

2012-2013 High School Band Syllabus

Objective:

Our objective as an ensemble is to gain further knowledge of musical concepts and technique specific to our instruments and how all parts of the ensemble work together to create the best possible music.

What I expect from you:

1. To work hard and try for yourself and your ensemble
2. To (positively) participate fully in the activities each class period
3. PRACTICE AND BE PREPARED!

What you can expect from me:

1. To give my best each day for you as individuals and as an ensemble
2. To be prepared

Classroom Rules:

1. Do quality work the first time.
2. Be Respectful
3. Be Prepared

Grading:

The criteria for grading will be based on – Performance, Daily Points, Lessons and Assignments. Percentages will follow the EPJ High School Grading Scale.

- **Performance** – Attendance for events such as concerts, pep band and marching band is MANDATORY. There are very few exceptions to this – Participation in another school activity at the same time (pep band only), illness or a family emergency, etc. ... Mr. Schmeling MUST be notified by the parents ahead of time.
- **Daily Points** – Students receive five points each day simply by showing up to class. Those five points are the students' to lose. Unacceptable behavior during rehearsal will result in the students' daily grade being lowered. This includes tardiness.
- **Lessons** – Each quarter, the students are required to complete two lessons. One of these lessons is due before Mid-Quarter, and the other at the end of the term.
- **Assignments** - Occasionally, we will have assignments. When they do happen, we will follow the same late policy as the lessons.

Late Policy

Completing assignments/lessons on time is crucial for us to continue moving forward in our progress as an ensemble. Late work is unacceptable and will be treated as such.

- 1 Day Late – 50% of the original grade is possible
- 2 Days Late – 10% of the original grade is possible
- 3 or more Days Late – 0% Students are given ample time to work on their assignments (often in class). If the student does not complete their lesson on time, they will have 1 day to complete their lesson for 50% of the possible grade. Anytime beyond that the student will still need to complete the lesson, but will not receive points for that lesson. They will also receive a **Detention** for each day past the first day it is late. Students have a minimum of 4 weeks to complete a lesson, there is no excuse for not completing a lesson during that time.

Concert Attire

To maintain an appropriate level of concert etiquette, this dress code will be enforced. This dress code will be enforced along with the dress code the school already has in place.

Ladies: Ladies participating in the high school ensemble have a choice between wearing dress pants or wearing skirts/dresses. If the decision to wear a skirt/dress is made, the skirt/dress should reach to knee level. NO DENIM. Tops should also be in accordance with the school dress code.

Gentlemen: The gentlemen in the high school ensemble will wear black dress pants. Black denim is NOT an option. They are also to wear a white button down shirt and a tie (color appreciated). Black dress shoes are required as well.

All: Our ensemble will wear black on bottom and white on top. Black pants and a white shirt. Occasionally, we will add color to our performance, but the black/white attire will be our standard attire. Dress shoes are also mandatory.

General Suggestion: If there is a question about what is appropriate for the concert, chances are that the item in question is not. If there are further questions, please contact Mr. Schmeling.

Enforcement of this policy will happen. If a student decides that he/she does not have to follow the dress code their grade will be affected accordingly with a minimum of one full letter grade being taken off of their performance points for that event.

Instrument Usage Policy

- There will not be a rental fee for instruments this year. I do ask that if you can afford to rent an instrument through a music company, please do so. There are a number of students who are not able to afford to rent from a music store and rely on our program to supply an instrument for them to participate.
- When a student uses a school owned instrument, they are responsible for any damages that are caused by more than simple wear and tear on the instrument.

By signing below, I understand that I responsible for the listed instrument and the costs that could result from damages happening during the year.

Instrument _____

Student _____

Parent/Guardian _____ (Printed)

Parent/Guardian _____ (Signature)

EPJ Instrumental Music Contract

1. I will arrive on time and prepared to be a productive member of the ensemble for rehearsals and performances.
2. I understand that it is my job and responsibility to concentrate and positively participate in the ensemble during rehearsals, performances and any trips that may happen throughout the year.
3. I understand that when the director is working with another section or another student that it is my responsibility to behave properly, by staying quiet and checking my own part, in order for them to have the best working conditions possible. I also understand that what is explained to another can also apply to me and my part.
4. As a member of the Elk Point – Jefferson Instrumental Program, I understand that I am a major contributor to the success of the program as a whole. My words and actions affect the whole group, for better or worse.
5. I understand that I have the opportunity to drop out of my instrumental program at the beginning of each semester.

I have read and understand the expectations that have been explained to me through this syllabus and will conduct myself accordingly.

Performers Name

Signature

Date

I have read and understand the expectations that have been explained for my student-musician and will do my part in helping them along the way in their musical journey. In reading this syllabus, I acknowledge that I have been made aware of the expectations of my student for the school year. I also understand that if I have any questions I can and should contact Mr. Schmeling at the school (356-5890) or through email[(aaron.schmeling@k12.sd.su) preferred], or by speaking with him in person.

Parent/Guardian Name

Signature

Date

This sheet is to be returned to Mr. Schmeling by Monday, August 27th. It is worth 25 points and will follow the late work policy outlined above.