

Alpharetta High School Bands

Percussion 1,2,3,4; BAND II, III, IV Course Syllabus Fall Semester

Instructors: Mike Walsh (ext.139), Office Hours: by appointment only

Phone: 770-521-7640 X139 email: walsh@fulton.k12.ga.us

TEXTS: scales and all-state etudes (available at www.gmea.org); Erickson Ensemble books (provided); Total Musicianship Book 1 and 2 (provided); various ensemble works – music is provided and assigned to individual students, changed for each concert.

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

MENC: 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”. Instrumental Music is our vehicle to get there. In the fall we will explore various types of popular and art music forms through teaching the basic fundamentals of instrumental performance, using the Marching Band and Concert Band as our primary vehicles.

GOALS:

Understand the major scales as they are used in and relate to music. Identify the fundamentals of musical performance. Create an understanding of music theory and performance fundamentals; begin to apply to actual musical works.

REQUIREMENTS:

All students shall participate in Symphonic Band I or II, Wind Ensemble, Percussion class, and/or Marching Band during the fall semester. Students will be scheduled in either into Percussion Class, Symphonic Band I or II, or Wind Ensemble during the regular school day. Placement is based on auditions from the previous spring. Marching Band is after school only. The opportunities for further participation during the year (i.e. Jazz Band, Symphony, musical pit orchestra) will be posted periodically. You may sign up for any available experiences you may qualify for. Students who elect to participate with the Marching Band will be expected to attend Summer Band Camp (Rock Eagle 4-H camp) and pre-school practices, perform at football games, Marching Festivals, and fall Cluster Concert. Percussion class and Concert Ensembles will perform at some or all of the following: October Concert, November Cluster Concert, and December Winter Concert.

EVALUATION:

Grades will be based primarily on performance. A combination written / playing final exam will be worth 15% of your final grade. The percentages listed are subject to change. This information is also included in the Band Handbook found on the AHS Band website (www.alpharettaband.org)

50% = Performances and Rehearsals; 20% = Daily Progress and Written / Playing Tests; 15% = Punctuality and Attitude; 15% = Semester Final

Provision for Improving Grades (recovery)

1. 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.
2. 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.*
3. Teacher will determine when and how students with extenuating circumstances may improve their grades. To be eligible for recovery, you must have NO missing assignments and have not been excessively absent.

OTHER STUFF...

All other details of the Alpharetta HS Band Program are outlined in the band handbook, which is viewable and downloadable via the AHS Band website. (www.alpharettaband.org)

RISE: Re-teaching Instructional Support Experience (not to be confused with recovery policy)

1. RISE is an opportunity for students to relearn course standards OR receive instructional support in the form of more focused instruction from their teachers.
2. All teachers are available for extra help, should a student want or need it. However, once a student's average drops below a 75, RISE policy requires that the student and parent be notified AND that the student spend a minimum of 30 minutes per week with the teacher for that course until the student attains a course average of 75.
3. If the below-75 average is a consequence of failure to make up work missed when absent, the student should follow the teacher's standard make-up policy.
4. RISE sessions are offered according to the schedule below in order to avoid conflicts with individual teacher's office hours:

Monday: ALL Electives (Lunch/PM)

Tuesday: Language Arts (AM/Lunch)

Wednesday: Science (AM/Lunch/PM)

Thursday: Math (AM/Lunch)

Friday: Social Studies (AM/Lunch)

LOST / DAMAGED TEXTBOOKS / 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 Plagiarism Statement:

A particular kind of honor code violation occurs with plagiarism. Plagiarism is defined as the use of another's words or ideas and the presentation of them as though they are entirely one's own. Acts of plagiarism include but are not limited to using words or ideas from a published source without proper documentation; using the work of another student (e.g., copying another student's homework, composition or project); using excessive editing suggestions of another student, teacher, parent, or paid editor.

Plagiarism on any project or paper at Alpharetta High School will result in a zero for the assignment, two days of Saturday school, and an Honor Code Violation. Unless directly stipulated by the teacher, collaboration on written work is not acceptable. Students who willingly provide other students with access to their work are in violation of the Alpharetta High School Honor Code. From time to time, students will be required to register with and post assignments to the Fulton County approved plagiarism detection site, www.turnitin.com. Should the teacher require posting the particular assignment to turnitin.com, the assignment must have been posted to the website prior to the time the assignment is collected in class or the assignment will be considered late.