

# Instrumental Music (Level II): Jazz Ensemble

Pelham High School

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## **Course Information:**

Location: B123 (Band Room)

Course Meeting Times: 7th Period (2:10-3:00)

Course Website: [www.pelhamband.com](http://www.pelhamband.com)

[www.charmsoffice.com](http://www.charmsoffice.com)

## **Course Description:**

**Jazz Ensemble:** The Pelham Jazz Ensembles are composed of instrumentalists of varying grades (9-12) who wish to participate in a performance based group that focuses on the jazz genre and the corresponding sub genres of jazz. The group performs 3-4 concerts, the Pelham Tree Lighting, as well as other community and school events. Placement auditions for the Pelham Jazz Ensemble take place during the Fall Semester.

## **Course Requirements:**

Students will participate in daily rehearsals for the entire duration of the class. The rehearsal will include a warm-up, full ensemble rehearsal, as well as sectional rehearsals. Students are expected to be actively engaged in rehearsal and participate by playing their instruments, listening to recordings, and participating in discussions on the musical literature. They are also expected to attend and actively participate in all required performances (concerts & performances). Students will also receive playing assessment grades to assess their proficiency on basic playing skills. Students are expected to take their instruments home and practice the material individually as needed.

## **Classroom Expectations (General Expectations):**

- Students are expected to behave at a higher standard than other students at Pelham High School.
- Students are expected to follow all rules of Pelham High School and Pelham City Schools.
- Students are expected to be courteous, polite, and respectful at all times to faculty/staff members, parents, and other students. This includes not speaking while others are speaking and not using inappropriate language, profanity, or derogatory comments.
- Students are expected to be present and on time at all rehearsals and performances. It is imperative that we start and end on time and have all members present to maximize our rehearsal/performance time. More detailed attendance policies/procedures are listed below.
- Students are expected to have all materials needed for rehearsals and performances. No exceptions!
- Students are expected to keep the Band Room, Practice Area, and Pelham High School clean and organized. Our room and school is our home while we are here and should be treated with the upmost respect. Absolutely no food, drinks (water is acceptable), gum, or candy is allowed in the band room. Students who do not adhere to taking care of equipment or the band room will be asked to clean up their respective area of the facility. Students will store their instrument cases and materials in their assigned lockers at all times. Lockers will be free of food, drink, and trash.
- Cell phones or other electronic devices should not be used during rehearsals or performances unless instructed by Mr. Ward relative to using tuner or metronome apps.
- Students are expected to maintain a good working instrument and have all quality supplies and materials (i.e. mutes, valve oil, slide oil, reeds, etc.) at all times.
- Students are expected to fully participate in all playing activities, discussions, and listening activities.
- No food or drink (other than bottled water) is allowed in the band room.

### **Classroom Expectations (Procedures):**

- Beginning Class: Students should be in their seats with materials when the tardy bell rings. All books and cases will be stowed in student's respective band lockers. No items will be left out in the band room at any time! Being in the restroom does not constitute being in the bandroom. Warm-up will begin immediately after the tardy bell rings.
- Checking attendance: While students are completing warm-up attendance will be checked. Students should be in their assigned seats and begin warm-up immediately.
- Restroom: Students are expected to use the restroom before or after class.
- Conclusion of Class: Students will put all materials back in their lockers and wait for the dismissal bell to ring.

### **Failure to follow these rules will result in the following consequences:**

- 1st offense- Verbal Warning
- 2<sup>nd</sup> offense- Written Warning
- 3<sup>rd</sup> offense- Contact Parent/Guardian
- 4<sup>th</sup> offense- Detention
- 5<sup>th</sup> offense- Referral to Office

### **Attendance Policy:**

Students are expected to be present and on time for all class meetings. All students will follow the Pelham High School Attendance Policy. Please follow the Pelham City Schools Code of Conduct as well as the Pelham High School Band Musician & Visual Ensemble Handbooks for information on attendance and grading.

### **Grading Procedures:**

Daily Grade(s)	10 pts. (each day) 50 pts. (weekly)	Students will earn a daily grade for participation in class and having all materials.
Performance(s)	100 pts. each	Students will earn a performance grade for being at required performances with all materials.
Playing Grade(s)	100 pts. each	Students will earn a playing grade for playing requested music/scales/exercises, etc.

- Grading rubrics are attached to this document.
- All students will receive a semester exam grade for the last playing grade of the semester. Grading will follow the rubric for playing grades. The assessment will feature all of the elements of music that have been taught throughout the semester. Students will not have to be present during the scheduled exam time. Playing Grades will be recorded by the student and uploaded via Google Classroom.
- Grades will be updated each week and our accessible in INOW.

### **Make-Up Policy:**

- Students will have one week to make-up playing grade(s). If a student misses a performance for an unexcused reason he or she will receive a 0. If it is excused the student will have to watch a video of the performance and submit a two-page critique of the performance.

### **Digital Procedures:**

- Cell phones or other electronic devices should not be used during rehearsals or performances unless instructed by Mr. Ward relative to using tuner or metronome apps.
- Communication will be handled through our previously setup Remind 101 accounts, email, and our websites: [www.charmsoffice.com](http://www.charmsoffice.com) & [www.pelhamband.com](http://www.pelhamband.com)

### **Materials and Supplies Needed:**

Class:	Wind Players:	Instrument, Music Folder (Concert Music), Music Binder (Marching Music), Pencil, Appropriate Mutes/Supplies.
	Percussionists:	Instrument, Music Folder (Concert Music), Music Binder (Marching Music), Pencil, Stick/Mallet Bag w/ Drum Sticks, Mallets, Brushes, etc., Practice Pad w/ Stand
Rehearsals:	Wind Players:	Instrument, Music Binder w/ Sheet Protectors, Wire Music Stand, Pencil, Water Bottle, Comfortable Clothing, Tennis Shoes (w/ Socks), Marching Band Drill.
	Percussionists:	Instrument, Music Binder w/ Sheet Protectors, Wire Music Stand, Pencil, Water Bottle, Comfortable Clothing, Tennis Shoes (w Socks), Stick/Mallet Bag w/ Drum Sticks, Mallets, etc.)
Performances:	Musicians: (Concert)	Instrument, Music Folder (Concert), Appropriate Mutes/Supplies, Sticks, Mallets, etc.
Attire:	Musicians:	All students will be required to purchase a black dress shirt, black dress shoes, and a tie (men) or dress (women)

### **Pacing Calendar:**

#### **1st Nine Weeks (Performance Grades): ALCOS Standards: Instrumental Music Level II**

Local School Performance(s)

Fall Concert

Literature: Grade II Jazz Ensemble Literature

#### **2nd Nine Weeks (Performance Grades): ALCOS Standards: Instrumental Music Level II**

Pelham Tree Lighting

Holiday Concert

Literature: Grade II-III Jazz Ensemble Literature

#### **3rd Nine Weeks (Performance Grades): ALCOS Standards: Instrumental Music Level III**

Winter Concert

Local School Performance(s)

Literature: Grade III-V Concert Literature

#### **4th Nine Weeks (Performance Grades): ALCOS Standards: Instrumental Music Level IV**

Jazz Competition

Local School Performance(s)

Spring Concert

Literature: Grade IV-V Concert Literature

### **Other Information**

- Disclaimer: Syllabus is subject to change.
- All Parents & Students must sign and return the agreement form that is attached to this document.

### Daily Grading Rubrics

Criteria	Exemplary	Satisfactory	Unacceptable
	<b>5</b>	<b>3-4</b>	<b>0-2</b>
Participation (5 points)	Student fully participates in all playing activities, discussions, and activities.	Student sometimes participates in playing activities, discussions, and activities.	Student rarely participates in playing activities, discussions, and activities.
	<b>5</b>	<b>3-4</b>	<b>0-2</b>
Materials (5 points)	Student has all needed materials.	Student has some to most of the needed materials.	Student has little to none of the needed materials.

### Playing/Performance Grading Rubrics

Criteria	Exemplary	Satisfactory	Needs Work	Unacceptable
	<b>10</b>	<b>9-8</b>	<b>7-6</b>	<b>5-0</b>
Tone (10 points)	Student successfully plays with exemplary tone quality.	Student usually plays with exemplary tone quality.	Student occasionally plays with good tone quality.	Student rarely plays with good tone quality. Student has serious tone deficiencies.
	<b>30-28</b>	<b>27-22</b>	<b>21-11</b>	<b>10-0</b>
Pitches (30 points)	Student successfully plays all correct pitches as indicated by the music.	Student usually plays the correct pitches as indicated by the music.	Student occasionally plays correct pitches as indicated by the music.	Student rarely plays correct pitches as indicated by the music.
	<b>30-28</b>	<b>27-22</b>	<b>21-11</b>	<b>10-0</b>
Rhythm (30 points)	Student successfully plays all correct rhythms as indicated by the music	Student usually plays the correct rhythms as indicated by the music.	Student occasionally plays correct rhythms as indicated by the music.	Student rarely plays correct rhythms as indicated by the music.
	<b>10</b>	<b>9-8</b>	<b>7-6</b>	<b>5-0</b>
Dynamics (10 points)	Student successfully plays all correct dynamic markings with great contrast between softer and louder markings.	Student usually plays dynamic markings with good contrast between softer and louder markings.	Student occasionally plays dynamic markings with some contrast between softer and louder markings.	Student rarely plays dynamic markings with little to no contrast between softer and louder markings.
	<b>10</b>	<b>9-8</b>	<b>7-6</b>	<b>5-0</b>
Articulation (10 points)	Student successfully plays all correct articulation markings with great contrast between shorter and longer markings.	Student usually plays articulation markings with good contrast between shorter and longer markings.	Student occasionally plays articulation markings with some contrast between shorter and longer markings.	Student rarely plays articulation markings with little to no contrast between shorter and longer markings.
	<b>10</b>	<b>9-8</b>	<b>7-6</b>	<b>5-0</b>
Endings/Breath Marks (10 points)	Student successfully observes all endings and breath marks with no hesitation.	Student usually observes endings and breath marks with little to no hesitation.	Student occasionally observes endings and breath marks with hesitation.	Student rarely observes endings and breath marks with great hesitation.

**2019-2020**  
**Syllabus Agreement Form**

I have received and read the class syllabus and understand all of the information contained in the document. The syllabus is a supplemental document to the 2019-2020 Band Handbook and outlines the details of each this course.

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(Student's Name)

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(Student's Signature)

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(Parent's Signature)

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(Date)