

Course Syllabus for WRHS Band Classes
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Course Description:

Instrumental classes are performance-based classes. The instrumental program at Warner Robins High School does not offer a non-performing class. **If a student registers for a class he or she is expected to perform with that class at all functions.** Students are exposed to elements of music history, music theory, and music performance while participating in a performing ensemble. Students learn various aspects of solo and ensemble playing in a number of musical styles. Music compositions studied in these courses range from grade two to grade six in difficulty level (based on the GMEA scale of 1 – 6).

Objectives:

The following **National Music Standards** will be met: **1)** Singing alone and with others **2)** Performing on instruments **3)** Reading and notating music **4)** Improvising melodies, harmonies & accompaniments **5)** Composing and arranging within specific guidelines, **6)** Listening to, analyzing & describing music, **7)** Evaluating music & music performance, **8)** Understanding relationships between music and other disciplines, **9)** Understanding music in relationship to history and culture.

Teacher Expectations, Rules, Requirements:

To receive credit for this course, students are expected to participate in ALL semester performances and complete any written assignments. These performance dates will be published at the beginning of the semester on the band calendar which students will receive. The written assignments may be in the form of rhythm charts, notes from performance evaluation, band notebooks, etc.

While the school does own a limited number of instruments for student use, students are expected to purchase or rent their own instruments. **Students using school owned instruments and equipment will pay a \$50 rental fee per instrument PER SEMESTER and will be responsible for repairs to the instrument while it is signed out in your name.** Percussionists are expected to furnish their own mallets and sticks. Likewise, **students are expected to furnish all needed accessories for their instruments (mouthpieces, reeds, valve oil, etc.).** Music, folders and other instructional materials will be provided. All music should be returned after its use. Students using school owned instruments must be responsible for any repairs due to misuse or mistreatment of the instrument while the said instrument is signed out to the student and may be responsible for an additional rental fee.

***Note:** There is a **\$50 ACTIVITY FEE per school year** to cover music purchase, equipment repair, and transportation to events, special instruction, and other miscellaneous needs. This is in addition to the equipment rental fee if you are using school owned equipment. This fee should be placed in the “black box” by the directors’ office in an envelope. If you participate in marching band your fee is included in the marching band activity fee. This fee is to be paid in full whether or not 2 semesters are completed. The fee is good for 1 school year.

Concert Attire: All students will be required to wear the uniform concert attire – Information regarding this purchase will become available in September.

Course Materials: Students are expected to have **all materials in class every day**. Should an instrument need to be repaired, the student and the parents should notify the director and have the repairs made **as soon as possible**. Since the focus of the class is learning to play an instrument, each day that a student does not have an instrument hampers that student's chances at successfully completing the course.

ALL nonessential materials such as books, notebooks, magazines and homework from another class will NOT be allowed in the rehearsal area. **No food, drink or gum is allowed during rehearsal** (please act responsibly.)

Required Materials: *Each student will be required to purchase a “Foundations for Superior Performance” book for class work.* **Symphonic band** students must ALSO purchase **“Habits of a Successful Musician.”** The books can be purchased through local music retailers or on-line at cost of approximately \$10-\$11.00.

Grading Procedure:

If a student adheres to the procedure, a grade of A will be received in the class. Grading Procedure: Each student must participate in class each day, adhere to all band rules, complete all written assignments, and attend all performances & rehearsals. Make-up assignments must be completed for each performance missed.

DAILY ASSESSMENT: **Class Participation = 15%** - Student must FULLY participate in each class. This includes having all required materials.

MINOR ASSESSMENTS = **20%** - Scale tests, rhythm charts, playing tests, materials check

MAJOR ASSESSMENT: **Performance Participation = 45%** - Students must FULLY participate in each REHEARSAL & PERFORMANCE – A **Major** grade will be earned at each rehearsal & performance. A calendar of events is available on-line at www.wrbands.org. This calendar has also been distributed on our social media accounts and the Remind App. This includes the Concert/Symphonic Band Camp.

FINAL EXAMS: = **20%** – This course includes a cumulative exam (Concert) at the end of each semester.

Class Materials:

- 1.) Instrument in good playing condition.
- 2.) Anything needed to play your instrument (i.e. reeds, mouthpiece, valve oil, cork grease, etc.)
- 3.) Cleaning Kit for your particular instrument.
- 4.) Pencil **at all times**
- 5.) Music Folder and Music (Provided by Directors)
- 6.) ***Fundamentals for Superior Performance*** technique Book (Concert & Symphonic Bands)
- 7.) ***Habits of a Successful band*** technique book (Symphonic Band only)
- 8.) Concert Attire (Can be rented through the Band Boosters or purchased independently)
- 9.) Locker and Lock (Provided by the Directors)
- 10.) Folding Music Stand (to be kept in your locker)
- 11.) Personal Hand Sanitizer

Recommended Mouthpieces and Reeds:

We strongly suggest that the students use the following items for their specific instruments. We do this in order to achieve the most uniform sound possible.

Clarinets reeds: Ridenour, Premier by Hite or Vandoren B45 / Mitchell Lourie 2 ½ -3 (1 box)

Alto Sax reeds: Selmer C* / Vandoren 2 ½ -3 (1 box)

Tenor Sax reeds: Height Premier / Rico Royale 2 ½ -3 (1 box)

Baritone Sax reeds: Selmer C* / Rico Royale 2 ½ -3 (1 box)

Bass Clarinet reeds: Rico Royale 2 ½ -3 (1 box)

Trumpet mouthpiece: Bach 3C or 1 ½ C

French Horn mouthpiece: Bach/Conn Constellation 5BW or 3BW / Holton Farkas Model #25

Baritone mouthpiece: Bach 6 ½ AL (large or small bore)

Trombone mouthpiece: Bach 6 ½ AL (large or small bore)

Tuba: Conn Helleberg or Bach 18

NO PLASTIC REEDS OR METAL SAXOPHONE MOUTHPIECES

Provided Materials:

The music provided by the directors will be given out only once. It is the students' responsibility to keep up with their music. The lockers and locks will be provided by the director. Please refer to the attached rules and signature page concerning rules, regulations, and fees concerning band room lockers.

Concert Attire:

The uniform for the concert season is listed below. The uniform can be rented through the band boosters or purchased independently. Information about this rental or purchase will come out later. In addition to the items below, guys and girls who choose the tux must have a pair of solid black slacks, solid black jacket, black socks, and black dress shoes. The marching band shoes will suffice for dress shoes. Girls who choose the formal dress must have **black dress shoes** that are appropriate with the formal dress. **Under no circumstances when we are at performances is it appropriate to be out of uniform, you must show up fully dressed and leave fully dressed.** This means that the tie, cummerbund, and shoes stay on at all times. The concert attire will be worn by all students who participate in the concert band programs.

GIRLS – May choose: Black formal dress (Alterations Required) or Tuxedo pants, jacket, shirt, tie & cummerbund

BOYS - Tuxedo pants, jacket, shirt, tie & cummerbund

Performances / Rehearsals:

All students are required to attend and participate in **all** rehearsals and performances. If a student misses a rehearsal or performance, an alternative assignment will be given and the student will have 5 days to make up the work missed. The assignment will be at the discretion of the director and it will reflect the time and event missed.

Concert/Symphonic Band Camp

All members of the Advanced Concert & Symphonic Bands are expected to attend the annual Adv/Sym Camp. Clinicians will be brought in to help prepare the bands for the upcoming Large Group Performance Evaluation. Make plans to be available for the duration of the camp (Friday afternoon through Saturday afternoon.) **There will be a fee of \$25 for this camp** which covers the costs of meals & instruction for the event.

Attendance / Tardy Policies:

The classroom policy for attendance and tardiness shall be consistent with that of the WRHS Student Handbook. Any student that is late will sign and date the tardy log. The disciplinary action for tardiness is as follows:

1st Tardy – Verbal Warning

2nd Tardy – Parent Phone Call & 30 Minutes After- School- Detention

3rd Tardy – Office Referral = 1 unexcused absence

All Offenses after this will receive an Office Referral

Make-up Work:

We will follow the school policy concerning make-up work as described in the WRHS student handbook. The student will be allowed to make up any test or assignments within the allotted five days after the student's return from being absent. It is the student's responsibility to come to the teacher for any missed work. Students will make up missed rehearsals and performance by recording the music and turning it in to the teacher. All recordings will be graded according to a rubric.

Teacher Detention:

Teacher Detention will be given to students, who cannot adhere to the classroom policies. The students will be serving this detention in the band room for 15-30 minutes depending on the severity of the infraction. A student can receive detention for the following actions: 1) Chewing Gum, 2) Food or Drink in the Band Room, 3) Leaving Class to go take care of other business, 4) Excessive Talking, 5) Any Signs of Disrespect, & 6) Being Disruptive to the Learning Environment

Expectations:

Because of the nature of band classes, it is necessary to give personal help during the course of rehearsal to individuals. In order to improve and be successful each student must have this type of one on one help. Therefore, it is essential that when you are not being worked with you should remain courteous of others so that when it is your turn, you can get the help that you need without rude and thoughtless interruptions.

Band is considered a co-curricular class. This means that there will be performance such as concerts held outside the normal school day. Each Band at Warner Robins High School is a premier musical group and will perform the best possible concert representing the school at the Fall, Christmas, Pre-Festival, Large Group Performance Evaluation, & Spring Concerts. All concert dates are included on the calendar in this syllabus. **Your attendance is required.**

What Does Band Cost?

Band classes at Warner Robins High School require a minimal cost for student participation. Students may use fundraisers to help offset the expense of band classes.

Here is a breakdown of the costs associated with band classes here at Warner Robins High School. These costs are in addition to any expenses for the marching band.

Activity Fee - \$50

- WRHS DMB students do not pay this fee during the first semester
- This fee will be broken into 2 payments of \$25 per semester.

Equipment Rental

Concert Equipment - \$50/semester

Concert Uniform (Dresses & Tuxedos)

Rental - \$80/school year

Purchase – Students are given the opportunity to purchase dresses and tuxedos. Prices are approximately \$80 for dresses and \$100 for tuxedos. Rates may vary based on shipping and taxes. Purchase information will be distributed in September.)

Reeds

- Clarinets - \$3.00
- Bass Clarinets - \$4.00
- Contrabass Clarinet - \$10.00
- Alto Sax - \$3.00
- Tenor Sax - \$4.00
- Bari-Sax - \$5.00
- Oboe - \$15-\$20 (WRHS does not stock oboe reeds)
- Bassoon - \$20 (WRHS does not stock bassoon reeds)

Concert Admission

- Fall Concert - \$Free
- Christmas / Holidays Concert – **Canned Food items**
- Pre-LGPE - \$Free
- **Large Group Performance Evaluation** - \$Free
- Spring Concert - **Free**

WRHS BAND & Music Appreciation

CELL PHONE & Electronic Policy

This is the cell phone policy during class:

NO CELL PHONES during ANY part of class.

You should NEVER be texting, on social media or involved in a phone call during class.

After the tardy bell,

* All cell phones, electronic devices, headphones, ear buds, toys, and other non-class related items should be left in your book bags.

* All book bags should be left at the front or the side of the classroom.

* I will let you know if your Chromebook is needed.

If it is out, I have to write you up.

Failure to follow the directions is intentional and will also include language in the referral that reflects your willful decision and refusal to follow the rules and operating procedures of the class.

If I tell you to put away your phone, I am also submitting a referral to the administration.

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Signature Page:

I have read and understand the information contained within this syllabus and agree to the terms and conditions within. Also, my parents/guardians have read and understand the information contained within this syllabus and agree to the terms and conditions within. My parents and I further understand that certain fees are involved as well as a time commitment for after school rehearsal.

Also, my parents and I understand and will abide by the WRHS Cell Phone Policy.

Please sign and return this form back to the teacher by tomorrow.

(Print/Sign)

Student Name: _____ / _____

Date: _____

(Sign)

Parent/Guardian: _____

Date: _____