

Instrumental Ensemble 2020-21 Syllabus

OVHS Instrumental Music Department

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Program Objectives

The Owen Valley Band program...

- provides students with high quality musical experiences.
- develops musicianship through performance both in and out of the classroom.
- educates and entertains our community with a wide variety of performances.
- instills in students a desire to continue to pursue music and musical experiences beyond their time with the Owen Valley program.

Course Objectives

This course will...

- provide students with experience learning how to maintain and perform on a wind instrument.
- instruct students on multiple facets of music including: literature, history, theory, evaluation, and individual/group performance.
- Instruct students on multiple facets of the marching band activity including: posture, horn carry, movement, intervals, effect.

Required Materials

Students must bring the following things to class each day to receive full credit for participating:

- Pencil
- Chromebook
- Headphones
- Instrument (one may be provided through the school on a first come, first serve basis. There is a \$50 per year maintenance fee for the use of school instruments)
- Sticks and Mallets as required for the activity

Students will also need:

- A combination lock for their band instrument locker (locks will be provided for school instruments, students bringing their own locks must give the combination to Mr. Thompson).
- Marching Band, Pep Band, and Concert attire for performances (see below)

Marching Band Attire

For Marching Band performances members will wear:

Parades

-Parade/Pep Band Shirt (buy from school)

-Khaki Shorts

-Tennis Shoes

Football Games and Performances

-Marching Band Jacket and Bibs (school provided)

-Marching Band Shako (school provided)

-Marching Band Shoes (buy from school)

-Long black socks (no ankle socks)

Pep Band Attire

For Pep Band performances members will wear:

-Parade/Pep Band Shirt (buy from school, same as above)

-Jeans

-Tennis Shoes

Concert Attire

For Concert performances members will wear:

Gentlemen Ladies

-Tuxedo Jacket (school provided) -Black Blouse

-Tuxedo Pants (school provided) -Black Pants, Capris, or Skirt (knee length or longer)

-White Tuxedo Shirt (buy from school) -Black Belt (if there are belt loops)

-Black Socks -Black socks/black or tan nylons (optional)

-Black Dress Shoes -Black Shoes

Classroom Expectations

- Be prepared with all materials for class, will be on time, and will remain in the area designated by the director.
- When someone addresses the class, stop talking or playing and listen.
- Follow directions the first time they are given.
- Keep hands, feet, and objects to yourself this includes instruments and chromebooks.
- No profanity, teasing, name calling, yelling or anything that may constitute bullying or hazing.

Technology Policy

Chromebooks and cell phones may only be used during class for educational purposes when students have been given permission to do so. Students will receive one warning to put devices away, at which point devices that are out will be taken to the office.

Rewards

Individual

- Verbal praise from Mr. Cramer/Mr. Russell
- Positive contact with a parent (via letter, phone, or email)

Consequences

Individual consequences will be given when a classroom expectation is not being met. Individual consequences will reset each week, except in situations where students have a recurring offense. In that situation an individual student's consequences may be defined specific to that individual student and their behavior.

Individual

1. Verbal Warning
2. After school detention and parent contact
3. Referral (Further infractions result in additional referrals)

*Severe Clause - Any action deemed severe enough may result in an automatic referral

Group

In situations where there are too many students failing to meet classroom expectations for Mr. Thompson/Mr. Russell to address individual students, the class will be asked to stop their non-compliant behavior. The class will be given 10 seconds to comply with the instructions given. Mr. Thompson will keep track of time. Each second beyond the initial 10 seconds will result in time the class will be held during their passing period to make up for lost instructional time.

Grading Policy

Grading for this class will be based on the following criteria.

Performances

- Marching Band rehearsals - 3 points
- Football Games - 25 points
- Saturday Parades and Contests - 50 points
- Basketball Games - 25 points each (double headers are worth 50 points)
- Dress Rehearsals 25, Concerts 50 points

Classroom Participation (Daily participation 3 points)

Assignments (Worksheets and quizzes have varying point totals)

Performance Assessments (Playing tests have varying point totals and may be assigned

through Canvas)

Grading Category Descriptions

Performances

Student performances are the culmination of the work that the students put in at home and in the classroom and often mark the end of a class unit. The performances may include concerts, dress rehearsals, music festivals, football and basketball games, parades, contests, and other events that reinforce concepts taught in the classroom, broaden the musical experiences the student is exposed to, and allows them to develop skills that a student is not completely exposed to during classroom instruction (e.g. concert etiquette, overcoming performance anxiety, and evaluating performances).

After school performances and dress rehearsals are required as part of this course. The dates for these required events as well as optional performances are attached. The optional performances listed enhance the student's musical experience.

If a student is unable to make a performance, their absence will either be labeled as excused (performances points will not count for or against the student) or unexcused (performance points will result in a lower score or no points). A student may receive an excused absence from a performance when the student's absence:

1. Meets the criteria for a school approved absence as listed in the student handbook.

2. Fills out completely the appropriate performance/rehearsal absence form (forms available in the folders outside the band office).

Members that miss one or more performances may be dismissed from the HS Band classes.

Classroom Participation

A student's behavior and effort in class will be evaluated. Due to the performance based nature of the class it is necessary for students to work together to achieve class performance objectives. Students that participate fully are better prepared to meet classroom expectations and objectives and also provide a truer assessment of their own development and skills. A student will receive a participation score based on the criteria listed above under "classroom expectations".

Assignments

On a regular basis students will be given non-performance based assignments in class that will be used to reinforce concepts taught in class, to develop and use technical reading and writing skills within the performing arts curriculum, and to assess student achievement and comprehension of class concepts. Students may be asked to complete these assignments during class time or outside class time. Assignments that are assigned a due date must be turned in by the assigned date to receive full credit. Late assignments will be taken by Mr. Thompson/Mr. Russell on a case by case basis and may receive partial credit.

Performance Assessments

Students will receive assignments that they must perform in order to receive credit. Students will be asked to prepare and perform these assignments to assess student achievement and comprehension of class concepts.

Questions and Comments

Use the contact information listed at the beginning of this syllabus for any questions or comments that may occur. Also check the Owen Valley Band and Guard website for

more information about classes, events, and updates throughout the year. My preferred form of contact for comments and questions is via email.

Help Support the Band!

As a new or veteran band parent you can play an important role in aiding the band in providing the great musical opportunities that our children deserve. The Owen Valley Band and Guard Booster organization raises funds, manages and builds equipment and props, takes care of uniforms, chaperones trips and performances, volunteers at and attends Band and Guard events, and supports our members in many other ways.

This is a great way to stay connected with your child and make their music experience special. Booster meetings occur once a month and information will go out periodically about OV Band and Guard events. Please take some opportunities this year to share your time and your talents with our organization, and check the box on the attached form to get more information about our Booster program.