

2009-2010 Course Syllabus for Jazz Band Grades 9 - 12

Contact Information

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Course Description

Prerequisite: Participation in Wind Ensemble or Concert Band concurrently during the school year. Enrollment is based on audition. The course will provide the study and performance of literature in the jazz idiom. Students are required to be enrolled in either Concert Band or Wind Ensemble with the exception of those students who play guitar, bass or piano.

Textbooks

Chop-Monster 1 and *Chop Monster 2* by Shelly Berg

Materials

Required equipment specific to student's instrument needs.

Concert Attire

- Ladies - Tuxedo shirts, black dress slacks, nude-colored panty hose, black dress flats.
- Gentlemen – Tuxedo shirts, tuxedo pants, plain white t-shirt, black socks and black dress shoes.

Course Policies

- Absence Policy (Classroom Rehearsal)
 - Excused Absences – The student will receive the same number of days to make up any missed work, after that, scores become zeros. It is the student's responsibility to ask what was missed. Tests must be made up the day that the student returns to class.
 - Unexcused Absences/Cuts – The student will receive a zero on any work missed. Auditions will not be rescheduled.
 - Suspension – The student will receive a zero on any work missed. Auditions will not be rescheduled.
- Absence Policy (Performance)
 - Excused Absences – The student will be given a make up assignment, which can be completed for full credit. It is the student's responsibility to ask for the make up assignment. The make-up assignment must be made up within two days of returning to class.
 - Unexcused Absences/Skipping – The student will be given a make up assignment, which can be completed for half credit. It is the student's responsibility to ask for the make up assignment. The make-up assignment must be made up within two days of returning to class.
 - Suspension – The student will receive a zero
- For any assignment not turned in on the due date, the student will receive half credit.
- Students who cheat will receive a zero and appropriate discipline from the grade level administrator.

Classroom Rules and Rehearsal Expectations

1. The music offices are off limits to all members unless the director or staff members are present. This would include use of the phone.
2. All music and instruments are to be stored in their assigned locations. All discarded items are to be placed in the appropriate containers.
3. A **pencil (not a pen)** is required at all rehearsals to mark music and complete in class assignments.
4. Students are expected to read all event calendars as provided in the Band Handbook and keep family members and employers informed of all events and commitments.
5. Students are not permitted to have gum, candy or beverages at any rehearsal or class time. Water is permitted.
6. Students are to show respect for all staff members and student leaders and take their suggestions constructively. If at any time a student feels unjustly treated, the student should report the concern to the director.

Grading Scale

- A = 91.5% - 100%
- B = 82.5% - 91.4%
- C = 73.5% - 82.4%
- D = 64.5% - 73.4%
- F = 0% - 64.4%

Grading Criteria

- 90% of the overall grade will be content-based material. This will include performance evaluations, objective tests, skills demonstrations, ear training and projects.
- 10% of the overall grade will reflect your work habits. This will include daily participation assessments, practice logs and prepared excerpts.
- Extra Credit will be available.

Second Chance Assessments

- Second chance assessments are available for students receiving a failing grade on a test to earn a maximum score of 65%. Students may take advantage of this opportunity on one test per quarter.
- Second chance assessments do not apply to mid-term exams, final exams, performances, and auditions.

Performance Requirements

- Thursday, December 17 – Band Department Holiday Concert, 7PM, Performing Arts Center
- Sunday, January 24 – Brunswick Community Concert, 3PM, TBA
- Tuesday, March 2 – Music In Our Schools Month Concert, 7PM, Performing Arts Center
- Friday, March 19 – Big Band Night, TBA
- Saturday, April 24 – Brunswick Education Foundation/Brunswick Hall of Fame Dinner, TBA
- Friday, April 30 – 4th Annual Sup 'n Swing, 6PM to 11PM, TBA
- Thursday, May 13 – Band Department Spring Concert, 7PM, Performing Arts Center

Jazz Band Policy for Addition of Performances

Due to the nature of a jazz band, additional performance requests and opportunities will arise throughout the year. When an potential addition to the schedule arises, the following policy will be followed:

1. Students will be given a written notification of the proposed performance.
2. Students will have 1 week to check calendar and return a signed form indicating their availability.
3. If the director determines that a viable number of personnel are available, the event will become a required performance event for those who can attend the event.
4. There will be no penalty for those students who indicate that they cannot attend through use of the consent form. However, once the form has been submitted, the performance does become a required performance and will follow the same attendance procedure for all required performances.

Other Important Band Department Dates

- Tuesday, May 25 – Band Department Awards Night, 7PM, Performing Arts Center
- Friday, May 28 – Band Department and Staff Picnic, 3PM to 9PM, TBA

BHS uses 90/10 grading to plan assessments and calculate grades in all classes. This policy assures that 90% of each report card grade reflects students' mastery of the subject matter with 10% being allowed for assessment of students' work habits. Traditionally, this ratio has been determined by each individual teacher. This approach to grading causes grades to have a more common, consistent meaning across subjects and grade levels, which increases their usefulness as tools for understanding students' learning, intervening appropriately and communicating with parents.

This syllabus reflects 90/10 guidelines.

If you have questions about the syllabus for this class, please contact your child's teacher. If you have questions about the 90/10 grading guideline, please contact the high school administration or Dr. Nancy Duelley, Director of Education.

Students are required to return this portion of the syllabus by September 2, 2009



ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF RECEIPT OF JAZZ BAND SYLLABUS & REQUIRED PERFORMANCE DATES.

Student Name _____

Parent Signature _____ Date _____