**Jewell School District**

**Course Syllabus**

**SY: 2015-2016**

**Course Title:** Concert Band & High School Band

**Instructor’s Name:** Mr. Cory Pederson

**Room:** Stage (Multipurpose Room)

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**COURSE DESCRIPTIONS/OBJECTIVES:**

* Students who take this band course will take what they have learned at the Intermediate/Middle school level and improve upon their knowledge several times over.
* Students will perform at least a Grade 3-4 (out of a possible 6) level piece every year, learn about tone, intonation, articulations, phrasing, beginning/advanced rhythms, extended range, sight-reading, music history, musical form, pitch intervals, rhythm dictation, and more.
* Students will participate in a minimum of 2-3 concerts (depending on how many the director schedules). All concerts are mandatory to attend.
* The students will travel throughout the year for performances, competitions, parades and other various types of musical events, which will help us to be responsible, become better citizens and better musicians, and make many new friends.

**PHILOSOPHY ON HOW STUDENTS LEARN**

* Students learn through experience, exploration, discussion and imitation. In band class, students are encouraged to learn about the musical language, music history and different cultures.
* In order to facilitate this learning process, strict discipline is maintained during class. Both the band director and the students will take part in guiding one another to their full potential.
* There are many activities offered to keep the interest in band, including honor band, solo & ensemble, private instruction, community musical groups, alternative performance opportunities, Music in May, camps, etc.
* By balancing fun activities with discipline and mandatory events (i.e. concerts, band camps, recruiting trips, students will grow in many ways with the band program.

**EXPECTATIONS OF THE CLASS:**

* **Rehearsal attendance** – based on the number of rehearsals/classes attended. Show up at all the rehearsals (full band, sectionals, and classes) prepared and on time, and make-up the rehearsals / classes you missed within one week. Students who miss more than three (3) full band rehearsals or teacher-led sectionals in a single quarter without a valid excuse may not be allowed to perform at any performances that quarter, possibly resulting in a lowered grade.
* **Exams / Homework** – There will be periodic exams and homework assignments designed to expand your musical knowledge. Turn in assignments when asked. Tests / exams will vary between written knowledge and instrumental performance. Also, a weekly **100 minute PRACTICE SHEET** must be turned in by **everyone.**
* **Performance ability** – A student must be able to perform at a certain degree of proficiency per grade level. Performance tests will be administered to ensure that students are practicing and improving on their instrument.
* **Attitude / Participation** – Maintaining a positive attitude and participating in class is very important. Excessive talking, lack of participation or arriving to class unprepared will result in a lowered grade and student/teacher/parent discussions. \* Assignments missed due to excused absences may be made up within one week of the missed assignment. \*
* **\*\*\* Note: Attending performances is mandatory.** If you miss a performance (including Pep games, concerts, parades and other performances) **without prior approval** of the band director **and** fail to make it up by the appointed deadline, the students’ grade will be lowered. An unexcused absence will cause their rank to be lowered by one whole letter grade. (see the “Performance Make Up Policy Sheet” for more information).\*\*

**Grading**

**The band student’s grade is the result of an evaluation of the** **following:**

* The student’s grade for playing exams (30%) as assessed by the Jewell School Band Exam Rubric.
* The student’s Individual Contribution to the band (30%) as assessed by the Jewell School Band Individual Contribution Rubric.
* Ensemble Performance Grade. A student must be in attendance at a performance to get the ensemble grade points (30%). Excused absences must be made up. **\*\* Note: Attending performances is mandatory. An unexcused absence will cause their rank to be lowered by one whole letter grade. (see the bulleted point above “Grading” & “Performance Make Up Policy Sheet” for more information).\*\***
* Written Assignments (Worksheets--theory assignments--concert evaluations--reports) = (10%).
* Extra Credit

**SUPPLIES / MATERIALS:**

* Band Folder (will be provided, but brought to class everyday)
* #2 Pencils (NO PENS ALLOWED) **PLEASE HAVE PENCILS OUT AND READY TO USE EVERYDAY!!!**
* Lined Paper (Staff paper will be handed out to students if needed)
* Music / Method Book (Classroom music will be provided)
* Instrument (s) & Supplies (Most items will be supplied, but owning an individual instrument at this level of playing is highly encouraged).
* **\*\*\* (Instrument rentals are available through Beacock Music all year long, which will ensure that they have their very OWN instrument to play on throughout the year, instead of sharing with other students. Beacock Music – based out of Vancouver, WA – makes weekly trips to the area to ensure coverage of needs are met in the Jewell School District).\*\*\***

**CLASSROOM GUIDELINES & RULES:**

* **Listen** carefully and **follow directions** the first time.
* No food or drinks allowed in the classroom. Water is alright.
* Show **respect** to teachers, peers, and anyone else addressing the group.
* Bring a **cooperative and positive attitude** to each rehearsal.
* Strive for **EXCELLENCE!**

**Further Classroom Rules:**

* Be in class **before** the tardy bell rings**. Walking in the door while the bell is ringing constitutes being tardy.**
* Each student is required to bring their binders with paper, pencils, and other necessary equipment to class each day. **Pencils must be placed on stands during the period.**
* No gum chewing, candy, or soda pop in the band room (Water is permitted).
* No cell phones, camera phones, electronic handheld games, etc will be permitted and must be surrendered when asked. They can be picked up by your parents or at the discretion of the teacher for retrieval.
* Observe all off-limit areas (Band director’s desk and cabinets).
* Do not play on the band instruments while in the Music Room unless directed to.
* Follow all State, Federal, and Jewell School Rules.
* When in doubt, ask the band director.

**ATTENDANCE:**

* Students are expected to attend class regularly. Eight excused one-half day absences in any four week period during which the school is in session shall be considered irregular attendance. Excused absences not to exceed five days in a term of three months.