

...Home of the Dragons...



Band

Course Syllabus 2025-2026

Course Description and Objectives

This performance-based class focuses on basic instrumental skill development and music reading. The goal of this class is to teach students the proper way to hold and play a brass, woodwind, or percussion instrument, with a characteristic tone quality. Students may elect to play their instrument of choice with Dr. Kristich's approval and recommendation. Participation in concert performances outside of the regular class hours is required. In addition to large group ensembles, individual growth and achievement are encouraged through participation in solo and ensemble festivals, district honor bands and private lessons. Participation in concert performances outside of regular class hours is required.

Textbook

Habits of a Successful Beginner Band Musician- All students will need this book

Habits of a Successful Middle School Musician- Once the class progresses sufficiently, Dr. Kristich will inform students/parents to purchase this book, this will be 7th or 8th grade.

Students will also receive music, theory worksheets, and other assignments in class or online in Canvas

Concepts/Topics Covered

-Becoming a musician by learning the basics of the instrument, as well as reading music and understanding music theory. Including but not limited to:

- ***Assembling and maintaining the instrument,**
- ***Producing a characteristic tone,** using proper air support and a correct embouchure
- ***Rhythms,** such as whole notes, half notes, quarter notes, and eighth notes
- ***Reading Pitches,** learn to comfortably identify and read note names on the musical staff
- ***Musical Terminology,** learn and understand vocabulary words that appear on the music
- ***Reading and playing musical selections,** together with the full ensemble.

Richmond County Board of Education Grading Policy

- Minor Grades 60%
 - o **Minimum number** of minor grades per 6-week progress report period = **5**
- Major Grades 40%
 - o **Minimum number** of major grades per 6-week progress report period = **2**

Academic Grading Scale

A (90-100) B (80-89) C (75-79) D (70-74) F (below 70)

- Parents are encouraged to monitor their child's grades using the district Infinite Campus Parent Portal.
- Please contact the front office at 706-737-7288 for information to gain access to Infinite Campus.

...Home of the Dragons...



Band

Academic Dishonesty

The Student Code of Conduct, Rule 1(A)(t), states that no student shall cheat, alter records, plagiarize, receive unauthorized assistance or assist another in any type of academic dishonesty. The determination that a student has engaged in academic dishonesty will be based on the judgment of the classroom teacher and a supervising administrator, taking into consideration any written materials, observation, or information from witnesses. Students found to have engaged in academic dishonesty will be subject to disciplinary actions as outlined in the Student Code of Conduct. Additionally, the task may be entered as “incomplete” and the student required to redo the assignment or retake the assessment.

Late Work

Late work is defined as assignments that are submitted after the specified deadline. This does not apply to work submitted late due to absence from school. Students are expected to submit assignments on time. Multiple incidents of late work may result in teacher-student-parent conferences to examine and correct the student’s work habits. Graded assignments that are submitted late will be reduced by 5% per school day. Late work submitted after the fifth day will only be accepted at the teacher’s discretion.

Make-up Work

Students are expected to make-up assignments and assessments that were missed due to absence from school. Students are responsible for asking teachers for the make-up work upon returning to class. Make-up work should be completed by the student within the time specified by the teacher. Teachers should provide reasonable timelines for completing make-up work. Generally, such work should be completed within 5 days of returning to school. A student should not be required to take a quiz or test on their first day back at school if the assessment was first announced during their absence. Graded assignments should be scored to accurately reflect the level of mastery of standards.

Homework

Students should practice their instruments at home for at least 15-30 minutes daily. The practice routine should include reinforcing concepts learned during class.

Relearn & Reassess (R&R Procedures)

Students have the opportunity to submit a relearning plan for any **major assessment**. Upon satisfactory completion of the plan, a student will be given one opportunity to be reassessed. Students scoring below 70 on a major assessment are expected to complete a relearning plan unless exempted with parent approval.

Teachers have discretion to determine if R&R opportunities will be given for any **minor assessment**.

Cell phones are not permitted in class, per school policy, and should not be seen nor heard.

Students should turn cell phones off and place them in their bookbags.

- First offense will receive an explicit verbal warning.
- Further offense will receive a parent phone call.
- Repeated offenses will result in phone confiscation. In this case, a parent will need to request the phone be returned in person.

...Home of the Dragons...



Band

Classroom Procedures & Expectations

The overarching expectation in this class is RESPECT: respect for yourself, respect for other students, respect for the teacher/or any individual in authority, and respect for any guests that may enter our class. Although this encompasses all other expectations, I will outline several others for the sake of clarity.

1. Always Try YOUR BEST!!! I will not settle for anything but your best!!
2. Have the “I can do it” attitude! Stick To It and Don’t Give Up!
3. Remain SEATED and PREPARED at all times.
4. Bring ALL materials to class DAILY.
5. Every student is responsible for helping to maintain a clean, safe learning environment. Your area must remain CLEAN at all times. The floor should be clear of trash, paper, and personal belongings.
6. Adhere to all policies, rules, and regulations outlined in the student handbook, and Tutt Middle School’s Norms.

Course Materials

- instrument
- paper
- pencils

Please refer to the Student Code of Conduct for further guidance on Richmond County School System’s policies and procedures.

My contact information: Email: kristch1@boe.richmond.k12.ga.us

Dojo messages: Dr. Kristich will relay this information to parents and students

Tutt Middle School Phone Number: 706-737-7288

Please sign and return this portion of the syllabus to affirm that you have reviewed this document:

Student’s Signature _____ Date _____

Parent/Guardian’s Signature _____ Date _____

Parent Phone Number: _____ Email: _____