



# Windham High School Band

Course Syllabus: **Concert Band**  
**2016 - 2017**

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## **Course Description:**

Band at Windham High School is an organization with a tradition of excellence. The WHS Band program is comprised of the Pep Band playing at Football and Basketball Games, the Marching Band participating in parades, the concert band participating in concerts and festivals, and the jazz band, which is audition only. Students are not required to participate in all of the extra opportunities besides concert band but it is highly recommended! The band can have a very involved schedule at times but the experiences are more than worth it.

Students are required to attend and be on time to all rehearsals and performances as it is a major portion of their grade. Most performances and some rehearsals are after school.

## **Goals:**

1. Students will study and perform a variety of high-quality musical literature.
2. Students will develop technical skills on their specific instrument.
3. Students will develop a group-oriented mindset, to help develop a sense of musical community and friendship.
4. Students will develop an aesthetic appreciation for music and performance.
5. Students will perform in a variety of venues and outlets.
6. Students will develop themselves into better people with stronger character.

## **Materials:**

What students need at EVERY REHEARSAL OR BAND EVENT:

1. Their Instrument, in good condition and well taken care of.
2. Folder
3. Pencil

Students will be periodically assessed on pencil use and folder maintenance.

## **Attendance:**

Attendance will be taken before every rehearsal and is essential for continued success in the band program. Tardiness and unexcused absences will result in negative consequences towards students' grades.

**Students are welcomed and encouraged to come to the band room to practice before school, after school, or during free periods. Our practice rooms are ready to be used and a student looking to practice or get extra help will never be turned down.**

### Attendance Consequences:

- Unexcused absences from rehearsals or performances are not permitted and will drastically affect the student's grade.
- Excused absences (family emergency, illness, certain work exceptions) may be permitted. If you know you will miss a concert or event ahead of time make sure to let the director know as soon as possible.
- Any student that is more than 10 minutes late to a band rehearsal or performance call time will receive a *half* of an unexcused absence put against their record. So, being 11 minutes late to band twice will bring your "A" grade to a "B".
- Reminder, prompt attendance policies are meant for student success, not to be unnecessarily strict!
- In certain circumstances, missed events can be made up, but these are rare cases. Band is a class in which performance and attendance represent the "exams".

*And finally. remember the old saying: "Early is on time, on time is late, and late is inexcusable!"*

## **Grading Policy:**

Band students will be graded as follows:

Attendance: 50%

- On time and prepared to every rehearsal and performance.

Assessments: 50%

- Includes playing tests, written work, online assignments, exams, etc.

## **Performances:**

Performances are an integral part of any band program. Specific information regarding concerts will always be sent out via email, which is the main means of communication for WHS Band, and posted on the band website. **Attendance at all performances is mandatory.** An absence from a performance (football game, concert, parade), without parental notification, may result in a failing grade for the course.

*2016/2017 Required Performances – Winter, March, and Spring Concerts*

## **Band Student Behavior Expectations:**

Band is known to develop students with strong character. While not only an incredible creative outlet, band can foster a sense of pride and respect in students that will carry them throughout their lives.

The ONE rule that governs WHS Band is – RESPECT. As respectful band students you will respect yourselves, your instruments, your music, the band room, and the team you are a part of.