



Madison County High School Advanced (Marching) Band Syllabus

1st Semester, 1st and 2nd Block

Sarah Humphreys, *Director*
Alison O'Bryan, *Assistant Director*

Elijah Steele, *Percussion Instructor/Show Writer*
Kim Adams, *Color Guard Instructor*

Ms. Humphreys' Contact Information

The best way to reach me is by email. I will respond within 24 academic hours.

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School Phone: (540)948-3780 Ext. 4105

GoogleVoice Text: (540)407-8511

Required Dates

The calendar is attached to this syllabus. Hard copies have been sent home during band camp, and digital copies are emailed with each weekly newsletter. Attendance on each of these dates is required for completion of this course. The winter concert will be held in December. This date is TBD at this time, as we are still navigating conflicts with the winter sports schedule and the SOL testing schedule. Please mark your calendars, and you will be notified of an official date as soon as possible.

Course Overview

Advanced Band (Marching Band) is a performance based class. We meet during the school day and after school on Mondays and Wednesdays to learn and rehearse a full marching band show. We perform this show at Friday night home football games and at competitions throughout the region during September and October. We also perform in the stands at Friday night home football games, in local parades, and for pep rallies. In this course, students learn proper marching techniques, performance techniques, and continue to advance their individual skills on their instrument or in the color guard. This course fosters many opportunities for student leadership, including titled and untitled positions. When the competitive season is over at the end of October, we will prepare for a winter concert in which all students will, and are able to participate, even color guard members.

VDOE Music Standards of Learning

See "*High School Instrumental Music*" at the Intermediate and Advanced levels.

Canvas

Canvas will be used in the class to post links to pages and activities, assignments, tests, quizzes, formative assessments, projects, rubrics, etc. Class Canvas link:

Class Values

1. No food or drink other than water is permitted in the music room.
2. Treat each other with respect.
3. Treat instruments, equipment, and other class materials with respect.
4. Arrive at each rehearsal prepared to the best of your ability.
5. Always try- even if you're afraid and even if you fail. Trying is the only way you learn!
6. Build each other up- we are all developing musicians!

Expectations

Students are expected to arrive at each rehearsal with a positive attitude and a readiness to learn, and to be the best version of themselves every day. All school rules are to be followed as outlined in the student

handbook. All students are performers in this class, and will treat each other with respect, and encourage each other to grow both on and off the field and performance stage.

Attendance Policy

This course is co-curricular. Most of our rehearsal time is during the school day, but some preparation must take place outside of school hours, as well as performances. Grades are given for events both during and outside of the school day. With proper planning and communication, conflicts can be avoided.

- **Excused Absences:** 1) Severe personal illness, 2) Scheduled doctor appointments (doctor's note required), 3) Family emergencies, 4) Religious holidays, 5) Mandatory school events (notice from teacher is required)
 - A parent/guardian must email Ms. Humphreys or provide a written note for an absence to be considered excused.
- **Students absent from school on a rehearsal day:** Per MCHS policy, those who miss the regular school day may not participate in after school activities. A zero will be recorded until the absence is reviewed by the attendance secretary. After the absence has been marked "excused" by the attendance secretary, the grade will be adjusted accordingly.
- **Students absent from school on a performance day:** Per MCHS policy, students must be in the building by 9am to participate in after school games/performances. A zero will be recorded until the absence is reviewed by the attendance secretary. After the absence has been marked "excused" by the attendance secretary, the grade will be adjusted accordingly.

Grading Policy

Formative Assessment: 40% (all of the work to prepare for performances/other assignments)

- Rehearsals (during and after school), playing assignments
- Weekly rehearsals are graded on a 21 point system
 - 7 weekly rehearsals, valued at 3 points each
 - 3 points: 1) student is on time, 2) student is prepared with proper materials, 3) student is actively engaged in rehearsal

Summative Assessment: 60% (performances and playing/performance quizzes)

- Each performance counts twice in the grade book
 - Competitions, parades, concerts, football games
- Playing/performance quizzes count once in the grade book
 - Memorization quizzes, quiz on music and/or guard choreography/work we worked on in rehearsals
 - Individual practice time will be necessary to score well on playing/performance quizzes. Practice logs are not required, but the quiz score will reflect the practice spent on that material.

Final Exam (E1)

- The final exam for all members will be the Winter Concert. All members, including those who do not play an instrument will have the ability to participate.

While it is not graded, it is an expectation that all students audition for All District Band, and All VA Band if they qualify.

Required Materials

- Working instrument/ proper color guard equipment

- Music and drill
- Pencil
- Proper practice or performance uniform (explained in the MCHS Marching Mountaineers Handbook)
- Sunscreen, sunglasses, and hats may only be worn during outside rehearsals

Care and Responsibility of Instrument

Students are responsible for the care and maintenance of their instrument, whether it is owned by the school, or owned by the student. Keep record of the brand name, model, and serial number of your instrument. We will review how to clean, handle, and maintain the instrument in class. Make sure your instrument is clearly labeled with your name. Each student will be assigned a storage space for their instrument on the first day of school. School instruments can be rented for \$20, and require a separate contract.

*****DO NOT ATTEMPT TO REPAIR YOUR INSTRUMENT AT HOME*****

If you think your instrument is broken, put it back in the case and bring it to Ms. Humphreys. If it will not fit in the case, wrap it in a towel and be very careful when you bring it to school.

Please see the MCHS Marching Mountaineers Handbook for additional information.

Contract

****Sign and return to Ms. Humphreys on Tuesday, July 26th, 2022.****

My signature below indicates that I have read, understand, and agree to abide by the Madison County High School Marching Mountaineers Handbook and the course syllabus. I have read the Handbook and the syllabus thoroughly and agree to adhere to the schedule that has been given.

Student Name

Date

Guardian Name

Date