



## Washington High School Varsity Band Syllabus 2018-2019

Second Hour 9:11-10:02  
Room: Band Room C107

INSTRUCTOR: Kiley Coyne, Director of Bands  
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Music Office: (605) 367-7976

CREDITS: 1

MATERIALS: Students will need a functioning instrument, necessary accessories (reeds, valve oil etc.), music (handed out in class), and a pencil every day.

DESCRIPTION: In this course, students will improve proficiency in all aspects of reading and performing instrumental music. Through the rehearsal and study of quality wind band literature, students will strengthen individual playing techniques and skills; learn about the theory, history, and vocabulary of music; demonstrate confidence and poise during public performances; and learn to work collaboratively as a member of the ensemble. This course emphasizes the importance of participation, appreciation, and support of music for life. Varsity Band is open to students in grade 9-12. The band has several performances throughout the year including one in late fall, midwinter, large group contest in early spring and another concert in late spring. Students also have the ability to participate in several local and regional honor bands and solo and ensemble contest during the spring semester. Students are encouraged to take private lessons.

EVALUATION: All grades will be based on:  
Appropriate Supplies for Class  
Listening assignments  
Participation/Attitude  
Tests (playing and written)  
Appropriate Dress and Attendance for Performances

- I. Concert Performances – 25%
- II. Attendance – 25%
  - a. Attendance at performances and rehearsals
  - b. Appropriate dress at performances
- III. Assignments – 25%
  - a. Listening assignment (one per semester)
  - b. Concert evaluations (after each concert)
  - c. Playing tests
  - d. Other homework as assigned by teacher
- IV. Class Participation – 25%
  - a. Has all required materials for class
  - b. Respectful of everyone's time and actively contributing
  - c. No cell phones as per the student handbook, unless directed for educational use

GRADING SCALE:	A = 93 – 100
	B = 85 – 92
	C = 76 – 84
	D = 65 – 75
	F = < 64

ATTENDANCE: Students are required to be punctual and attend all practices and performances of the full band. Attendance will be taken at the beginning of the rehearsal. Students not in the band room at the beginning of class or at the required meeting time will be considered tardy. The student attendance policy is as follows:

- I. According to district policy, if a student is late to class they will be SWEPT and will spend the hour in the commons. They will lose 1 (one) participation point if they are late and/or are not in rehearsal without prior notice.
- II. **CONCERTS ARE MANDATORY.** An unexcused absence from a performance is a loss of 100 points (a zero) for that concert and student will be required to complete the below assignment in an effort to make up those points.
- III. In addition, if a student misses a concert even with an excused absence, they will also be required to complete the following assignment to make up the points for the concert.

MAKE-UP ASSIGNMENTS Students missing a performance for any absence will be required to complete one of the following assignments to earn 100 points: (If you miss it, you make it up, even if it is an excused absence such as a sport conflict)<sup>1</sup> It is the responsibility of the student to decide and approach director with preference of make-up assignment.

- I. Research paper on any musical topic approved by director – plagiarism will result in an office referral
  - a. Three-pages minimum
  - b. 12 point, Times New Roman, double-spaced
  - c. Bibliography of printed sources, internet sources, or other sources (TV, Film, Song/Piece) listed on last page (this source page does not count in the 3-page minimum)
  - d. Correct grammar, spelling, and punctuation always apply
- II. Three-page music review; musical piece assigned to you by director
  - a. Student will be required to listen to the major musical work as assigned by director and give a thorough review of its entirety
  - b. All previous specifications apply
- III. Student must come in either before school and/or after school and complete a series of sight-reading exercises.
  - a. Student will be given several sight-reading exercises to be graded by director on accuracy of notes and rhythm, tone, and dynamic contrast.
  - b. Student will also be required to play through their part of the entire concert for a grade.

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<sup>1</sup> An absence due to an extreme circumstance will be considered on an individual basis subject to the discretion of the band teacher and school administration.

## PARTICIPATION

Students are required to participate in class which includes, but is not limited to: being actively engaged in the rehearsal, having all necessary materials for class, marking their music as directed or as they see fit, not using a cell phone during class unless directed to do so, being respectful of time by getting instrument out and putting it away in a timely fashion, and participation in Region Solo/Ensemble Contest.

Each student starts with 100 points of participation per QUARTER. Any failure of participation protocol will result in the deduction of participation points as listed below. Each point deduction from director will be documented to show date and violation with no warnings given.

- I. 5 participation points lost if student is SWEPT
- II. 1 participation point lost if student does not bring required materials to class
- III. 1 participation point lost each time student is caught using cell-phone in class. (Repeated number of sightings will involve confiscation of phone until end of the day)
- IV. 1 participation point lost if student is not respectful of time and is excessively talking or disrupting class

## ASSIGNMENTS

Varsity band students are required to complete a few assignments throughout the year as well as few homework assignments.

- I. Listening Assignment: Observing the performances of high quality instrumentalists is essential when learning how to play your instrument and perform music. Listening to characteristic sounds of instrumentalists, ensembles, and repertoire will give you a better idea of the sound that you are trying to produce on your own instrument.
  - a. Students are required to complete **TWO** listening assignments **per semester** (four total per year). They can be completed at any time and submission is done through the website at [www.washingtonbands.org](http://www.washingtonbands.org).
- II. Playing tests will occur one per semester. Portions to be played for playing test will be assigned by director and will mostly likely be centered around a particularly difficult section of music to be played for each concert. Playing tests will be graded somewhat harshly but it is only because as a performer, there is no such thing as perfect. We should all strive to be better every day! Submission of playing tests can be done electronically (recorded and sent through email) or by scheduling a time before/after school with director.
  - a. Students choosing to send their playing tests via recording/email must state their name and instrument at the beginning of the recording.

Note: For semester 1: if your student is in marching band, his/her playing test will be their section evaluation/memorization of marching band music – they will not do anything extra.

Note: For Semester 2: If your student decides to participate in Solo/Ensemble Contest, that performance will suffice as their playing test for that quarter!

CONCERT ATTIRE	<p>The uniform for Varsity Band is professional/concert black.</p> <p>Men need to wear black pants with black socks, black dress shoes, a black long sleeve button up shirt (or white button up shirt) with black tie and black jacket.</p> <p>Women should wear a floor length black dress/skirt or black pants and a black blouse with at least 1/4 length sleeves.</p>
FUNDRAISING	<p>The school district supplies many things to our program and we are lucky to have this support. However, these funds cannot account for everything that goes into a successful band. A fundraising target is a goal for each student to raise into their Individual Student Account that helps cover the costs for the year. Any additional amounts over the target will stay in the students account for subsequent years. The target for any performance concert band is \$75.</p>
BAND LOCKERS	<p>Students will be issued a band locker for his/her convenience and instrument's safety. Instruments must be labeled with the student's name and the school name. Lockers should be kept clean with instruments placed in their case and locks secured when not in use. Failure to comply will result in a loss of participation points. Students may choose to supply their own combination lock in which case the student must provide the combination to the director.</p>
ELECTRONICS	<p>In compliance with the student handbook, electronic devices are not allowed to be used during class time, unless directly authorized by the instructor for an educational purpose. Any student observed using an electronic device will have it confiscated and will need to have a parent or guardian retrieve it at the end of the day as well as lose participation points.</p>
EXTRA CREDIT	<p>Extra credit opportunities are posted in the band room and range from attendance at an additional sectional or concert and/or private lesson written reports, to volunteering in the music department or at community non-profit organizations (such as the Humane Society or Food Bank).</p>
INSTRUMENT REPAIR	<p>A student cannot actively participate or learn to play well if his/her instrument is in need of repair. In an effort to make sure your student has the best possible tools needed for success, instruments in need of repair need to be brought to the attention of the director IMMEDIATELY so we can ensure it is repaired in a timely fashion.</p>
PLAGIARISM/CHEATING	<p>Plagiarism or cheating of ANY kind will absolutely NOT be tolerated. This includes, but is not limited to: plagiarizing make-up assignments (research paper etc.), cheating on semester written exams, copying/plagiarizing listening assignments, or cheating through email submission of playing tests. <i>When</i> discovered, students will be reported through an office referral enduring the school consequences as well as not being able to audition for Concert Band and/or Symphonic Band for the next season.</p>

## 2018-2019 Concert Dates

- All home concerts are held in the Washington High School Auditorium. Students are to arrive in concert attire 30 minutes prior to the concert start time.
- The purpose of this syllabus is to provide information about the WHS Band. The director reserves the right to change anything in this syllabus to which you will receive ample notification. ***Please make to note the dates for concerts and events. Work is NEVER an excuse!***

Monday, September 17	Placement auditions begin within band	In Class
Friday/Saturday, November 9-10	Augustana Band Festival ( <i>select participants</i> )	All Day
Monday, December 10	Fall Band Concert (6:30 PM call time)	7:00 PM
Saturday, January 19	All State Band Auditions at Lincoln High School	All Day
Tuesday, February 5	Solo/Ensemble Contest at Augie	All Day
Thursday, February 7	<i>Prism</i> Band Concert (6:00 PM call time)	7:00 PM
Monday, February 11	2019-2020 Band Placement Auditions Begin	In Class
Thursday – Saturday, Mar. 21-23	All State Band Rehearsal ( <i>select participants</i> ) at NSU	All Day
Saturday, March 23	All State Band Concert ( <i>select participants</i> ) at NSU	4:00 PM
Wednesday, April 17	Large Group Contest at Brandon Valley	All Day
Friday, May 10	Spring Band Concert (6:30 call time)	7:00 PM
Sunday, May 26	Graduation at Sioux Falls Arena (2019-20 Symphonic Band)	4:00 PM

After reading this syllabus, please fill out this page and return to the band teacher by Thursday, August 30th for 10 points. If you bring a box of tissues or pencils, you will receive 5 extra credit points!

I have read the band syllabus and am fully aware of the information and expectations set forth.

Student Signature\_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Caregiver Signature\_\_\_\_\_

Date\_\_\_\_\_

In order to keep you informed of upcoming events and your child's progress in class, please provide the following information. This will only be used for email notifications from the WHS Band:

Parent/Guardian Names:

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Parent/Guardian Home Phone Numbers:

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Parent/Guardian Cell Phone Numbers:

\_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian E-Mail Addresses:

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