

SEBHS Instrumental Music

Music Performance Class Syllabus

Our Mission is to provide students an opportunity to learn quality musical assessment and performance techniques but more importantly to teach “real world” life and work skills such as task assessment, problem solving, time management, and collaboration techniques necessary to help students become more valuable to the work force and society in general.

Class Title(s):

- Marching Band (fall)
- Symphonic Winds (Spring)
- Wind Ensemble (Spring)
- Percussion Ensemble

Instructor:

- Matt Olsen, Band Director

Class Description(s):

Marching Band:

This class is open to all brass and woodwind music students whether they have previously participated in the band program at the high school level, or not. This class is optional for all marching band auxiliary members who do not currently play an instrument in an advanced class. In addition to performance preparation, the development and advancement of fundamental techniques for each instrument will be stressed in the class's activities and curriculum.

Symphonic Winds:

This class is an audition-only ensemble available to brass and woodwind players who have met performance and discipline levels adequate enough to play more difficult literature. Skills required for this class will include; Technical proficiency, Sight-reading, Equipment knowledge, Performance Etiquette and Professionalism. The focus of this class will be the development of advanced instrumental techniques and preparation and performance of Advanced level Wind Ensemble music.

Concert Band:

This class is open to all brass and woodwind music students whether they have previously participated in the band program at the high school level, or not. This class is optional for all marching band auxiliary members who do not currently play an instrument in an advanced class. In addition to performance preparation, the development and advancement of fundamental techniques for each instrument will be stressed in the class's activities and curriculum.

Percussion Ensemble:

This class is an audition-only ensemble available to percussionists who have met performance and discipline levels adequate enough to play more difficult percussion literature. Skills required for this class will include; Technical proficiency, Sight-reading, Equipment knowledge, Performance Etiquette and Professionalism. The focus of this class will be the development of advanced percussion techniques and preparation and performance of Advanced level Percussion Ensemble music. This Class was created due to the exclusive nature of percussion and the time needed to perfect the many different techniques entailed.

Grading Procedure:

- **Daily Participation: 60 points possible** – Successful participation is defined as the student being on time to class, meeting the expectations of the instructor, and having his/her instrument and required materials. The student's ability to meet expectations and responsibilities will be assessed by the instructor at the end of each grading period. To some measure, this assessment is subjective; however, parents will generally be contacted during the grading period if a significant number of points will be deducted. In the event of absences or a situation where an instrument is being repaired, an alternative assignment may be arranged with the director. Missing points can be made-up by practicing in the band room individually for 20 minutes after school (2 points). Students should complete assignments as prescribed in the school-wide make-up work policy.

- **Individual and Ensemble Performance Evaluation: 40 points possible** – During the grading term the students will be individually tested on specific musical excerpts to evaluate students' abilities and to increase preparation of the individual player within the section. As well as individual tests, students will be given performance grades for all ensemble performances based on punctuality, attendance, preparation and adherence to performance etiquette protocols discussed in class.

Procedures:

1. Enter the class by the time the tardy bell rings. Tardy to class is defined as the student not being in the room by the time the bell stops sounding. Within three (3) minutes after the tardy bell, students should be seated with all instruments and equipment.
2. Check in with Section Leaders and Captains for Attendance.
3. Following class, all equipment should be put up properly. All items should be put in the proper places. Be sure to latch cases prior to placing them on the shelves in the instrument room.
4. Students will only be permitted to enter the hallways during class for a true emergency or a request from the office, an administrator, or another teacher. Please limit restroom requests to emergencies.
5. **YOU MUST ASK THE TEACHER BEFORE LEAVING THE CLASSROOM FOR ANY REASON.**

Band Room Rules:

- **NO CELL PHONES** are allowed in the band room.
- Chewing gum, food, or drinks will not be allowed in the band room during the school day. However, you may have **water** in a closed container during rehearsals.
- Enter and exit the room daily through the hallway door. Do not use the back doors unless given permission.
- Students should only be in the Instrument Storage room for the purpose of getting or putting away instruments unless otherwise directed.
- Conduct yourself as a lady or gentleman at all times while in the band room or at any time that you are associated with a band activity. Loud and boisterous behavior is unbecoming and will not be allowed.
- All students are expected to help keep the room clean and free of trash, etc.
- Only use equipment for its intended use (examples: chairs for sitting, music stands for holding music, etc.).
- All students are expected to care for all instruments and equipment in the proper manner(s). Following class, instruments should be placed on shelves in the instrument room with cases latched. Additionally, all other materials should be stored in their assigned or proper places.
- Keep hands, feet, and other objects to yourself. Do not throw any objects while in the band room.
- The dry erase board is for instruction, announcements, etc. Do not write on the board(s) at any time unless instructed to do so by the instructor.
- Do not disrupt instruction. Use common sense and good judgment in this area. A band class is not like most regular classes; however, certain protocols should be followed such as not getting up and moving around the band room unnecessarily, excessive talking, etc.
- Students may not use the phone or computers in the band room during the school day without the director's permission.
- Students are expected to adhere to all Bulloch County and Southeast Bulloch High School policies in addition to the ones outlined in this section.

Class Materials and Equipment:

- Students should bring the following materials and equipment to class daily:
 1. Instrument
 2. Notebook (1", 3 ring binder)
 3. Pencil
 4. Other instructional materials (music, written materials, etc.)

Teacher Responsibility:

Each teacher will be held accountable for passing grades given to students with excessive absences. If there are any questions about the syllabus or anything else band related please contact me at the band office at MOlsen@BullochSchools.Org