night will be provided. All other meals on Friday and Saturday will, sadly, be on your own since meal plans don't kick in until Sunday lunch. The on campus “C-Club” food-court will be open, and still accepts cash!

**Will Call Tickets** – Every member of the marching band can put four people on the will-call list for games for complementary admission. This list will be at each Wednesday rehearsal, so the names can change from game to game. For basketball each member gets two tickets for every home game, excluding post-season play even if it is in Hinkle Fieldhouse.

**“Under Uni” Shirts** – With the exception of the battery percussion and the colorguard, who wear other uniforms entirely, all those in the band uniforms wear the same shirt under our uniforms for each performance. We will be getting your sizes over the summer so you can pick up these shirts at registration on August 16<sup>th</sup>.

**Band Grading** - These last items all refer to the band’s grading policy.

Your band grade will impact your GPA if you are registered for ES-119 or ES-319. Those in the ES courses do NOT earn the core PE credit. Only the PWB-140 course meets the core PE requirement, and it is graded pass/fail, but for our purposes we record grades A,B,C no matter which class you are in. The majority of your grade is based upon attendance.

A missed performance will impact your grade. On occasion, someone might have to miss a performance. In the past few years such reasons include – best man at a friend’s wedding, parents’ 25th wedding anniversary, death in the family, representing Butler’s chemistry department at an international-organization meeting in Iceland – in short, the kinds of once in a lifetime opportunities that you should attend rather than perform with us. Such reasons will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis by the Director.

Many members of our band have siblings in competitive bands, or work on staff with local HS bands. As a member of our band you may not miss a performance to go see another band's performance. When you were in high school band you were asked to prioritize that band’s performances above many other activities in which you were involved, and we ask that you show the same respect to this band as well. You also set a good example for the HS students by doing this.

Grade Correction – You start the season with an A. If you have an approved performance absence your grade is now a “C.” If you miss a performance without approval your grade is now an “F.” If you have an approved rehearsal absence your grade is now a “B.” If you miss a rehearsal without approval your grade is now a “C.” Since you will be missing time that other members are giving to the band, we ask that you simply “pay it back.” For every 2 hours of service to the band, your grade “corrects” by one letter. You can find jobs by asking the drum major, the librarian or anyone on the staff/SC list. Only one performance can be corrected as there simply aren’t that many. We want every member to earn an A, and when needed, here is how that can happen.

<b>Absence</b>	<b>Grade becomes</b>	<b>What to do?</b>	<b>Work Hours to get back to an A</b>
Scheduled class conflict	no change	tell the office and your SC	0 (but we LOVE volunteers!)
Advance approved rehearsal	B	tell the office and your SC	2 hours
Rehearsal	C	see the director and your SC	4 hours
<i>After 2 of these you can only correct to a B, after 4 your grade stays a C</i>			
Advance approved performance	C	tell the director, <u>in writing</u>	4 hours
Performance	F	see the director and your SC	8 hours
2 <sup>nd</sup> performance, after approved*	F	see the director and your SC	8 hours to a max grade of “C”
2 <sup>nd</sup> performance, after unapproved*	F	see the director to drop band	“F” or drop band

*\* = neither of these has happened in 20 years, but they are listed here just the same*

If you are going to miss a rehearsal/performance, you must inform both your Section Coordinator and the Director in advance. An absence will not be approved for Friday rehearsals before breaks/holidays.

“Required” Meetings - You can't have a required meeting, because no course or extra-curricular activity at Butler can force you to miss a regularly scheduled class. That is university policy. If you want to miss class for a meeting then you may do so and repair your grade (see above).

**The instructor reserves the right to make changes to this syllabus with reasonable advance notice given to the students.**

*It is the policy and practice of Butler University to make reasonable accommodations for students with properly documented disabilities. Written notification from Student Disability Services is required. If you are eligible to receive an accommodation and would like to request it for this course, please discuss it with me and allow one-week advance notice. Otherwise, it is not guaranteed that the accommodation can be received on a timely basis. Students who have questions about Student Disability Services or who have, or think they may have, a disability (psychiatric, attentional, learning, vision, hearing, physical, medical, etc.) are invited to contact Student Disability Services for a confidential discussion in Jordan Hall 136 or by phone at extension 9308.*