

Alpharetta High School Bands

Percussion / Band: Course Syllabus SPRING Semester

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SUGGESTED TEXT: scales and placement etudes (available on our website once they are released); various ensemble works – music is provided and may be changed for each concert

DESCRIPTION:

NAfME: The National Association for Music Education, states, “music allows us to celebrate and preserve our cultural heritages and also to explore the realms of expression, imagination, and creation resulting in new knowledge”. In the Spring, we explore various types and styles of art music forms – written for band as original works and transcriptions, through teaching the basic fundamentals of instrumental performance, using the Concert Band / Wind Ensemble as our vehicle.

GOALS:

- **Perform** ALL major scales, *memorized*;
- **Understand and Apply** the fundamentals of musical performance through standard Band and Wind Literature (tone quality, rhythm and articulation, finger patterns, ear training, music vocabulary, music history);
- **Apply** music theory to performance

REQUIREMENTS:

ALL STUDENTS will need an instrument. AHS Bands will only provide the large brass / woodwind instruments and percussion instruments. All students shall participate in Wind Ensemble or one of the Symphonic Bands during the spring semester. Wind Ensemble will require one after-school rehearsal per week. Placement is based on audition. The opportunities for further participation will be posted when available. Sign up outside of the office door for any available experiences that you may qualify for. All students will perform at various functions and performances, including but not limited to Winter Band Clinic (required for all band members), invitational clinic performances (i.e. Jan Fest or GSU Honor Bands of Distinction), GMEA Concert Band Performance Evaluation, Spring Concert, etc.

EVALUATION:

Grades will be based on your performance; a final exam will be worth 15% of your final grade. The percentages listed are subject to change:

50% = Performances and Rehearsals

20% = Class participation, attitude during large-group rehearsals, having instrument and required supplies (ie. reeds, valve oil, mute, etc)

15% = Performance-based assessment (video, audio, Smartmusic, live assessment)

15% = Semester Final

Provision for Improving Grades

- Opportunities designed to allow students to recover from a low or failing cumulative grade will be allowed when all work required to date has been completed and the student has demonstrated a legitimate effort to meet all course requirements including attendance. Students should contact the teacher concerning recovery opportunities. Teachers are expected to establish a reasonable time period for recovery work to be completed during the semester. All recovery work must be directly related to course objectives and *must be completed ten school days prior to the end of the semester.*

- Teachers will determine when and how students with extenuating circumstances may improve their grades.

All other details of the Band Program are outlined in the band handbook, downloadable via the AHS Band website. (www.alpharettaband.org)

LOST / DAMAGED MUSIC:

Students are financially responsible for all books and music issued by AHS Bands. Texts and music are not to be left in the classroom (storage is made available) and teachers are not responsible for the music or books once they have been assigned to the student. Music and books assigned must be turned in at the end of the semester or course. The cost of replacement will be assigned to any student that fails to return the exact book and/or music that he/she was issued and/or to any student that turns in damaged books or music. There is a two-week grace period for students to document damage before the student becomes accountable for the damage and cost.

AHS RECOVERY / RISE

(TEACHING INSTRUCTIONAL SUPPORT and ENRICHMENT policy)

Students with a course cumulative average of a 74 and below must attend RISE sessions to demonstrate a legitimate effort to meet all course requirements. After attending RISE sessions, attending class regularly, and completing all course work*, a student is eligible to request recovery on major assessments, which he or she may score up to 74%. The recovery grade will replace the previous grade but will not exceed 74%. *All unit work must be completed in order to exhibit mastery. Any credit given will be awarded in accordance with the stated course late work policy in the teacher's syllabus. The student must initiate the recovery process within five days of the student receiving the graded assignment and the grade being posted to Home Access Center (HAC).

Furthermore, all Recovery opportunities expire ten days before the end of each semester. Any Recovery / Rise assigned in Band classes will be on Wednesday or Fridays before or after school, or during 4B lunch, at the discretion of the instructor.