

May 18, 2020

Hey Tiger Marching Band!

My name is Dr. Nathan Phillips and I’m very excited to be serving as the Director of Bands at East Texas Baptist University! I’m moving to Texas from North Carolina where I was most recently the Assistant Director of Bands at Elon University as well as a staff member of the School of Music at The University of North Carolina at Greensboro. I’m looking forward to meeting all of you as we start this year together!

Due to the COVID-19 situation, many facets of Marching Band are still unknown. This document contains the information that you will need to know to get started this semester. Keep in mind, however, that any of this is subject to change.

**CHECK-IN / MOVE-IN:**

**Freshmen** – please follow the Welcome Week schedule you received from Student Affairs for check-in on Thursday, August 13th. Those events will be your only focus on that day.

**Band Leadership** (Drum Major, Section Leaders, , and ) – will move in ***after 6:00PM*** on Wednesday, August 12th. **All others** – will move in ***after 6:00PM*** on Thursday, August 13th. Make sure you have a valid student ID, or go to Student Services to get a new one made. You must be “clear” with the Business Office to move in! **(**If you are taking an August mini-term class, you will follow that schedule given to you.)

**MEALS:**

ETBU will provide your meals until school starts. Plan on scanning your ID for meals after you move in, but you may be asked to sign a list. Either way, we pay for your meals.

**INSTRUMENTS:**

ETBU provides all percussion equipment, large brass and woodwind instruments, and other “small” instruments as needed. You may check out an instrument and locker for the semester on Friday during Uniform/Equipment Check-out. Please bring your own reeds, oil, grease, and any other supplies you may need. Mouthpieces and ligatures are generally supplied with school-owned instruments.

**MUSIC:**

You will be issued a folder of music at our first rehearsal Friday evening. We will supply a flip folder; however, if you wish to have a lyre for your instrument you will need to purchase one at the local music store.

**UNIFORMS:**

You will be fitted for a uniform during the specified times on the Tiger Marching Band Camp Schedule. The uniforms are only a few years old and are in excellent condition! If alterations are required, the University will pay for them. An ETBU Band shirt will be provided to you to wear under the uniform as well as a ball cap to wear in the stands at games. To ensure a uniform look, we only allow the band shirt and hat to worn at games. You will need to provide a pair of athletic/wind shorts to wear under your band pants.

**SHOES:**

The Tiger Band uses a matte (non-shiny) black marching shoe. If you have shoes from a previous year, you may wear those. Otherwise, you will need to purchase a pair before our first performance on Saturday, September 3rd. Please don’t wait until the last minute to order them. Good shoes run $25 - $40 plus shipping. There are several good websites to order from, including [www.bandshoppe.com](http://www.bandshoppe.com) and [www.mccormicksnet.com](http://www.mccormicksnet.com). Any *matte black band shoe* will be fine. The more expensive the shoe, of course, the more comfortable and longer lasting the shoe will be. Please, no athletic shoes or sneakers.

**REHEARSALS:**

We will be working both inside and outside during rehearsal blocks. We will work often as a full band, but we will also split into sectionals with student and staff leaders. T-shirts, shorts, and athletic shoes (NO FLIP-FLOPS) are the attire for marching rehearsals. Please be modest in your dress outside. I highly suggest you to wear a hat and sunglasses (and sunscreen!) when we are rehearsing outside. You might bring a sweatshirt or hoodie if you tend to get cold in the Band Hall. We will follow the printed schedule as closely as possible, but be prepared to make adjustments.

I’m sure you probably will still have questions after this letter, so feel free to email me or call/text me anytime. Below is the tentative schedule for Band Camp and a schedule of our fall activities.

Go Tigers!

Dr. Nathan Phillips

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**Tiger Marching Band Camp 2020 Schedule**

**Wednesday, August 12**

6:00 PM Band Leadership moves in

**Thursday, August 13**

8:00 AM – 12:00 PM Freshmen move in for Welcome Week Activities

All-Day Band Leadership meetings and prepare stuff

6:00 PM Returning band members move in

**Friday, August 14**

9:00 AM - 12 Noon Uniform/Equipment Check-out: Upperclassmen & **ALL PERCUSSION**

1:00 PM - 3:00 PM Uniform/Equipment Check-out: Freshmen

3:00 PM - 4:45 PM Percussion Sectional

5:00 PM Dinner in the cafeteria

6:00 PM - 9:00 PM Full Band in the Band Hall

9:00 PM Ice Cream Social

**Saturday, August 15**

9:00 AM - 11:30 AM Marching Fundamentals on “The Skillet”

12 Noon Lunch in the cafeteria

1:15 PM - 2:30 PM Full Band in the Band Hall

2:30 PM - 3:45 PM Section Rehearsals (REDW and JGMB)

3:45 PM - 4:45 PM Full Band in the Band Hall

5:00 PM Dinner in the cafeteria

6:00 PM - 8:00 PM Full Band in the Band Hall

8:00 PM - 11:00 PM Snacks & “Minute-To-Win-It Games”!!

**Sunday, August 16**

8:00 AM - 12 Noon Go to Church!

2:00 PM - 3:30 PM Section Rehearsals (REDW and JGMB)

3:30 PM - 4:30 PM Full Band in the Band Hall

5:00 PM Dinner in the cafeteria

6:00 PM - 8:00 PM Full Band in the Band Hall

**Monday, August 17**

FIRST DAY OF CLASSES! Regular rehearsals begin Monday-Thursday 4:00PM-5:15PM



**ETBU Tiger Marching Band 2020**

**Fall Schedule of Activities**

**Date Activity Performance Time**

Thursday, September 3 Game vs. Wisconsin-Platteville 7:00PM

Thursday, September 26 Game vs Sul Ross State University 6:00PM

Saturday, October 10 Game vs Univ. of Mary Hardin-Baylor 2:00PM

Friday, October 25 Homecoming Events/Pep Rally 7:00PM

Saturday, October 31 Homecoming vs Southwestern Univ. 2:00PM

Saturday, November 14 Game vs Louisiana College 2:00PM

Performance times subject to change

Dress rehearsal at Ornelas Stadium on game days 9:00AM-10:00AM

Call times generally 2 hours before performance time

We are occasionally asked by Administration to support the mission of the University by participating in public relations activities that require a uniformed performance by the band during school hours. If this is the case, we will give you as much advance notice as possible and work to minimize the amount of time you are out of class. Thank you for your understanding.