



School District of Marshfield

Course Syllabus

Course Name: Symphonic Winds Honors

Length of Course: year

Credits: ½ Credit

Course description:

Through regular early bird rehearsals 2 times per week, Students will develop the skills needed to participate at an advanced level in the symphony orchestra as individual wind and percussion players. Students will work to produce classical and pop orchestra literature for concerts throughout the year with the symphonic strings. (4 after school commitments as well as the elementary tour) Grades will be based on concert performance and ensemble deportment skills.

PREREQUISITE: Open only to grade 9-12 students with good standing in the band program. (alternative instruments excluded from band participation requirement, eg harp, piano, guitar added on an as needed basis)

Admission to course based on ensemble needs as well as audition and/or consultation with band director.

Learning Targets:

- Sound
 - Tone
 - Independent of others. All students can learn and play with great tone independently of each other
 - Intonation (consistency, pitch adjustment skills) Demonstrate accurate pitch adjustment in all ranges and registers. Pitch adjustments are made instantly
- Musical Mechanics
 - Accuracy (notes, rhythms, Pulse) Demonstrate outstanding accuracy with all notes and rhythms being performed accurately with correct pulse throughout.
 - Technique (Posture, Articulation, Hand Position, breathing) Demonstrate consistently appropriate posture articulations, hand positions, and breathing together as a section.
- Expression
 - Style elements, Interpretation Phrasing, Dynamics, Tempo. Demonstrate excellent expression with accurate style elements, interpretation, phrasing, dynamics, and tempo

- Presentation
 - Attention to Director, Ensemble Department
 - Watch and respond to the director throughout the performance.
 - Ensemble members will act in a respectful, courteous and cooperative manner throughout rehearsal and performances.
- Involvement
 - Participation, Preparedness, Attitude, Leadership, Taking Direction
 - Understand and implement the importance of: respect for others and expectations; being prepared for class and performances; being an active participant in rehearsals and performances; seeking improvement through independent practice.

Detailed Topic/Content Outline-Units and Themes:
First Quarter (9 weeks)

1. Weeks 1 & 2

- A. Sight-reading
- B. Assess group's level of playing
- C. Prepare for seating auditions
- D. Review key signatures
- E. Review time signatures
- F. Review important ensemble playing skills

2. Weeks 3 & 4

- A. Auditions and seating assignment placements
- B. Begin preparation for fall concert
- C. Introduce important composers, works, performers, and other figures
- D. Individual lessons
- E. Continue review of key signatures and time signatures
- F. Tone-building, expression, musicality
- G. Skills advancement

3. Week 5 & 6

- A. Continue preparation for fall concert
- B. Introduce important composers, works, performers, and other figures
- C. Continue review of key signatures and time signatures
- D. Characteristics of musical time periods
- E. Tone-building, expression, musicality
- F. Skills advancement

4. Week 7, 8, & 9

- A. Review concert etiquette and procedures
- C. Fall Concert
- F. Continue review of key signatures and time signatures

G. Tone-building, expression, musicality

Second Quarter (9 weeks)

1. Weeks 1 & 2

- A. Sight-reading
- B. Individual lessons
- C. Introduce important composers, works, performers, and other figures
- D. Complex time signatures and key signatures
- E. Tone-building, expression, musicality
- F. Skills advancement

2. Weeks 3 & 4

- A. Winter Concert preparation
- B. Introduce important composers, works, performers, and other figures
- C. Complex time signatures and key signatures
- D. Tone-building, expression, musicality
- E. Skills advancement

3. Weeks 5 & 6

- A. Winter Concert preparation
- B. Introduce important composers, works, performers, and other figures
- C. Complex time signatures and key signatures
- D. Tone-building, expression, musicality
- E. Skills advancement

4. Weeks 7, 8, & 9

- A. Review concert etiquette and procedures
- B. Sectionals
- C. Winter Concert
- D. Continue preparation for Central Wisconsin Honors Orchestra Festival
- E. Introduce important composers, works, performers, and other figures
- F. Complex time signatures and key signatures
- G. Tone-building, expression, musicality

Third Quarter (9 weeks)

1. Weeks 1 & 2

- A. Continue preparation for Central Wisconsin Honors Orchestra Festival
- B. Continue preparation for Solo & Ensemble
- C. Sight-reading
- E. Introduce important composers, works, performers, and other figures

- F. Continue review of key signatures and time signatures
- G. Complex key signatures and time signatures
- H. Tone-building, expression, and musicality
- 2. Weeks 3 & 4
 - A. Review concert etiquette and procedures
 - B. Central Wisconsin Honors Orchestra Festival
 - E. Introduce important composers, works, performers, and other figures
 - F. Complex key signatures and time signatures
 - G. Tone-building, expression, and musicality
 - H. Skills advancement
- 3. Weeks 5 & 6
 - A. District Solo & Ensemble
 - B. Pops Concert preparation
 - D. Introduce important composers, works, performers, and other figures
 - E. Complex key signatures and time signatures
 - F. Tone-building, expression, and musicality
- 4. Weeks 7, 8, & 9
 - A. Review concert etiquette and procedures
 - B. Pop's concert
 - D. Introduce important composers, works, performers, and other figures
 - E. Complex key signatures and time signatures
 - F. Tone-building, expression, and musicality
 - G. Skills advancement

Fourth Quarter (9 weeks)

- 1. Weeks 1 & 2
 - A. Possible guest artist & clinician
 - B. Sight-reading
 - C. Preparation for Spring Concert
 - E. Introduce important composers, works, performers, and other figures
 - F. Complex key signatures and time signatures
 - G. Tone-building, expression, and musicality
 - H. Skills advancement
- 2. Weeks 3 & 4
 - B. Preparation for Spring Concert
 - C. Introduce important composers, works, performers, and other figures
 - D. Complex key signatures time signatures
 - E. Tone-building, expression, and musicality
 - F. Skills advancement

3. Weeks 5 & 6

- B. State Solo & Ensemble
- C. Preparation for Spring Concert
- D. Introduce important composers, works, performers, and other figures
- E. Complex key signatures and time signatures
- F. Tone-building, expression, and musicality
- G. Skills advancement

4. Weeks 7, 8, & 9

- A. Spring Concert
- B. Graduation preparation and performance
- C. Individual lessons
- D. Review of key signatures and time signatures
- E. Tone-building, expression, and musicality
- F. Skills advancement

Required Core Resources:

- Musical Equipment (Instruments, strings, etc.)
- Music Library - Concert Music
- Additional Materials
- Possible Guest Artist
- Materials and supplies for Concerts

Technology requirements to adequately instruct curriculum:

- Mounted projector in orchestra room and south band room
- Document cam
- Computer station (to attach to projector and existing sound equipment)
- Finale 2014 installed on the lab computers and office computer to compose and arrange parts for the group and for students to compose their own pieces.