



Band Class Syllabus

Department: Fine Arts/Instrumental Music 2023 - 2024

COURSE TITLE: Advanced Band (Wind Symphony), Intermediate Band (Symphonic) Band, Beginning Band (Concert Band)

INSTRUCTORS: Mr. Eulas Kirtdoll/Mr. Endre Jenkins

EMAIL: eulas.kirtdoll@cobbk12.org, endre.jenkins@cobbk12.org

PHONE: 770-819-2521 ext. 083

BAND WEBSITE: <http://www.pebblebrookbands.com>

SCHOOL WEBSITE: <http://www.cobbk12.org/Pebblebrook/>

PHS SCHOOL VISION: Create a School Community of Purpose Driven, Passionate Stakeholders in Pursuit of Excellence!

PHS SCHOOL MISSION: *Modeling and Developing Intellectual, Physical and Emotional Behaviors that Lead to Success for All*

KEY ACTIONS:

- *Increase the Graduation Rate*
- *Increase rigor and student engagement (Project-based learning environment)*
- *Increase community and parental involvement*

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

Overview

It is the mission of the Pebblebrook High School Band Program to create functionally literate, independent musicians, who continually exhibit the highest level of character as school citizens. This education shall take place through traditional concert band classes, as well as through extra-curricular activities, i.e. marching band, jazz band, small ensembles, solos, auditions, etc.

Goals

The Wind Symphony is the flagship ensemble of Pebblebrook High School. Students in this ensemble display the highest level of musicianship, capable of performing Grade 5, 6, and Masterworks literature. This ensemble is intended for upperclassmen, most specifically junior and senior members.

The Symphonic Band is the performing ensemble at Pebblebrook High School where students display a high level of musicianship capable of performing Grade 3, 4, and 5 literature. This ensemble is intended for juniors, sophomores, and select freshman band members.

The Concert Band is the performing ensemble at Pebblebrook High School where students display a skill level that is still developing into maturity necessary for high achievement in band literature. While showing the need for more individual practice and understanding of key concepts as they mature and progress. This ensemble is intended mainly for freshman and select sophomore band students.

KEY STANDARDS:

- MHSIB.1 - Singing, alone and with others, a varied repertoire of music
- MHSIB.2 - Performing on instruments, alone and with others, a varied repertoire of music
- MHSIB.3 - Reading and notating music
- MHSIB.4 - Improvising melodies, variations, and accompaniments
- MHSIB.5 – Composing and arranging music within specified guidelines
- MHSIB.6 - Listening to, analyzing, and describing music
- MHSIB.7 - Evaluating music and music performances
- MHSIB.8 - Understanding relationships between music, the other arts, and disciplines outside the arts
- MHSIB.9 - Understanding music in relation to history and culture

TEXTBOOK/SUPPLEMENTAL RESOURCES:

Central Texts: None

Web Resources: Smart Music Subscription, External USB Microphone, Sight Reading Factory Subscription, MusicFirst Subscription

Required/Supplemental/Parallel Texts for the Course: Sheet music and method book repertoire to be supplied by teacher only in the event digital copy is not accessible.

MATERIALS NEEDED:

Instruments: Although we are fortunate to be able to provide instruments without charge to students, we recommend those that own a personal instrument use it to ensure there are enough instruments for all students. **Students that use school owned instruments must complete the CCSD instrument agreement form** and are responsible for returning the instrument in a good working condition. Students may be liable for loss or damage to an instrument they have been issued. Students may also be asked to purchase upgraded mouthpieces, instruments, and reeds to achieve mastery of the standards on students' individual instruments.

DONATION REQUEST:

Woodwind students are asked to supply reeds (size 3 or 3 1/2 strength Vandoren) and instrument swabs for their students. Brass students are asked to supply valve oil or slide oil (trombones). Students should bring these supplies to class daily.

CLASS EXPECTATIONS:

General Classroom Behavior Expectations

1. Bring **ALL** appropriate materials to class daily
2. Raise your hand and be recognized by the teacher before speaking
3. Be respectful and polite to **ALL** people
4. Play instruments **ONLY** when instructed
5. Obey **ALL** school rules or be subject to consequences of inappropriate behavior

Consequences:

1st offense-Verbal Warning

2nd offense- Alternative Assignment/Mark against rehearsal preparation grade

3rd offense- Parent phone call/teacher conference

4th offense- Teacher referral

5th offense- Administrative referral

Rehearsal Preparation Guidelines: In an effort to create a positive learning environment and provide more efficient rehearsals the following policies will be in effect:

1st Bell - Students should enter the room, immediately get their instrument by sections and find their seat.

Tardy Bell 8:20 am/9:53 am/2:01 pm – classroom door locked/students must be seated and warming up individually.

8:25 am/09:58 am/2:06 pm - Group Warm-up will begin/students must have warmed up for at least 5 minutes by this time.

9:42 am/11:15 am/3:25 pm - Pack-up/Dismissal

Additional class procedure guidelines:

Students are to make no more sounds on their instruments after dismissal.

-Tardies for class will be assigned according to school policy.

Please leave books, food, bags, and other personal items in areas designated by the teacher. Unless the teacher specifically asks, please leave your phones on silent in bags/purses for the duration of class.

-At no point should a student distract another student's ability to learn

-At no point should a student's shoulder or head be down or directed to the floor or another student

-The only sounds allowed during rehearsal are musical sounds from instruments, or the director giving feedback.

-The time in between agenda items should be **silent** and should require **minimal movement**.

-ALL students must have their own music, music folder, instrument, and pencil each day.

-Students may not use the restroom during the first and last 15 minutes of class, this is "dead time".

Students can earn 100 points per week (20pts. per day) for rehearsal preparation and rehearsal performance etiquette. These 20 points per day shall be used to assess the above policies. These policies are the same expectations of a professional music ensemble and should be viewed as an effort to educate our students on being professional in their approach to rehearsal, not as punishment. Examples of rehearsal preparation and performance etiquette are being prepared for class (with instrument, instrument accessories, music folder complete with all music) and following class procedures. Students may earn additional points for tests and quizzes.

GRADING POLICY:

Everyday is an audition – students will be evaluated daily on their individual musical skills and personal contributions to the ensemble. Formal playing assessments will be held periodically in-person, via Flipgrid.com for video/audio submissions. Select formal playing assessments will serve as chair placement auditions as well.

Band students are required to attend all performances and rehearsals for each music ensemble upon which they participate, including before and after school performances and rehearsals. Absences from a concert or other performances will only be excused in the case of an emergency. Prior commitments, family functions, and other performance events will not be considered excused absences. The band performance calendar is posted on www.pebblebrookbands.com website, classroom blog, and inside the physical classroom.

Grading Standards:

Semester 1/2

Skills and Techniques Performance- 35%

Rehearsal Preparation- 35%

Creation- 5%

Critical Analysis and Investigation- 10%

Cultural and Historical Context- 5%

Final Exam- 10%

GRADING SCALE:

A - 100-90%

B - 89-80%

C - 79-74%

D - 70-73%

F - 69-Below

SYNERGY ACCESS TO GRADES:

It is strongly encouraged that you keep your Synergy login information in a safe place and that you have access to the information when needed. Parents should contact the Main Office (770.819.2521).

Please note that when you are viewing grades in Synergy that a blank grade column for your child has no effect on their grade. If the space is blank, then your student may not have turned in that assignment due to absence or the teacher may not have entered grades for that assignment at that time. An "X" means that the student is exempt from an assignment at the discretion of the teacher.

GENERAL INFORMATION:**Class Requirements**

1. Students in band class will prepare and present multiple concerts per year, as notated in the calendar on the pebblebrookbands.com website.
2. Students in band class will participate in before/after school sectionals, as determined by the directors.
3. Students in the Wind Symphony, Symphonic Band, and Concert Band will participate in the GMEA District and All-State Materials.
4. Students in band class will participate in the Concert Band Clinic in February and Large Group Performance Evaluation in March (this includes any extra sectional or ensemble rehearsals).

Important Events

1. **Jan Fest, University of Ga Honor Band:** (Thursday, January 18th - Saturday, January 20th, 2024) is an honor band for selected high school band students. Students selected will spend the weekend rehearsing, performing, and hearing other performances on the University of Georgia campus. There is a registration, hotel lodging, and transportation cost that students will be responsible for upon being selected to participate in JanFest. Please be mindful the Janfest nomination is a very high distinction and only band students in the top 10% (music performance and model behavior) of their band class will be nominated.
2. **District Honor Band:** (February 2nd thru February 4th) is a district wide honor band for students who auditioned for all-state and qualified for a seat in one of the CCSD Honor Bands. Students

will spend the weekend rehearsing, performing, and listening to music performances on the campus of North Cobb HS.

3. **PHS Concert Band Clinic:** (Saturday, February 10th) is an annual event for all PHS band class students attending LGPE. A schedule for specific report times for each band class will be sent out at a later date.
4. **LGPE (Large Group Performance Evaluation)** (March 14th, 15th, and 16th) : LGPE a.k.a. Festival is an annual event in which the concert band classes prepare music and perform for district music evaluation.
5. **Spring Concert:** (April 2024) This concert will count as the major graded performance for the semester for all band classes.

Contributions for the 2023 - 2024 Concert Bands

We do ask for minimal monetary contributions to the band program specifically for the concert band classes of \$75 per student.

Payment Due: \$75. Friday, January 12th. This fee can be paid on Charms under Fixed Payments.

Concert Band Class Fee covers the following costs:

Concert Band Clinic Sessions: (taking place periodically during spring semester) The concert band clinic is a series of rehearsal sessions for all students to fully prepare themselves for Large Group Performance Evaluation and the Spring concert. Each section will receive instruction from a professional musician. This fee is included to bring the best possible music enrichment experience for our students. Students will also receive their

Concert Attire: The appropriate concert attire for band students is black tuxedo jacket and pants, white tuxedo shirt, black bow-tie, black dress shoes, and black dress socks (young men); long black formal gown and dress shoes (young ladies). This Concert Attire Page of the band website has direct links to the uniforms. - www.pebblebrookbands.com/concert-attire

Instructions are listed below:

Boys Tuxedo

1. Go to the website and click Concert Attire
2. Click the Red *RediShip* Button then Men's Wear (on the right)
3. Click *Poly Peak Tuxedo – Coat and Comfort Fit Trousers - \$99*

Girls Dress

1. Go to the website and click Concert Attire
2. Click the Red *RediShip* Button then Gowns (on the right)
3. The **Caitlen (preferred)** is the approved dress for Pebblebrook - \$60

FINAL EXAM EXEMPTION: Students with no more than one excused absence may qualify to exempt one of their final exams. Students with a course average of 80 or higher may exempt one final exam of their choice. Students with a course average of 79 or below may request that ten percentage points be added to the final exam grade. Towards the end of the semester, students who qualify may submit an Exam Exemption Form to the classroom teacher of their choice. Teachers must verify that the student qualifies for the exemption.

LATE WORK POLICY: Any late work will receive the highest possible grade of a 70 if turned in after the assignment is due. The student will have until the unit test to turn in late work and will receive the highest possible grade of 70. No work will be graded after the Unit Test.

PARTICIPATION: Class participation is an important component of the Advanced Band, Intermediate Band, and Concert Band curriculum. Much can be learned from the exchange of ideas that occurs during class rehearsals. Frequent absences SERIOUSLY jeopardize your success in this class. The participation grade will be based on the degree of student involvement in the learning activities, including attention to and participation in written and oral exercises, class discussion, class performance and establishment of an out of class practice routine. To reiterate: If you do not participate in daily class rehearsals, you will not receive a passing grade for that day. Students that are “sick” and present in band class must submit a signed note from a parent to turn into the band director at the beginning of class. Students that fail to notify the band director of their sickness and verify with a parent notice will not receive daily points for rehearsal preparation and performance etiquette.

ATTENDANCE AND MAKE-UP POLICY: If a student receives an excused absence “he or she” will be able to make up the work in class that was done for the day. Each class has a rolling folder activity spot on the back wall. It is the student’s responsibility to obtain their work from the wall and complete and return in a timely manner. The student has up to the amount of excused absences plus one day to complete any missing work. After that point the work will be considered late and will be graded as such.

TARDY POLICY:

To avoid being counted tardy, ***students must be seated and ready for class when the bell rings.*** School policy states that students may receive detention, In-School Suspension, and Out-of-School Suspension for repeated tardiness.

EXTRA HELP:

Students that may need extra help should notify the band director and make arrangements to attend morning or afternoon sessions.

Morning Session: 7:45 AM to 8:15 AM

Afternoon Session: By appointment

CELL PHONES AND ELECTRONIC DEVICES:

As per the school’s policy, cell phones are not to be used during class time unless directed by the teacher for instructional purposes. Students will receive a discipline referral after one warning to put away any electronic device (unless the device is being used for instruction). Students are allowed to bring certain technologies to class (iPad, laptop, Kindle, etc.), but it should **NOT** interfere with the teaching or other’s learning.

Student Commitment: Students are expected to participate in the marching and concert bands during their entire high school matriculation. One of our main goals as music educators is to develop the “whole” musician by providing a variety of musical experiences for our students to participate in. Furthermore students that take part in both marching and concert band throughout high school at PHS will have fulfilled the prerequisite for eligibility to audition for college band scholarships, as those institutions expect students to participate in marching and concert band on the collegiate level as conditions of the band scholarship.

CCSD Fine Arts Diploma Seal: The Department of Education and the Cobb County School District awards select band seniors with a Fine Arts seal for their Diploma. In order for band seniors to qualify for the seal the following requirements must be met:

- Enrollment and participation in band class during entire high school matriculation
- Complete and submit the capstone project designated by the Band Director(s)

Band Stole Requirements: The Pebblebrook High School Band program traditionally awards band seniors with a band stole to be worn at the graduation ceremony. Requirements to obtain a stole are as follows:

- Participation in **marching and concert band the entire duration** of their high school matriculation and remain in good standing.
- Fulfillment of all financial obligations to PHS band program

FINAL THOUGHTS:

We are looking forward to making this year our best yet in the band! In order for that to happen please remember COMMUNICATION IS KEY!! If you are unsure about what you are being asked to do, don't be afraid to ask for clarity. We are here to help you reach your full potential. Immediately share dates and information about class with your parents/guardians. Remember in order to be successful on your music instrument you must develop a regular practice routine. And last but not least, periodically check grades in Synergy.

*****Please sign acknowledgement form on the page below*****

SYLLABUS ACKNOWLEDGEMENT FORM

Complete this page and return signed by Monday, January 8th.

We have read and understand all policies set forth in this band class syllabus.

Student Name: (print) _____

Student Signature: _____

Parent Name: (print) _____

Parent Signature: _____

Parent Cell Phone Number: _____

Parent Email (print): _____