

# Foundations of Band Leadership

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**Additional Instructors:** TBD

## Course Description

This course provides students with an introduction to the conceptual and practical applications of leadership. This course will define and discuss the concepts, and explore the theoretical basis, of leadership. The focus will be geared towards student leadership in band programs, however leadership principles are taught to generalize to all areas of leadership both inside and outside of band programs. No prerequisites are required for this course.

## Assignments & Participation

This class meets entirely online. This class is structured so that there is a suggested timeline to work on each unit. We understand however that many students have schedules that vary from week to week so this course allows you to work at your own schedule and pace if needed.

Your participation in the discussion board and activities is strongly encouraged. This course is a collaborative effort, where active sharing of diverse backgrounds and experiences is emphasized to enrich the learning experiences of all course participants.

For each unit we will post an update to the announcements on the course site. The announcement will remind you of exactly what needs to be done for that unit, and alert you to upcoming assignments or activities. You should check the announcement and unit overviews regularly. We suggest that if you want to actively participate in discussions and collaboration that you try to login to the course at least three times per week.

## Suggested Texts

Maxwell, John. **Leadership 101: What Every Leader Needs to Know**.

Note: Additional readings, lecture notes, and audio will be posted online.

## **Course Topics**

The course is divided into 10 units. Some units will be one week in length; others may be longer depending on the topic of the unit. Many units build on the previous unit so it is critical to participate in each unit during the time it is being presented.

## **Learning Outcomes**

The outcome for students who take this course will be a more in-depth understanding of the conceptual and practical basis of leadership. Students will build on their understanding of the field by developing a realistic self evaluation and assessment of themselves and their leadership potential. There will be an emphasis on “practical applications” in that students will move beyond the theories into a level of practical expertise regarding how to actually develop as a leader and apply the skills learned to lead others. Students will develop skills to grow as leaders beyond this course and acquire the tools to continue to self evaluate for self improvement. Finally, students will learn how to apply these leadership techniques successfully into a band program.

Additionally students who plan to audition for a leadership position will learn techniques and suggestions to help improve and prepare for their audition. This includes preparation suggestions, practical advice, and guidelines that generalize to most band programs.

## **Assessments and Grading Criteria**

The grading and completion of this class has no bearing on grades within your school, or program. Any assessment or grading is provided only as an indicator of progress and participation that will be made available to only you and your band director in certain instances. It is expected that any student enrolled in this class has a strong aspiration to complete this course based on the desire to grow and learn as a leader. Please check with your band director to determine if the completion of this course or any grade given has any bearing in your band program. In certain cases band directors will request reports on students they require to take this course to determine if they successfully completed the course. In those cases a band director will be provided a list of only their students who have passed. Completion of 80% of the activities and assignments in this course are needed in order to be considered as having completed the course.

## **Units and Topics**

Unit 1 Introductions & Defining Leadership

Unit 2 Leadership Development

Unit 3 Leadership Priorities and Time Management

Unit 4 Leadership Qualities and Attributes

Unit 5 Influence

Unit 6 Role Modeling and Self-Awareness

Unit 7 Motivation and Attitude Part 1

Unit 8 Attitude

Unit 9 Goal Setting

Unit 10 Practical Applications and Course Wrap-up