



Jazz Band

Philosophy: The focus of the YCHS is to develop the student's musical skills with daily emphasis in a group setting geared toward the following: 1) improvement in music reading and technical facility on an instrument, 2) refinement of tone, 3) gaining an appreciation for the aesthetic value of music and other arts, and 4) overall development as a complete musician including listening skills, historical knowledge, critical thinking, teamwork, good citizenship, and public performance. The importance of the individual to the success of the group is such that attendance and participation are essential to the learning process. The end result of the learning process is the performance of the music for an audience, and it is an experience that cannot be duplicated in any other way. Therefore, performances are vital to the success of the music program.

Content & Objectives: *Students will study/rehearse/performance music of varying level of difficulty and styles. *Students will develop or enhance self-discipline through individual practice. *Students will continue developing reading and writing skills in standard music notation. *Students will demonstrate basic care and maintenance for their respective instruments. *Students will gain a rudimentary understanding of Jazz origins, their instrument, and other related topics. *Music theory, history and listening will be incorporated into daily class time. *Through the rehearsal/performance process, students will improve their musicianship skills and technical facility on their instruments. *Students will develop individual and ensemble skills to include tone production, intonation, breathing, embouchure, fingering, rhythm, articulation and scales. They will use these skills in expressive musical performance. *Students will study the common elements of music and develop a vocabulary to discuss and describe music. *Students will prepare selections for the SC State Jazz Festival. *Students will learn and regularly test the blues scales. *Students will continually work toward developing the virtues of integrity, diligence and loyalty.

Required Materials:

- Instruments with accessories- Sax: 3 working reeds, cork grease, swab/ Trumpet: straight mute & Harmon mute, slide grease, rag/ Baritone, / Trombone: plunger mute, slide oil or cream, rag/ Percussion: sticks, brushes, mallets
- 1 Black 1 inch 3 ring binder and dividers
- several pencils
- music –in folder
- tuner
- metronome
- text book (fee if not returned or damaged)
- other materials may be required throughout the year – prior notice will be given.

Expectations and Rules: BE PROFESSIONAL!

Attendance: This is a “5th Block” course that meets only after school. Please see the Jazz Band Course Calendar. The usual 90min course meetings are combined in most cases to assure that students get the required seat time needed for an official course. Attendance will be treated the same as in any other course. Example: If a student should miss a 3 hour class meeting it would be equal to missing 2 days of school for that course.

Grading Procedures:

- I. **Daily Grades**
Students receive grades each day based on preparedness and participation in class/rehearsals. Students who fail to bring required materials/equipment to class/rehearsals will receive a reduced daily grade. Students must bring a note from home if their instrument is in the shop.

- II. **Assessments, Rehearsals, & Performances**
Students will have playing and written assessments/evaluations throughout the year.
*Missed performance = 0 for Major Test Grade
*Competitions/Festivals counted twice (see VII)

- III. **Quizzes/Pass offs**
Playing quizzes and pass offs are conducted often to monitor progress of each student. Quizzes/Pass offs may cover scales, concert music, selected exercises, routine, and etc. Pass offs are pass/fail, but may be attempted an unlimited amount of time before the end of the grading period.

- IV. **Calculation of Grades**
Daily/Materials/Rehearsals – 20% Quiz/Homework – 20% Tests/Performances/Projects – 60%

- V. **Missing Assignments/Low Grades**
It is the student’s responsibility to ask for makeup assignments. Students may make up missing assignments or low test grades as many times as desired by the end of the grading period.

- VI. **Extra Credit**
Submit programs from “serious music concerts” attended along with a paragraph describing the experience to receive extra credit.

- VII. **Alternative Assignments**
In the event of an **EXCUSED** absence, students may complete a predetermined alternative assignment (Alternative Assignment form available in the band room) or make up the time (form available in the band room) to receive partial credit for a missed assignment/rehearsal/performance. The alternative should be equal to the time spent on the original event. The forms are located in the folio cabinet in the band room.

Homework: Individual student practice at home is necessary to review and reinforce skills learned during instructional time in class. Ideally all students should practice at least 1 hour each day that they do not have afterschool rehearsal.

Attendance:

<u>EXCUSED ABSENCES</u>	<u>UNEXCUSED ABSENCES</u>
Personal Illness w/written documentation	Doctor/Dentist Appointments (please schedule accordingly)
Pre-Approved school function	Work Conflicts
Funerals	School events/meetings (<i>without</i> director approval)
Emergency	Any other absences

SEE BAND HANDBOOK for more on attendance at www.yorkcougarbands.com

Tardy Policy: School procedure

Performances/Rehearsals/Schedules and Conduct: SEE BAND HANDBOOK & CALENDAR at www.yorkcougarbands.com

Sacred/Nationalistic Music: As a part of the course curriculum this music will be used on occasion. This music is the foundation of Western Classical Music and is used for that reason.