



## **Band Class Syllabus**

**Department: Fine Arts**

**Spring Semester 2020**

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

**INSTRUCTORS:** Mr. Eulas Kirtdoll/Mr. Isaac Wimberly

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**CLASSROOM BLOG:** Mr. Kirtdoll-ekirtdollphs.weebly.com/ Mr. Wimberly-schoolology.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

**Required/Supplemental/Parallel Texts for the Course:** Sheet music and method book repertoire to be supplied by teacher

**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.

Concert Attire: Female students are required to wear long black formal dress and black dress shoes with a heel less than 3 inches tall. Male students are required to wear a black tuxedo, all white tuxedo shirt, black bow tie, black dress shoes and black dress socks. Students that need to purchase these items will be given further information as we near the winter concert season.

**DONATION REQUEST:**

Woodwind students are asked to supply reeds (size 3 or 3 1/2 strength Vandoren blue box) and instrument swabs. Brass students are asked to supply valve oil or slide oil (trombones). We are always in need of Kleenex, hand sanitizer, and Lysol wipes for our classrooms. Supplies may be dropped off at the band office during anytime.

**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/conduct grade
- 3rd offense- Parent phone call/ Teacher detention
- 4th offense- Parent/teacher conference/ Teacher referral
- 5th offense- Administrative referral

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

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

**Tardy Bell 8:20 am/9:54 am/2:09 pm** – Locker room/ classroom door locked/students must be seated and warming up individually.

**8:25 am/9:59 am/2:14 pm** - Group Warm-up will begin/students must have warmed up for at least 5 minutes by this time.

**9:44 am/11:18 am/3:31 pm** - Pack-up/Dismissal

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

*\*When on homeroom schedule, all times are adjusted slightly.*

-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 50 points per week (10 pts. per day) for rehearsal preparation and performance etiquette. These 10 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 via the Charmsoffice.com app, video submissions and live playing. 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](http://www.pebblebrookbands.com) website, classroom blog, and inside the physical classroom.

### **Grading Standards:**

Semester 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 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:** (Thurs. January 16th thru Sun. January 19th) 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 and hotel lodging 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. **PHS Concert Band Clinic:** (Saturday, February 1st) 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 later.
3. **District Honor Band:** (February 7th thru February 9th) 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.
4. **Spring Concert:** (Sunday, April 19th, 2020) This concert will count as the major graded performance for the semester for all band classes. All students are expected to report dressed in concert attire to the band room on the day of the event. The concert will begin at 7:00 PM in the Earl Reece Theatre on the campus of Pebblebrook High School.

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 attire can be purchased from [www.tuxedowholesaler.com](http://www.tuxedowholesaler.com).

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 - \$76*.

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 - \$54.50

#### Contributions for the 2019 - 2020 Concert Bands

We do ask for minimal monetary contributions to the band program specifically for the concert band classes of \$50.00 per student.

**Payment Due: \$50.00- Tuesday, January 21st.**

Concert Band Class fee covers the following costs:

**Concert Band Clinic:** (Saturday, February 1, 2020) The concert band clinic is a one-day intensive rehearsal session for all students to fully prepare themselves for Large Group Performance Evaluation. Each section will receive individual instruction from a professional musician and work with a guest conductor. This fees included to bring the best possible teachers for the students.

**Curriculum Enrichment Fee:** All of our students will be instructed during the year by guest conductors/clinicians. This instruction will be invaluable to our students in honing their ensemble skills. This fee is also used to supplement our music literature budget for the school year. Also, since we do not charge a fee for school-owned instrument use, this fee supplements our repair budget from CCSD.

**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 bring in 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.

#### Concert Make Up Policy

Absences from concerts will only be excused in the case of an emergency (illness or death in the family). Prior commitments, family, functions, and other performance events will not be excused. There are no make-up assignments for unexcused absences. In the case of an excused absence make up points may be earned by writing a typed research paper on any composers from a historically significant time period (Medieval, Renaissance, Baroque, Classical, Romantic, 20<sup>th</sup> Century/Modern) and a music check either by recording or with an individual appointment with the band director. Guidelines for reports are as follows:

- The paper and music check together will be worth the student’s concert performance grade.
  - Technique (25 pts)
    - Font must be 12 pt. Times New Roman and SINGLE spaced
    - Paper must be at least 2 pages in length
    - Graphics are not allowed as part of the required report length
  - Research (25 pts)
    - Work should include multiple sources
    - Work should paraphrase other sources, not merely cut and paste
    - A formal bibliography containing a minimum of 3 sources should be included.

- Writing (25 pts)
  - Work should be written in complete sentences.
  - Work should reflect some original thought based on research, in addition to factual information.
  - Student will be held accountable for grammar, spelling, punctuation and writing standards according to the English classes for their own grade level.
- Music check (25 points)
  - Students may either make a recording or come in to play the repertoire for the band directors.
  - Students will be graded on accuracy of notes, rhythms, tone, and music expression.
- Students may write on multiple composers to gain the required length if necessary. The same technical, research and written requirements apply.
- Due date for the report is five school days after the student returns to school. One letter grade will be deducted for each day late
- Paper may be submitted to the band directors either electronically or paper copy.
- Reports that do not meet the required minimum length due to incorrect font, spacing, graphics or substance will NOT be accepted and will be given back to the student for resubmission.

#### **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 tardies.

#### **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.

**GRADE RECOVERY:** *Students who score 69 or below on any unit assessment are allowed to retake the assessment. The grade will not exceed a 70 for the unit assessment. The retake must be completed within one week. Please view the teacher's blog for notification when the assessment will be administered.*

**ACADEMIC INTEGRITY:**

*Cheating is considered a serious matter. Any student who is involved in cheating/plagiarism will receive a grade of zero on the material, an unsatisfactory in conduct, and his/her parents will be notified.*

For this course, cheating is defined as, but is not limited to, the following acts:

- Copying anyone's answers to questions, exercises, study guides, class work or homework assignments
- Taking any information verbatim from any source, including the Internet, without giving proper credit to the author, or rearranging the order of words and/or changing some words as written by the author and claiming the work as his or her own, i.e., plagiarism.
- Looking onto another student's paper during a test or quiz.
- Having available any study notes or other test aids during a test or quiz without the teacher's permission.
- Collaborating on assignments when independent work is expected.

**CLASSROOM BLOG:**

Throughout the year, students are expected to use the classroom blog **daily**. If you are absent, it is your responsibility to check the blog and come prepared for the next class. All handouts and assignments will be posted daily to the blog.

My Blog: [Mr. Kirtdoll-ekirtdollphs.weebly.com/](http://Mr.Kirtdoll-ekirtdollphs.weebly.com/) [Mr. Wimberly-schoology.com](http://Mr.Wimberly-schoology.com)

**FINAL THOUGHTS:**

We are looking forward to making this year our best yet in 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 and return the acknowledgement form on the page below\*\*\*\*\*

**SYLLABUS ACKNOWLEDGEMENT FORM**

Complete this page and return signed by Monday, January 13th.

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 Email (print): \_\_\_\_\_