

**NOUVEL HIGH SCHOOL**  
**HONORS BAND COURSE SYLLABUS**

<p><b>COURSE DESCRIPTION:</b></p>	<p>NCC COURSE DESCRIPTIONS INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC 2017-2018</p> <p>HONORS BAND <span style="float: right;">1.0 Credit</span></p> <p>Prerequisite: Open to all grades with approval of instructor. Previous experience in band is necessary. A placement audition may be required.</p> <p>Description: The Concert Band is primarily a performance-oriented organization. Students will work to achieve the highest level of individual and ensemble skills. Many extra opportunities are available, including: MSBOA festivals; workshops; clinics; special trips and performances. Historical and musical analysis is also included. Symphonic Band members are also required to participate in marching band and basketball pep band.</p>
<p>MAJOR COURSE GOALS:</p> <p><b><i>National Standards for Music Education: (cited in parenthesis)</i></b></p> <p><i>2. Performing on Instruments, alone and with others, a varied repertoire of music.</i></p> <p><i>3. Improvising melodies, variations, and accompaniments.</i></p> <p><i>5. Reading and notating music.</i></p> <p><i>6. Listening to, analyzing, and describing music.</i></p> <p><i>7. Evaluating music and music performances.</i></p> <p><i>8. Understanding relationships between music, the other arts, and disciplines outside the arts.</i></p> <p><i>9. Understanding music in relation to history and culture.</i></p>	<p>The core of any school music program is the concert band. In this ensemble setting, we learn and develop proper performance technique and musicianship (2). These abilities can then be applied to the marching, jazz, orchestral, solo, and small ensemble idioms(3,5). By the time students have reached the high school level, they are well trained in the fundamental techniques of their instrument. What remains is refinement, mastery, and application of those skills in the study and performance of advanced ensemble literature. The music should be of many cultures and periods(8), with emphasis on the great works and composers that shaped our own musical heritage (8,9). The Symphonic Band is primarily a performance-oriented class. The majority of class time will be spent in rehearsal for upcoming performances. Additional musical learning (history, theory, etc.) will be integrated into the preparation of music for performance (6,7,8,9).</p> <p>Music Educator’s National Conference:  National Standards for Music Education  <a href="http://www.menc.org/resources/view/national-standards-for-music-education">http://www.menc.org/resources/view/national-standards-for-music-education</a></p>

**COURSE ASSESSMENT PLAN:**

Students will be evaluated in five areas:

1. Attendance / participation
2. Playing ability
3. Attitude /Rehearsal etiquette
4. Musical knowledge
5. Community service

Your grade for each marking period is based on points. 10 points are available each day for participation. Additional points will be added for successful completion of written assignments and demonstration of performance skills. This will be done through individual "performance evaluations", written quizzes, worksheets, and performances. *This is primarily a performance ensemble - your ability to accurately perform your part will weigh heavily in your final grade.* The total points from all assignments will be combined to determine your grade. Honors students will be required to complete additional 'advanced' assignments. With good attitude, effort, and attendance it is fairly easy to get a good grade.

**Community Service:**

All band students must complete one hour of community service per marking period (Two hours required for Honors students). This service hour must be earned in a musical context. Here are a few ideas:

- Perform on your instrument at your parish or NCC mass.
- Volunteer at an elementary school to help the music teacher with a project.
- Perform the national anthem at a public ceremony.
- Serve as an usher at a recital or concert.

Failure to complete the service component will result in a one-letter grade deduction for the marking period.

**Students can detract from their raw score by doing the following:**

- 3 : Gum/food/beverage in class; any behavior that distracts from the educational process; not participating; tardy.
- 5 : failure to bring necessary materials to class; failure to participate for any reason.

**"Make-up" work:**

- You will receive a "0" if you do not have an instrument on a test day. There will be NO make-up allowed.
- All other assignments can be made-up and turned in within ONE WEEK.

You may do as much extra credit work as desired. Below are examples.

**Students can enhance their raw score by doing the following:**

+25 to 100 – participate in Solo & Ensemble Festival.

	<p>+10 - attend or participate in an approved musical event outside of school.</p> <p>+30 - take private music lessons (must present a progress report from the instructor)</p> <p>+40 - perfect attendance for entire marking period (no absences, no tardies, <i>no excuses!</i>)</p> <p>Simply being responsible and honest with the teacher at all times will prevent him from ever using the detractions. They are designed to protect the band from uncaring and irresponsible individuals, and should present no problem for anyone who uses common sense and good judgment.</p>
<p><b>SUPPLIES AND MATERIALS NEEDED:</b></p>	<p>Rehearsal time is too valuable to waste. Individuals are expected to be properly prepared at each meeting. Therefore, each band member should have at hand:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Instrument (in proper working condition)</li> <li>2. Music</li> <li>3. Necessary accessories (pencil, extra reed, fingering and trill charts, mute, valve oil, etc.)</li> </ol> <p>If a student does not meet the above preparation requirements, a grade deduction will be made.</p>
<p><b>EXTRA HELP:</b></p>	<p>Extra help is available at student request.</p>
<p><b>INSTRUCTIONAL PHILOSOPHY:</b></p>	<p>(see Major Course Goals)</p>
<p><b>MAJOR COURSE PROJECTS AND INSTRUCTIONAL ACTIVITIES:</b></p>	<p>The course is divided into four primary instructional units; 1. Marching Band season (Sept/Oct); 2. Christmas concert (Nov/Dec); 3. Winter Festivals (Jan/Feb/Mar); 4. Spring concert and Commencement performances (Apr/May). These units do not align directly with the academic calendar.</p>
<p><b>CLASSROOM EXPECTATIONS:</b></p>	<p>Each day that a student is in school he/she is expected to participate in all band activities. It is assumed that if you are healthy enough to be in school, then you are able to participate in class activities. In some cases, an injury or other exceptional circumstance may limit participation.</p> <p>Students are to be in their assigned seats with all pertinent materials in hand, and ready to go, by the designated "start time". Students not in their seats by this time will be considered tardy.</p>

	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>AFTER-HOURS EVENTS (concerts, etc.)</b></p> <p>Students are to be at the designated site, pertinent materials in hand, ready to go, by the designated "start time", or be considered tardy. <i>All band members are required to attend all scheduled events.</i> Students that do not participate in required after-hours events will be graded accordingly.</p> <p><b>NOTE: An <i>excused absence</i> is still an absence. You will get full credit for participating only when you do so. Credit will not be given to a student that does not participate. Lost credit for <i>excused</i> absences can be made up (see <b>Extra Credit</b>).</b></p>
HOMEWORK POLICY AND GRADING SCALE:	(see Course Assessment Plan)
<b>CONTACT INFORMATION:</b>	
Teacher:	David Valasek
Email Address:	dvalasek@sacs.org
Phone Number:	989-714-6953