

# Instrumental Music: Percussion Ensemble

Pelham High School  
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## **Course Information:**

Location: B123 (Band Room)

Course Meeting Times: 6th Period (1:15-2:05)

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

## **Course Description:**

Percussion Ensemble: This course is designed to help percussion students further their musical skills outside of regular band class. Students will rehearse and perform with others. They will be taught music reading skills, musicality, and percussion performance skills. We will work on music to be performed with the bands and orchestra, as well as music to be performed on our own as a percussion ensemble. During the first semester, our primary focus will be on Marching Band. During the rest of the year we will focus on concert music and percussion ensembles. This course is open to all current Pelham High School Band students. It is also available to other current PHS students Grades 9-11 who are interested in joining the Pelham High School Band as a percussionist. Those who are currently NOT members of the Pelham High School Band program must receive permission to take this course from the Band Director through an audition process.

## **Course Requirements:**

Students will participate in individual practice, individual and group lessons, and daily rehearsals for the entire duration of the class. 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. sticks, practice pad, stand, etc.) at all times.
- 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:	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:	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 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: Marching Literature/Grade II Percussion Ensemble Literature/Rudiments

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

Pelham Tree Lighting  
 Holiday Concert  
 Literature: Grade II-III Percussion Ensemble Literature/All-State Auditions/Rudiments

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

Winter Concert  
 Local School Performance(s)  
 Literature: Grade III Percussion Literature/All-State Auditions/Rudiments

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

Local School Performance(s)  
 Spring Concert  
 Literature: Grade III-IV Percussion Literature/Rudiments

**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)