

2008-2009 Courtland High School Band Syllabus

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Grade determination for all music classes will be computed according to the *Courtland High School Grading Policy*. Please refer to this document for specific rules and regulations for all activities and classes. Your grade will be determined as follows:

30% Performance Activities (Concerts, Assemblies, Festival, etc.)

50% Written and Playing Tests, Homework

20% Daily Class Grade (Class preparation, materials, etc.)

***Extra Credit may be earned through performance in musical activities outside the school setting such as Church (solos, orchestra), musicals, honors ensembles (GRYWE, RYSO, All-District, All-County, etc.), and private lessons. Students must provide documentation of participation to the Director in order to receive credit.

ALL students will be required to have the following materials for class:

- **A PENCIL(NOT A PEN – A PENCIL)**
- Music Folder – These will be issued to you along with your music.
- Three Ring Binder (1”) with Dividers (Tests & Quizzes, Music Theory, Performance Evaluations, Rhythm, Handouts)

Band Students should also have the appropriate materials necessary for participation in a performance based ensemble. An instrument in good working condition is a must. Brass players should have valve oil, slide oil, etc. All reed instrument players must have at least three reeds at all rehearsals. Percussionists should have their own set of concert snare sticks (Vic Firth SD1), one pair of general keyboard mallets, and a practice pad (HQ Real Feel, Yamaha). There will be periodic checks to make sure that you have ALL of these necessary items.

Students will have their daily class grade reduced if these materials are not present with the student in class. If an instrument is in the shop, a note must be provided from the dealer stating that no instrument was available for loan. Grades may also be reduced if a student fails to take his or her instrument home on a consistent basis.

Regular (Daily) “at-home” practice is **required** of all students. While there will be periodic written homework assignments, daily practice will be considered a standing homework assignment and is very important in the development of individual skills. Development of these skills will allow us to reach our group goals quickly and effectively. *A minimum of 30 minutes per day is expected.*

Students in all Band Classes will be required to attend some after school rehearsals in preparation for concerts. Advance notice will be given regarding the dates and times of these rehearsals. **Attendance at these rehearsals is mandatory.** Any conflicts should be discussed with the Director in advance.

There will be a number of performances scheduled during the year outside of class. **Attendance at all performances is mandatory.** Please, refer to the *Band Student Handbook* for policies regarding absences. In the case of an absence from a performance, make-up work may be assigned at the Director’s discretion. A calendar of these events will be provided in a timely fashion.

Classroom discipline is critical in creating a positive and safe learning environment and in helping us to reach our ensemble goals. A very high level of self-discipline is expected from every student. All guidelines for student behavior as outlined in the *Student Code of Conduct* are to be followed at all times. Additionally, the following expectations are to be met by all band students:

- Be On Time
- Be Prepared
- Be Respectful and Courteous
- Listen Carefully and Follow Directions
- Do Your Best!

Failure to follow school or class guidelines and expectations will result in the following disciplinary actions:

- 1st Offense – Verbal Warning issued to the student
- 2nd Offense – Contact Parent/Guardian
- 3rd Offense – Conference with the Student and/or Parent
- 4th Offense – Disciplinary Referral to the appropriate Administrator

NOTE: Please check the Music Student Handbook for additional information regarding the policies and activities of the Courtland High School Bands and Ensembles.