2019-2020
Concert Band
Handbook &
Syllabus

PLEASE NOTE:
All students and parents must read and know the policies herein. All students must turn in the signature sheet proving that it was read. Administrators will refer to this syllabus should questions on policy arise. Students will not participate in any performances until the signature sheet is turned in, which will be reflected in the grades.

Omaha North High School
Jeremy Haupt, Director of Bands
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Course Description

The **Concert Band** made up of students of woodwind, brass, or percussion with performance experience. Members qualify only after passing a set of prerequisites through at least one semester of Prep Band.

There are **three aspects** to the Concert Band:

- **Marching Vikings**: Beginning in August and continuing through October, Concert Band students will be members of the **Marching Vikings**. This participation counts as PE credit. Responsibilities include (but may not be limited to):
  - Attending **Band Camp** and all **Tuesday evening rehearsals** (5-8p)
  - Performing in all **Home Varsity and Post-Season Football games**
  - Performing in **four marching competitions**
  - Performing in **three parades**

- **Concert Band**: Once marching season is over, we will transfer to the stage, performing classical, modern, and popular/Broadway/film music at **five performances a year**, as well as continuing to **develop an understanding of and ability to execute higher levels of musicianship, professionalism, and participation**.

- **Basketball Band**: Beginning with the basketball season, the band will **entertain the audiences** at all home Varsity Girls’ and Boys’ Home Basketball Games.

Instructional Philosophy

We strive to create a **positive environment of respect, accountability, and creativity**. All levels of musician should feel **comfortable** to learn and grow at their own pace, using the resources provided, including the services of Mr. Haupt and more experienced musicians. Such an experience can only be achieved through **relaxation, focus, self-improvement, and cooperation**. As a group, we rely on **each other** to fulfill our responsibilities of **commitment, individual preparation, and group awareness and participation**. Students are encouraged to **assist** those around them in order to ensure a **successful learning process and a spirit of serious performance**.

Omaha North High Band Mission Statement

We, the members of the Omaha North Bands, believe that, **through hard work and dedication**, we can **provide a quality product for and create a positive impact on** the North High and North Omaha communities.
Content Standards
1. Goal: Demonstrate through performance a characteristic tone that blends with the ensemble.
2. Goal: Demonstrate through performance basic elements of playing technique.
3. Goal: Recognize, demonstrate and describe basic musical terms and symbols.
4. Goal: Recognize and perform basic rhythm patterns within the appropriate style.
5. Goal: Study, perform and listen to literature that includes music of a variety of styles, textures, and periods.
7. Goal: Demonstrate proper instrument care and maintenance.

Course Expectations
• All students are expected to **attend all performances** (listed below; dates subject to change).
  o **Any absences must be discussed with Mr. Haupt and reported in writing 48 hours prior to the performance** to determine excused or unexcused status (prior discussion will not necessarily result in an excused absence).
  o Considerable reasons for excused absences include **illness, death in the family, or emergency**. Inexcusable reasons include (but are not limited to) **work, lack of a ride, homework, sporting event** (graded performances supersede sporting events), **family or community functions**.
  o **Tardies for any reason that fall between call-time and performance time** will result in 0.5 points removed from the total performance grade (3.5 out of 4).
  o **Tardies for any reason that fall during or after performance time** will be considered an absence.

Performance Schedule
- **Friday, 6 September**: Varsity Football, Kinnick Stadium, 7-10p
- **Friday, 13 September**: Varsity Football, Kinnick Stadium, 7-10p
- **Tuesday, 24 September**: Omaha Marching Exhibition, 7-9p, Bryan HS
- **Friday, 4 October**: Varsity Football (**Homecoming**), Kinnick Stadium, 7-10p
- **Saturday, 12 October**: Chieftain Marching Invite, Bellevue East HS, all day
- **Saturday, 19 October**: Omaha Marching Invitational, Burke HS, all day
- **Friday, 25 October**: Varsity Football (**Senior Night**), Kinnick Stadium, 7-10p
- **Saturday, 26 October**: NSBA State Marching Contest, Millard South HS, all day
- **Saturday, 14 December**: Winter Concert, North HS Auditorium, 4p
- **Tuesday, 9 April**: Band Adjudication, Benson HS, tbd
- **Wednesday, 22 through Saturday, 25 April**: District Music Contest, Papio-LaVista HS, tbd
- **Thursday, 7 May**: Spring Concert, North HS Auditorium, 7p
- **Saturday, 16 May**: Commencement, Baxter Arena, 7p
Tuesday, 19 May: BOPS Banquet, North HS Viking Center, 6p

Class Rules and Expectations

- To achieve a spirit of cooperation, focus, and respect, students and instructors should...
  - ...strive to maintain all rehearsal concepts (found at the back of this syllabus);
  - ...strive to behave within all points of rehearsal etiquette (found at the back of this syllabus);
  - ...strive to maintain energy level and focus needed for the rehearsal level required (found at the back of this syllabus);
  - ...be in their seats with their instruments and supplies out and ready for use within five minutes of the start bell;
    - Students who are tardy within the first ten minutes of class will be marked tardy;
    - Six tardies will result in a lunch detention;
    - Eight tardies will result in a Late School;
    - Ten tardies will result in an office referral
  - ...keep all distracting items out of sight, including homework, books, cell phones, and other similar materials;
  - ...participate in warm-ups and rehearsals with either their own or a school-owned instrument;
  - ...maintain instrument in good working order, including cleaning, proper use, and storage;
  - ...participate in preparing the rehearsal room for the next period, including stacking chairs and stands neatly on their racks, securing instruments and music in lockers and music shelves provided, and cleaning any trash;
  - ...remain in the classroom until Mr. Haupt dismisses them;
  - ...behave at public events in such a way as to bring honor and pride to the North High Band Program, to North High School, and to the North Omaha community;

- All students are allowed three (3) 15-minute bathroom breaks per quarter, to be recorded on the blue hall-pass. Once the three breaks are used or the 15-minute time limit is violated, the student will not have access to the bathroom breaks until the start of the next quarter;
- Passes to see other teachers or to leave the school must be delivered to Mr. Haupt prior to the start of rehearsal, and such visits will be subject to rehearsal schedule and needs;
- Only water is allowed for students in the rehearsal room. No other food or drink will be allowed into the rehearsal room by students at any time.

Texts

- Sheldon, Robert; Philips, Bob; Boonshaft, Peter; Black, Dave. Sound Innovations, Advanced Book
- Cotov, Timothy J. and Murphy, Thomas C. 100 Days to Sight Reading Exercises, Books I & II
• Pilafian, Sam and Sheridan, Patrick. *The Breathing Gym*
• Rhodes, Tom C. and Bierschenk, Donald. *Symphonic Band Technique: a Complete Warm-Up and Technical Study Method*
• Various sheet music for performance

**Assessment**

- **Rehearsals will be graded** (formative). Students will be graded according to execution of the expectations laid out in the *rehearsal concepts, etiquette, and levels* section of this syllabus. Grades will be recorded at each grading period according to the *rubric* attached.
- **Each performance is graded** (summative with an added weight of x2, 3, or 4, dependent on type of performance; see below). Each performance will include a *participation aspect and a musical aspect*. Students with an excused absence from a performance will be allowed two weeks to make up the musical aspect--but not the participation aspect--of the grade by performing the music for Mr. Haupt after school. Students are expected to approach Mr. Haupt about making up performance grades. Students with an unexcused absence will not be allowed to make up any part of the grade.
  - Pep rallies will be weighted x2.
  - All Parades will be weighted x2.
  - Football games and Basketball games will not be counted individually but will be recorded cumulatively throughout the season. The cumulative grade will be an average of the grades for each individual event and will be weighted x3 for football games and x2 for basketball games.
  - NSBA State Marching Contest will be weighted x4. All other Marching Competitions will be weighted x3.
  - School Concert Band concerts will be weighted x3. Band Adjudication will be weighted x3. District Band Contest will be weighted x4. Commencement will be weighted x2.
- **Playing tests will occur frequently** (formative with an added weight of x2) to determine progress and proficiency. All students will be required to achieve a 3 or higher on playing tests (graded according to the attached rubric). If a 3 or higher is not achieved, students have one week to prepare and retake the playing test. The playing test must be retaken until a score of 3 or above is achieved or until the week of the concert, whichever comes first. If a 3 or a 4 is not achieved by the week of the performance, students will not be permitted to perform at the performance, which will be reflected in the musical aspect of the performance grade (although attendance is still expected and will be graded as the participation aspect).
- **Quizzes will occur frequently** (formative with an added weight of x2).
- **Written finals will occur at the end of each semester** (summative with an added weight of x3). These finals will cover everything learned up to that point in the year, including musical terms and symbols, rhythms, marching techniques, drill setting, and more.

**OPS Secondary Grading Practices**
All coursework and assessments are judged based on the level of student learning from “below basic” to “advanced.” This course will provide multiple opportunities to achieve at the “proficient” to “advanced” levels. Students are evaluated based on a proficiency scale or project rubric. Proficiency scales for this course are available upon request (teacher will identify location such as portal, teacher website, attached, etc.).

There are three types of coursework*

- **Practice**: Assignments are brief and done at the beginning of learning to gain initial content (e.g., student responses in discussion or in written form, a valid sampling of ability on performance repertoire, technique exercises, etc.). Practice assignments are not generally graded for accuracy (descriptive feedback will be provided in class) and are not part of the grade. Teachers may keep track of practice work to check for completion, and students could also track their practice work. Practice work is at the student’s instructional level and may only include “Basic” (level 2) questions.

- **Formative (35% of grade)**: Assessments/assignments occur during learning to inform and improve instruction. They are minor assignments (playing tests, pop-quizzes both written and performed). Formative assignments are graded for accuracy and descriptive feedback is provided. Formative work may be at the students’ instructional levels or at the level of the content standard. Formative assessments/assignments will have all levels of learning: Basic (2), Proficient (3), and Advanced (4), which means that for every formative assessment/assignment, students will be able to earn an Advanced (4) grade. Teachers will require students to redo work that is not of high quality to ensure rigor and high expectations. The students’ scores on assessment that was redone will be their final score.

- **Summative (65% of the final grade)**: Assessments/assignments are major end-of-learning unit tests, projects, and performances used to determine mastery of content or skill. Summative assignments are graded on accuracy. Summative assignments assess the students’ progress on grade level standards and may not be written at the students’ instructional levels. Summative assessments/assignments will have all levels of learning: Basic (2), Proficient (3), and Advanced (4), which means that for every formative assessment/assignment, students will be able to earn an Advanced (4) grade.

To maintain alignment of coursework to content standards, which is a key best practice for standards-based grading, teachers will utilize a standardized naming convention for each of the standards within a course. The content standard will be marked on each assignment, entered into Infinite Campus (District Grading Program) using all capital letters followed by a colon. After the colon will be the title of the coursework. At the end of the grading period, scores are converted to a letter grade using the following grading scale:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Range</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>3.26 - 4.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>2.51 - 3.25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>1.76 - 2.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>1.01 - 1.75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>0.00 - 1.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Redoing/Revising Student Coursework***

1. Students are responsible for completing all coursework and assessments as assigned.
2. Students will be allowed redos and revisions of coursework for full credit as long as they are turned in during that unit of study while a student still has an opportunity to benefit from the learning. When time permits, teachers should allow the redoing and revising of summative assessments.

3. Students are expected to complete assessments when given to the class, or if a student was justifiably absent, at a time designated by the teacher.

4. Redoing, retaking, or revising will be done at teacher discretion in consultation with the students and parents/guardian. Teachers may schedule students before, during, and after school to address needed areas of improvement if not convenient during class. The time and location for redoing, retaking, or revising will be done at the teacher’s discretion in consultation with the student and parents/guardian.

*Indicates standardized language
Revised July 2013

Equipment and Uniforms

- To accomplish the highest level of performance, students must maintain their instrument at the highest level, including using it only for rehearsal and performance, monthly cleaning, weekly oiling and greasing, and proper storage.
  - You are expected to purchase your own reeds, oils, greases, etc. If you do not have such materials, they can be purchased from the music office.

- All text books and materials (including lyres and flip folders) handed out by Mr. Haupt must be taken care of by students and returned at the end of the year. Any piece of sheet music lost or returned damaged (markings other than pencil, rips, folds, etc.) or without a student name will result in a $2 fine for each item. Any concert folder lost or returned damaged will result in a $25 fine. Any flip-folder or lyre lost or returned damaged will result in a $10 fine.

- All students are expected to purchase a pair of Dinkles (required marching shoes) through the band department. If a used pair is available, students will be charged $10. If a used pair is not available, students will be asked to purchase a new pair for $27.

- Marching Vikings will wear a marching uniform (provided by the school, to be picked up before and returned after each performance), including black socks and Dinkles, and the blue band shirt (to be ordered at the start of the year for $6).

- In the events for which the Marching Vikings do not wear the marching uniforms, you are expected to wear your blue band shirt and khaki shorts.

- Concert Band members will wear a marching uniform (provided by the school, to be picked up before and returned after each performance), including black socks and Dinkles.

Varsity Letters

A Varsity Letter can be achieved for both Marching Band and Concert Band only by going beyond expectations listed above through meeting the following criteria:

- Marching Band Varsity Letter
  - Attendance to four of the five Band Camp dates;
  - Attendance to all but two Tuesday evening practices;
Attendance to and participation in all football games, parades, and marching competitions;
- Attendance to and participation in all classroom and extracurricular rehearsals;
- Meeting practice and performance expectations and with a positive attitude and willingness to learn and help the band progress.

**Concert Band Varsity Letter**
- Attendance to and participation in all concerts and competitions;
- Attendance to and participation in all classroom and extracurricular rehearsals;
- Meeting practice and performance expectations and with a positive attitude and willingness to learn and help the band progress;
- Audition and participation in any Honor Band, including but not limited to Nebraska All-State Band, OPS All-City Honor Band, or local college honor bands;
- Performance of a solo or audition at the District Music Contest and at a school event.

**Basketball Band Varsity Letter**
- Attendance at all Basketball Band performances;

**Extracurricular Opportunities**

**Honors Symphonic Band:** For students looking for more involved learning and participation for Honors credit, the Honors Symphonic Band is available for enrollment for the second semester. This group meets the same period as and participates in the same events and within the same capacity as the Concert Band.
- Pre-requisites include the following (to be completed before the end of the first semester):
  - **Completion of two assessments** of Marching Vikings performances as viewed via video and using the NSBA Marching Judges’ rubric;
  - Audition for and participation in All-State or All-City Band;
  - Possible participation in a North High Wind Ensemble or Full Orchestra.
- Second semester requirements for Honors Symphonic Band include the following (these will be graded assignments in addition to the Concert Band graded assignments):
  - Participation as a soloist or small ensemble member in District Solo and Ensemble Contest;
  - Assessments of the Band Adjudication and District Band Contest performances using the NBMA Judges’ rubric;
  - Possible participation in a North High Wind Ensemble or Full Orchestra;
  - One short in-class presentation and hallway display of information on a composer or style of music.

**Students are encouraged to audition for and participate in Honor Bands to strengthen their skills, learn from a new instructor, and perform different music in a different setting.**
- All-State Band (Nebraska Music Educators-run with auditions)
- All-City Band (OPS-run)
- Various College Honors Bands (see Mr. Haupt)
• Students are encouraged to participate in extracurricular musical activities that will strengthen and enrich their growth and performance level.
  o Private lessons that provide more focus on individual instrument technique. A private instructor folder with names and contact info will be maintained and updated at the front of the room
  o Omaha Area Youth Orchestras (OAYO) provides wind and percussion students an opportunity to perform in a full orchestra setting. Auditions for the three orchestras are held in April.

Band and Orchestra Parents & Students Organization (BOPS)
• To better help promote, encourage, support, and provide for the band students, the BOPS organization encourages students to participate in monthly meetings to share ideas and concerns.
• All students are expected to participate in fundraising opportunities set up by the Band and Orchestra Parents & Students (BOPS) organization. Fundraising is necessary to help provide music, equipment, travel and participation in band trips. Please sign the fundraiser permission form found at the end of this syllabus.
YOU WILL NOT BE ABLE TO PERFORM ANY GRADED EVENTS UNLESS THIS SIGNATURE SHEET IS TURNED IN, SIGNED, TO MR. HAUP (your grades will reflect this).

I have read, understand, and agree to meet expectations and policies listed above.

Name: ________________________________

Signature: ______________________________

Parents Signature: ______________________________

I give permission to allow my student to participate in all Marching and Concert Band events happening at school and at other locations:

Student Name: ______________________________

Parent Signature: ______________________________

I give permission to allow my student to participate in all fundraising activities.

Student Name: ______________________________

Parent Signature: ______________________________

I am interested in participating in Honors Symphonic Band and agree to meet all pre-requisites and second semester requirements.

Student Name: ______________________________

Signature: ______________________________

Instrument: ______________________________