

Beginning Band Syllabus

New Manchester High School
FAME
Instrumental Music Department

Instructor Information

Instructor

Mr. Garrick D. Rivers

Email

garrick.rivers@dcssga.org

Office Location & Hours

B 1.122 – By appointment only

Description

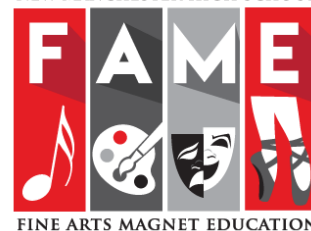
This course provides the musician with the appropriate methods, techniques, strategies, and skills for being a successful classically trained musician. The course will focus on the elements needed to be a multifaceted and proficient instrumentalist. The course structure will consist of but not limited to the following: lectures, demonstrations, ear training, elements of music theory, sight reading/singing, and rhythm reading.

Performance Standards/Objective:

www.georgiastandards.org

Expectations and Goals

- Students are to be present and on time for each class.
- Cell phone usage is not allowed during class. Phones must be off or on silent. Phones must be put away at all times.
- No food or drink in the band room. Water is allowed.
- This is a performance based course. Each student is required to rent or own their instrument and materials. Rental information is available from the director. Please see **“Course Materials”** for more information.
- Students will be assigned a Cut Time account. Each student is required to update and keep up to date with all information related to this account. Parents are also encouraged to work on this with their child as well.
- All fall and spring ensemble rehearsal attendance is mandatory. NMHS Fine Arts policy states that if a student misses a dress rehearsal for any reason, he/she will not be able to perform. Students will be given rehearsal and performance dates well in advance. All dates are posted in Cut Time and the Band App.
- Skill checks (assessments) will be scheduled in the Google Classroom. This can include in class or online recorded assessments. Students will receive a minimum two-week notification on the information to be assessed. These checks will monitor the musical growth of the students.
- Private lessons will help a student excel while working independently with a professional musician. The director can assist students in finding an instructor for their instrument. **Starting in September, students will receive a recommendation to seek private instruction if they are not meeting the rigor of the class.**
- Students will be given two class meetings to complete any missed in-class assignments due to an excused absence. This will not apply to assigned skill checks or performances. Please use the given calendar to plan around the performance schedule. Skill checks must be completed by the assigned date.
- Instruments are expected to be maintained at all time. Students will incur all cost in personal instrument repair that the director cannot fix. Students are negligent or mishandle school assigned equipment will be responsible for repair cost.



- **Cultural Awareness:** All students must also be students of the arts in general. Students are required to go see a total of five shows through the course of the year. The shows can be from any area of the five areas of the fine arts. Ex.: vocal music, instrumental music, theater, dance, and art. Students must submit a program or a ticket along with a written one-page critique within five days of the show date. (There will be many shows that students can choose from.) Shows must be of high school, collegiate, or professional level.

Additional Requirements

- All FAME band students are required to audition for the DCSS County Honor Band.
 - Auditions will be held after school Tuesday, November 12th at Alexander High School. Audition times will be announced at a later date.
- Students are required to audition for NMHS ensemble seats twice a year.
 - Winter concert auditions will be held in August.
 - Spring concert auditions will be held in January.
- Students must acquire concert attire.
 - Not included in band dues as returning students do not need this fee required.
 - FAME band has a very limited inventory to be checked. Pricing information for concert attire will be emailed mid-August.
- Students are not required, but are encouraged to participate in district and all-state auditions.
 - Students will have to pay an audition fee for this.
 - Students will have to pass a pre-audition with the band director prior to registration.
 - Please see the band director for audition information.
- Students will participate in grade specific Jury Assessments.
 - Assessments designed to assess students forward progress in FAME band.
 - Assessments included, but not limited to:
 - Assignment to further mastery of their instrument pedagogy
 - Solo Recital: Public and/or Private performance
 - Several assessments built into recital preparation
 - Failure to complete Jury will result in FAME probation and possibly dismissal from the FAME band program.

Course Materials

Required Materials

- Instrument in working order
- Pencil(s) **Any other writing utensil is strictly prohibited**
- 1" or 2" 3-ring binder with a minimum of 25 sheet protectors
- Notebook paper

Instrument Materials

- Brass: valve/slide oil, tuning slide grease, mouthpiece. See Mr. Rivers for preferred size
- Woodwind: Key oil, cork grease, minimum of 3 Vandoren reeds size 3 (saxophone and clarinet), cleaning rod, and black rovinger ligature (saxophone and clarinet).
- Percussion: Two pair SD 1 concert snare sticks, timpani mallets, medium & soft yarn mallets, and a stick bag.

Grading Plan

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| • Skill Checks/Performances/Projects | 50% |
| • Participation/Rehearsals/Practice Logs | 40% |
| • Final | 10% |

Appeals

A student/parent has 5 business days from the date that the report card is issued to appeal the final grade. The appeal must be made in writing to the principal and the decision of the principal is final.

Academic Honesty:

Please refer to the DCSS or NMHS handbook

Lost book policy: (This also applies to lost or damaged equipment)

Board Policy Descriptive Code: IFAD

The student will be charged full replacement cost for any textbook lost, regardless of condition. The amount to be charged for a textbook damaged by a student will be the responsibility of the principal.

Band Lockers:

Lockers are issued in order of student sign out. Students will have access to the lockers until all the proper lockers are assigned. Students are responsible for keeping their lock combination and securing their locker. Only band instrument, band supplies, and music can be kept in the locker. Misuse of facility will result in permanent loss of locker privileges.

Syllabus Affirmation

Parent and/or Guardian: Please fill out and return this form to the class instructor.

I, _____, affirm that I have read the syllabus in its entirety with my child. I also affirm that my child and I understand the course requirement, expectations, materials needed, and grading percentage for this course. My child, _____, also agrees to abide by the rules that govern this class and New Manchester High School.

Please indicate the following (Parent/Guardian):

- I give permission to use my child's photograph on any website pertaining to the NMHS Band Programs. _____ (Initial here.)
- I do NOT give permission to use my child's photograph on any website pertaining to the NMHS Band Programs. _____ (Initial here.)

Student Signature _____ Date: _____

Parent Signature: _____ Date: _____

