

## Academy of Richmond County High School Band Syllabus and Expectations

<b>Course:</b> High School Instrumental Ensemble: Band		<b>GRADING SCALE</b>
Levels: <u>Beginner – Advance (I - IV)</u>	x Fine Arts Credit	A = 90 – 100
<b>Teacher:</b> Robert D. Freeman		B = 80– 89
<b>Date:</b> 2024-2025 SY		C = 75– 79
<b>Teacher’s Email Address:</b> <u>Freemro@boe.richmond.k12.ga.us</u>	Total Contact Hours: 140	D = 70 – 74
		F = 0 - 69
<b>Class Phone Number:</b> <u>ext. 1595</u>		
<b>Room Number</b> <u>IB Building-Band Room 432</u>		

### Course Topics and Learning Objectives:

- Elements of Music: Melody, Harmony, Timbre, Form, Rhythm, Texture, and Expression
- Perform on Instruments: Woodwinds, Brass, and Percussion
- Develop Range, Endurance, Technique, Knowledge of Repertoire, Listening and overall Performance Skills
- Study Music Theory: Pitch/Rhythm Notation, Composition and Arranging, and Improvisation
- Evaluate Personal and Others’ Live and Recorded Performances
- Prepare for District, Region, & All-State Bands and other Honor Bands
- Research History/Pedagogy: Baroque, Classical, Romantic, Patriotic, and Contemporary Music
- Make Connections between Music, other Art Forms, and Life
- Use Technology: *digital audio/video workstations, MIDI, FINALE/MuseScore Notation Based software, Interactive SmartBoard, SmartMusic Digital Assessment, Tuner/Metronome, and more\*\*\*\*\**

Please visit the Georgia Department of Education website to view the complete (9-12) High School Band Standards of Excellence. <https://www.georgiastandards.org/Georgia-Standards/Pages/Fine-Arts-Music.aspx>

## Course Grading

### ARC Music Department 2024-2025 SY Uniformed Grading Weights

Major Grades - 40%  
Minor Grades - 60%

#### 1. PERFORMANCES/RECITALS/TESTS Major Grade

##### **Performance Tests (Vocal/Pitch/Rhythm Exercises, Technique, Performance Excerpts from Repertoire)**

These evaluations assess the student’s knowledge of the instruments, voice, the elements of music, music-reading performance and singing skills. Students will be asked to play instruments in large groups, small groups, and individually.

- **Performances/Evaluations:** The band will produce a performance in the Fall, Winter, and Spring – including any requested/scheduled school & community performances (See Band Calendar). All students are required to perform at Georgia Music Educator’s Association – Large Group Performance Evaluation during the Spring Semester. Other performance evaluations include, but not required, are Southern Star Music Festival, Carowinds Festival of Music, & Disney Performance Series Music Festival Performances. **A “grade of 80” will be assigned for any excused absence of a scheduled performance. A “grade of 60” will be assigned for any unexcused absence of a scheduled performance.**
- **Recital** – A solo or small group performance is required for students to meet a criterion of the Fine Arts Diploma Seal. **GMEA District, Region, All-State - Honor Band Auditions:** GMEA Auditions are optional but HIGHLY ENCOURAGED. A successful audition attempt with an audition score of 70% will earn a student extra credit. Additionally, a student may be asked to perform a prepared solo in a recital. *All band students are required to learn and perform the state solo for their grade level whether they choose to audition or not.*
- **Tests** are also required in class. These tests will be offered in a variety of formats. The test serves as an assessment of learning based on a culmination of **multiple** lessons.

2. REHEARSALS

Minor Grade

- **Rehearsals** are typically scheduled at least one week in advanced prior to a performance. The purpose of rehearsal is to bring the entire performing ensemble together so students can hear, progress, and unify all music parts. Rehearsal is not practice; practice is what a student should do on their own in order to be prepared for a rehearsal. **All students are required and expected to attend rehearsals and their corresponding performances.** Students on athletic teams or other extracurricular activities must communicate with their coach or club sponsor and band director at the earliest convenience to avoid any potential conflicts. Coaches, club sponsors, and the band will benefit from this open communication. In the event a student is not placed in the performance, he/she will be assigned a duty to assist in the logistics of the performance (i.e. stage manager, props, field crew, etc.) Depending on the student’s role, a project in lieu of a performance grade may be given. This project will be comparable to the workload it takes to prepare and perform a major concert. **A “grade of 80” will be assigned for any excused absence from a scheduled rehearsal. A “grade of 60” will be assigned for any unexcused absence of a scheduled rehearsal.**

3. CLASSWORK/QUIZZES

Minor Grade

**(Critiques, Assignments, Handouts, Theory, Modeling, etc...)**

Daily/weekly quick assessments will be offered to “check for the student’s understanding” of a specific performance task. This will help the director adjust instruction to ensure mastery of the performance standard.

- **Music Critique:** Students will write and/or discuss the performances of others and their peers. These performances will be “live” or recorded. Teacher-guided prompts will be provided for students to respond to.
- **Assignments** will come in a variety of formats: Music theory lessons, music concepts, music history, discussions, modeling or demonstrating through performance application of a concept, audio/video recording, handouts, open-ended response, multiple choice, etc..
- **Quizzes** are also required in this class. These quizzes will be offered in various assessment formats (written, oral, visual, demonstration, performing). The quiz serves as an assessment of learning based on a **specific** lesson.
- **Rhythm/Melodic Drill:** identifying various rhythm patterns, melodic structures, and/or pitch intervals

**Students are expected to be fully prepared for all band rehearsals and performances at all times.**

DAILY MATERIALS: Instrument, Reeds, Mouthpiece, Swab, Drum Sticks, Mallets, Music, Binder/Folder and a Pencil

- Did the student follow instructions, stay on task and perform with accurate intonation and rhythm, with appropriate tone, air control, and good posture while maintaining an appropriate tempo?
- Did the student perform with consistent technique, clarity, and musicality?
- Did the student apply corrections given by the teacher and demonstrate progression in regards to technique: (*appropriate tone, good posture, flexibility while playing, sight singing and reading skills, etc...*)?
- Did the student perform/march expressively with appropriate dynamics, phrasing, and interpretation?
- Did the student make individual contributions and remain engaged in the processes of the classroom?
- Students will be required to have a three-ring binder notebook and pencil for class every day.
- Students will collect and keep all materials handed out by the teacher (including: music, articles, terms/vocabulary sheets, history notes, graded quizzes, projects and test grades, homework assignments, work sheets, etc.)
- The teacher will check the portfolio once a month for organization and content for a grade.

**Classroom Procedures & Policies:**

Entrance	Instructional Time	Exit
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Students must be in the band room before the tardy bell.</li> <li>● Students should have instrument/materials ready to go at the start of the DOWNBEAT (appr. 5 minutes into class).</li> <li>● Prior to the downbeat, students should acquire their music, notebooks, pencil, sheets, instruments, and begin individual warm up for the day’s rehearsal.</li> <li>● In your individual warm-up, it is important to do each of the following on a daily basis: LONG TONES, LIP SLURS, &amp; SCALES</li> <li>● Make sure you have extra reeds and other supplies.</li> <li>● Percussion must setup necessary equipment and instruments BEFORE whole group warm-up/instruction.</li> <li>● Announcements will be made at the beginning or end of class and will also be written on the board in the band room.</li> </ul>	<p>Students will observe proper rehearsal etiquette which includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <u>Active participation</u> in class activities</li> <li>● Raising a hand to ask questions or make comments</li> <li>● Using appropriate language</li> <li>● Respecting your teacher, classmates and property</li> </ul> <p>Students will actively focus on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● The Four T’s- Tone, Tuning, Timing and Technique</li> <li>● Balance and Blend</li> <li>● Articulation</li> <li>● Rhythm</li> <li>● Appropriate style</li> <li>● Dynamics</li> <li>● Listening</li> <li>● Ensemble cohesiveness</li> <li>● Posture</li> </ul>	<p>Students will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Warm-down</li> <li>● Return instruments and supplies to their proper place</li> <li>● Wait for closing announcements and to be dismissed from class.</li> </ul>
<p><b>PLEASE READ THE ARC BAND PROGRAM HANDBOOK FOR MORE DETAILED INFORMATION</b></p>		

**MAKE-UP (GRADING) POLICY**

- All work/alternative assignments should be completed in a timely manner per due dates. Late assignment penalty (minor):
  - Day 1 - 5 points
  - Day 2 - 10 points
  - Day 3 - 15 points
  - Day 4 - 20 points
  - Day 5 - 25 points
- Late work will not be accepted after Day 5 (past the original deadline)
- A parent-teacher conference can be scheduled to discuss further actions and concerns regarding this matter if needed.
- The usage of Artificial Intelligence or Plagiarism is considered Academic Dishonesty and zero credit will be given as such.
- A Relearning/Reassessment Plan will only apply towards major assignments.

**Band App & Remind, ARC Teacher Page:** All parents and students should register to receive ARC BAND CORRESPONDENCE. Communication is vital for all parties involved. Information is constantly being disseminated and updated on a daily/weekly basis. Performances, Assignments, Projects, Documents/Forms, etc... will be shared digitally as much as possible. Do keep in mind that "Dates and Times are subjected to change." Notifications will go out immediately when there changes.

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Student's Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Student's Cell Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Student's e-mail address \_\_\_\_\_

I have received the requirements, policies and procedures for: **Instrumental Ensemble Music: Beginner – Advanced Band (I-IV)**

**I UNDERSTAND PERFORMANCES ARE A REQUIREMENT TO SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETE THIS COURSE. I FURTHER AGREE I HAVE RECEIVED MY PERFORMANCE CALENDAR WITH PLENTY OF TIME IN ORDER TO ATTEND ALL REHEARSALS & PERFORMANCES.**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent/Guardian Name Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent/Guardian Signature Parent/Guardian work phone Parent/Guardian e-mail address

Please check the appropriate statements and sign below:

- **I give my student permission to be photographed/filmed for class activities and/or publication on web site, newspaper or television. I did not sign the FERPA paper which forbids photos of my child.**  
OR
- **I DO NOT give my student permission to be photographed/filmed for class activities and/or publication on web site, newspaper or television. I did sign the FERPA paper which forbids photos of my child.**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent/Guardian Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

## **Richmond County Cell Phone Policy**

### **RCSS RULE 16 - NO PERSONAL DEVICES DURING THE SCHOOL DAY**

~ TABLETS | PHONES | SMART WATCHES | HEADPHONES & EARPODS | DIGITAL ACCESSORIES ~

#### **Consequences**

1. First (Significant) Violation: Device(s) is held in the main office until the end of the school day. Student or parent may pick up device(s).
2. Second (Significant) Violation: Device(s) is held in the main office until the Friday following the violation. Parent must pick up device(s).
3. Third (Significant) Violation: Device(s) is held in the main office until the following Friday following the violation. Parent must pick up device(s). One day of ISS will be assigned.
4. Fourth (Significant) Violation: Device(s) is confiscated for 10 school days and parent must schedule a conference. Three days of ISS will be assigned.
5. A student who refuses to hand over a device(s) may be suspended for two days of out-of-school suspension for non-compliance with rule 16.
6. If a parent demands that a device(s) be returned immediately to the parent, the student is subject to two days of out-of-school suspension for non-compliance with rule 16.

#### **Tardy Policy**

5th Tardy: Warning letter to parent & student

10th Tardy: One (1) hour of afterschool detention

15th Tardy: One (1) day of In-School Suspension

20th Tardy: Two (2) days of In-School Suspension

30th Tardy: Three (3) days of In-School Suspension

35th Tardy: One (1) day of Out-of-School Suspension

40th Tardy: Two (2) days of Out-of-School Suspension

45th Tardy: Three (3) days Out-of-School Suspension

50th Tardy: Ten (10) days of Out-of-School Suspension Pending Tribunal