



New Bern High School

Band Syllabus

Instructor Information

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Course Description: Students will gain a comprehensive knowledge of instrumental performance through theory and fine literature.

Supplies: The following are important to musical success and instrument maintenance.

- Pencil
- A metronome/tuner, such as a Korg TM-40
- Reed instruments only: at least 3 working reeds at all time (*Vandoren* brand only) and reed guard. ***Mr. Elbing reserves the right to dispose of any chipped or damaged reed any time. This hurts not only the student, but the entire ensemble.***
- Maintenance equipment, such as grease, oils, swabs, etc.
- Percussionists: at least 1 pair of Vic Firth SD-1 drum sticks.
- Recordings of your instrument.

Course Goals: At the end of the course, students will be able to do the following:

Wind Performance Skills

- 1) Demonstrate proper posture and horn position.
- 2) Demonstrate proper breathing as it relates to playing a wind instrument.
- 3) Demonstrate and explain the proper embouchure for their instrument and tone quality.
- 4) Demonstrate proper instrument care and maintenance.
- 5) Demonstrate and explain proper balance and intonation and articulation.
- 6) Recognize and perform various types of rhythm.
- 7) Demonstrate the ability to sight-read music that has never been seen before.
- 8) Maintain a steady pulse.
- 9) Demonstrate technical efficiency on various scales and musical passages.

Theory Skills

- 1) Identify note names in Bass and Treble Clef, regardless of instrument.
- 2) Identify Key Signatures.
- 3) Identify and sing various musical intervals.
- 4) Distinguish chord qualities (Major, minor, etc).
- 5) Identify music terminology.
- 6) Understand basic musical forms used in music (ABA, March form, etc).

Other skills will be added throughout the course in respect to the needs of the ensemble.

Grading Policy: Daily Grade=30%, Written Quizzes/Tests=30%, Playing Test=40%

1. Daily Grade/Participation: All students begin the day with 20 points. Talking, tardiness, and not participating in general will result in a deduction of points. ***Not having classroom materials will also result in a reduction of the daily grade.***

2. Written Quizzes/Tests: We will have a written quiz once in a while to ensure retention of important musical concepts.

3. Testing Tuesdays: Expect a test each Tuesday based off of a select number of measures in our literature or studies.

4. Sectionals: Sectionals are an important part of our success. Mr. Elbing will give a 1 week notice and these will count as a grade.

5. Concerts: Band is a performing art attendance to all concerts is required. An unexcused absence from a concert will result in a 2 letter grade deduction of the final grade. **Excused absences must do a make-up assignment.**

6. Concert Attire: The cost of the spring uniform is \$78. This is a one time purchase, unless a new uniform is needed due to wear and tear or growth. Students may participate in fundraisers if they need to bring the cost down. If there are any issues making payments, please contact the director.

- **Ladies:** Black dress and black flat dress shoes.
- **Gentlemen:** Black tuxedo, black bow tie, black cummerbund, white tuxedo shirt, black socks and black dress shoes.

Expectations

- 1) Communicate (always and early)
- 2) Attend all rehearsals and concerts
- 3) Respect each other and property
- 4) Execute all rehearsal procedures

Never expect less from yourself and the ensemble. We are trying to build character through discipline. Any issues following these expectations will lead to disciplinary measures and/or removal from the program.

Daily Procedures

- 1) Come in before the bell and immediately get your instrument and go to your seat. There is no playing at this time.
- 2) Class starts promptly 2 minutes after the bell. This is not the time that you set the instrument.
- 3) At the end of class, make sure to clean up around your section.

Rehearsal Etiquette

- 1) Come in with a positive attitude.
- 2) Come in prepared, knowing the music.
- 3) Mark the music with a pencil after the director makes a comment about a specific section-the first time.
- 4) Raise your hand to speak or ask to go to the restroom.
- 5) Do not talk or pack up unless asked to do so.

Food and Drinks: These are not allowed, except water.

Tardiness: You are tardy begins when the bell rings.

- 1st -2nd Time: Warning with writing assignment**
3rd: Referral written and after school detention

Restroom Usage: Only 2 passes will be given per 9 weeks. Unused passes earn extra credit. Use the restroom prior to class.

Music and Instruments: Students are responsible for any damage to music and/or instruments.

Seat Placements and Challenges: Will be done at least once per concert. Challenges may be requested one time.

CHARMS Office: All financial information is handled through this online program. Go to Charmsoffice.com and click Parents-Students. The user login in is newbernsband. The passcode is the student's id number.

Extra Credit Opportunities: Students can earn extra credit by participating in musicianship building opportunities. These include Community Concert Band and attending concerts. See Mr. Elbing for details.

Fire Drill

- 1) Gently put your instrument down.
- 2) Exit the door and turn right. Go out the door towards the teacher parking lot.
- 3) When you get outside, go left towards the band practice field (the white tower.)
- 4) Stay in the grass until further instructions. Do not go out and mingle.

Lockdown

- 1) Gently put your instrument down.
- 2) Come down to the bottom floor and sit quietly. There must not be any talking or playing at this time.
- 3) The lights will be turned off and the door locked. Keep your hands to yourself.
- 4) Wait silently until further instruction.
- 5) Failure to follow protocol will lead to a loss of all points for the day and chill-out.

Private Lessons: Private lessons private your student with the quality 1-on-1 tutoring that can increase their skills and enjoyment ten-fold. The NBHS band has contacts with some exceptional teachers. Lessons may be set up at convenient times for all parties involved. See Mr. Elbing for more information.

Recommended Materials

Below are recommended step-up instrument and mouthpieces.

Mouthpieces and Ligatures

- Clarinet: Vandoren 5RV and DEG barrel and Rovner Ligature.
- Saxophone: Selmer C* and Rovner Ligature
- Trumpet: Bach 5C
- Horn: Holton MC or Schilke 29
- Trombone/Euphonium: Bach 6 ½ AL

Instruments

- **Flute:** Yamaha 500 Or Gemeinhardt KGM
- **Clarinet:** Buffet R-13, Buffet E-11 or Yamaha YCL-650
- **Saxophone:** Yanagisawa A-992 or Yamaha Custom
- **Trumpet:** Bach Stradivarius or Yamaha Xeno
- **Tuba:** Miraphone 191 or 187 or Cervený CBB 681
- **Horn:** Holton H179 or Conn 8D
- **Trombone:** Conn 88HO, Bach 42B or Yamaha YSL-8820
- **Euphonium:** Yamaha 321-S or 642

Professional/Collegiate Ensembles:

- Dallas Wind Symphony
- North Texas Wind Symphony
- Eastman Wind Ensemble
- "President's Own" U.S. Marine Band (free recordings)
- Chicago Symphony Orchestra
- Berlin Philharmonic
- Cleveland Symphony Orchestra
- New York Philharmonic

Information is also on www.newbernbands.org

Check Charms Office account frequently!

Important Fall and Spring Dates:

December-12-Winter Concert
January-Concert uniform fittings
Feb.-Concert uniform money due
February 2-4 All-District Clinic at ECU
March-Pre-MPA Concert TBD
March 4th-All-State Auditions (14th is make-up weather date)
March 22-24 Music Performance Adjudication @ Havelock HS
March 29-30- All-County Band @ Havelock HS
May 5-7- All-State Band Clinic
May 13th-Solo and Ensemble Festival @ H.J. MacDonald MS (***Mandatory**)
May 23rd-Spring Concert @ TBA
May 25th- Band Banquet TBD
June 10th- Graduation. **This is mandatory.** Do not plan a vacation during this time. Absence will affect final grade.
***Other performances/sectionals may be announced at least 1-2 weeks in advance.**

Handbook:

http://www.newbernbands.org/uploads/2/3/7/3/2373146/nbhs_band_handbook_2016-17.pdf

KEEP FOR YOUR REFERENCE

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Parent and Student Awareness Agreement/ Student Information Sheet

I have read through this syllabus and handbook for the NBHS Band program and have become aware of its expectations and procedures. I am aware of the required materials needed for the course. I am also aware of required after-school rehearsals and concerts, as their effects on final grade averages.

I am aware of fundraisers available to me to pay down the cost. I am also aware of CHARMS office (if not, refer to the above).

MEDIA RELEASE: I give consent for photos and video to be taken for band-specific use.

_____	_____	_____
Print Student Name	Sign Student Name	Date
_____	_____	_____
Print Parent/Guardian Name	Sign Parent/Guardian Name	Date

Contact Info

It is very important that we have accurate information on file. This will be used to communicate with you throughout the entire year and your band career. It will also be used to set up your CHARMS account.

Student ID: _____ Grade: _____ Date of Birth: _____

Address _____

Home Phone: _____

Cell Phone: _____

Preferred Email: _____

Parent/Guardian Information

Mother's/Guardian 1 Name: _____

Home Phone: _____

Cell Phone: _____ Work Phone: _____

Occupation (Job)/optional: _____

Preferred Email: _____

Father's /Guardian 2 Name: _____

Home Phone: _____

Cell Phone: _____ Work Phone: _____

Occupation (Job)/optional: _____

Preferred Email: _____