

# EPHRATA HIGH SCHOOL INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC CONCERT BAND SYLLABUS, FALL 2011 - SPRING 2012

Section: Band Only – “A” through “F” Days 1<sup>st</sup> Period (Band Room or Choir Room)

Section: Band / Orchestra / Choir – “B” and “E” Days 1<sup>st</sup> Period (Band Room)

Section: Band / Orchestra – “B”, “F”, and “E” Days 1<sup>st</sup> Period (Band Room)

Section: Band / Choir – “B”, “D”, and “E” Days 1<sup>st</sup> Period (Band Room or Choir Room)

Teacher: Mr. Fairchild  
Office: Band Room 301  
Phone: 721-1478 ext. 19501

## Course Objectives:

- Students will demonstrate a theoretical understanding of music by:
  1. Performing analysis of rhythms (counting)
  2. Explaining meters, both simple and compound
  3. Constructing, transposing and performing scales
  4. Developing analytical listening skills
  5. Interpreting and applying musical terminology
- Students will demonstrate concepts of pitch awareness by:
  1. Adjusting individual pitch to match that of the group
  2. Identifying intonation problems specific to individual’s instrument
- Students will demonstrate proper tone quality and production by:
  1. Utilizing correct breathing and playing habits
  2. Utilizing correct playing posture
- Students will demonstrate expressive playing habits by:
  1. Applying expression markings such as dynamics, accents, and phrase markings to their playing
  2. Applying stylistic techniques such as rubato and legato style playing
- Students will develop ensemble performance experience by:
  1. Performing a wide variety of literature from the concert band repertoire.
  2. Practicing sight reading
  3. Demonstrating an awareness of proper ensemble musical characteristics such as tonal balance, blend and intonation
- Students will develop technical proficiency by:
  1. Applying knowledge of alternate fingerings where appropriate
  2. Preparing for and performing a quarterly playing exam

## Grading:

All marking period grades will be based on the following scale (Total points):

- **Your individual progress as compared to your ability and potential will count as 200 points towards your overall grade.** Your progress and musical skills will be assessed through:
  1. Individual Assessment Performance (100 points per marking period). At the beginning of each semester, students will participate in an Individual Assessment Performance or IAP. The student will receive points based on the score received from the rubric (see below). If the student does not take an IAP he/she will receive fifty (50) points. The IAP will determine seating for Concert Band. The IAP grade received for the Fall semester will be used for the first and second marking periods, and the grade received for the Spring semester will be used for the third and fourth marking periods. Please realize that by not taking the IAP, you will most likely receive no higher than a C in band. Be responsible and take the IAP.
    - 37-45 points: 100 points
    - 30-36.5 points: 95 points
    - 27-29.5 points: 90 points
    - 20-26.5 points: 85 points
    - .5-19.5 points: 80 points
    - Non participation: 50 points

2. Performance Exams (100 points per marking period). There will be 4 performance exams throughout the year. One in each marking period. All performance exams will be assigned and assessed in SmartMusic and will consist of the band literature (percussion exception). (You decide what grade you get when you submit the recording). If students wish to not utilize SmartMusic, timeslots will be posted for a live Performance Exam. Please note that if you choose to perform live for me, it is a once and done performance. You must accept the grade given. Also, the open timeslots are the only times the live performance exams will be given...no exceptions or extensions barring a serious medical or family issue which results in an extended absence. You will have the entire marking period to work on the performance exam and to submit it. Any problems that you have due to a lack of preparation, responsibility, etc. is exactly that...your problem!
- **Rehearsal and performance attendance and participation will count as 150 points towards your grade for the marking period.** Do not take this lightly! Your participation is crucial.
    1. Participation rating (100 points per marking period). Students will receive one of three participation ratings for each rehearsal and performance. At the beginning of the marking period all students will start with 93 points (all checks). Based on the number of check plusses or minuses, points will be added on or subtracted.
      1. ✓+ = (actively engaged in rehearsal and above average participation, plus 1 point)
      2. ✓ = (average participation)
      3. ✓- = (unexcused absence, poor participation, disruptive behavior, minus 10 points)
    2. Performance Attendance (50 points). There are 4 mandatory concerts scheduled throughout the year and the dates have been provided to you on the *Performance Dates and Concert Dress* handout. You are required to perform in the Fall and Spring Concert, Memorial Day Service and Graduation. During the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> marking periods performance attendance will be scored. The marking period breakdown is as follows:
      - a. 2<sup>nd</sup> Marking Period
        - i. Fall Concert (50 points)
      - b. 4<sup>th</sup> Marking Period
        - i. Spring Concert (30 points)
        - ii. Memorial Day (10 points)
        - iii. Graduation (10 points) \*Senior exemption
- Please Note:** Any request for absences from a performance except in the case of an emergency must be submitted in writing no less than one (1) month before the performance date. Students with excused absences will be required to submit a written make-up project if they wish to receive credit for the missed performance.
- **Performance evaluations will count as 50 points towards your grade for the marking period.** Band Orchestra and Choir students will be brought together once a semester in the auditorium and will be asked to complete a written performance evaluation. Any students not present will be required to make up this evaluation. The assignment will be available online.
  - **Extra-credit points.** Lesson groups will be created in SmartMusic based on your IAP score. You will receive an additional two (2) points for each lesson you complete/submit within a marking period. The total points earned will be added onto your cumulative points at the end of each marking period. You will not be penalized for not completing lessons...only rewarded!
    - ✓ Students will receive 5 extra credit points for participating in either Orchestra, Choir, Percussion Ensemble, Jazz Ensemble or Wind Ensemble.
    - ✓ Students will receive 8 extra credit points for participating in District Band Auditions.
    - ✓ Students will receive 3 extra credit points for participating in County Band.
    - ✓ Extra credit assignments will be available each marking period for those wishing to raise their grade. All extra credit assignments will be given a rating of 1 through 25 points. These points will be added into your overall point total for the marking period.

**Expectations:**

- Rehearsal begins at 7:53. This allows 3 minutes past when the bell rings to be in your seat and get ready to rehearse...this is a courtesy and is not school mandate.
- If a student is late 4 times his/her parents will be notified and any further unexcused lateness will be reported on an administrative level and handled according to school policy. You will be considered late if you are not in your seat ready to rehearse by 7:53.
- Food, drinks (except bottled water), and gum are not permitted in the band room. This includes percussion. Please deposit all trash in the wastebasket.
- While the director is on the podium there will be no talking. When the director is working with a smaller group, quiet talking should be kept to a minimum.
- Instruments are to be put away properly in cubbies. Remove reeds from mouthpieces, close the case, etc.
- All rules and regulations normally associated with the Ephrata Area School District are in effect during all rehearsals, performances and all trips.
- Please restore the band room to its original condition at the conclusion of rehearsal. Percussion will receive clean-up assignments during the beginning of the rehearsal week.
- Rehearsals will end at 8:35. You will have 3 minutes to clean up before the bell rings. This is a courtesy that I am extending to you and not a school mandate. The director reserves the right to work up until the bell rings.
- All students will remain in the bandroom until the bell rings with exceptions being granted on an “as needed” basis.