

# Bryan High School Band Syllabus

**Goal:** To develop student musicians who enjoy performing music of the highest caliber, and are willing to practice in such a way to develop their skills to the highest standards. The members of this ensemble will be able to discern quality of pitch, pulse, tone, blend, and balance. Above all else, we desire to nurture a student's love for music.

**Requirements:** Each student should have a quality instrument in proper working order for every rehearsal. You will need the appropriate accessories as well as a 1-inch binder and pencil at every rehearsal and a metronome for home practice. Since all playing tests will be performed with a metronome, you should be practicing with one at home. Any instrument needing repair should be taken care of immediately, in order to miss minimal rehearsal time. Even though practice time is not graded, you are expected to practice weekly, outside of class time. All students will perform and memorize the required marching band music, participate in an ensemble for the BSD chamber ensemble contest, and participate in all performances. All marching band and concert performances are mandatory. You are expected to be highly proficient in the performance of your music come performance time.

**Grading Guidelines:** Six weeks grades will be determined according to the following grading rubric:

**Assessments 60%**

- music objectives\* (passed off in person)
- attendance at performances
- weekly participation\*\*

**Daily 40%**

- music objectives\* (passed off via smartmusic)
- attendance at rehearsals
- binder and material checks

\*Music objectives will be given either a grade of 0/50/70/85/100. A grade of 50 will be given for an attempt and a 70 for a quality attempt. You may take as many opportunities needed to pass off to receive a 100. *If you do not make a quality attempt on or before the due date, then the highest grade you can make is an 85.* Grades other than those previously mentioned will be given at the discretion of the director.

\*\*Weekly participation grades will start at a 100 for each student. This grade will be lowered 10 points for each infraction. Infractions include:

- no music at rehearsal
- no instrument at rehearsal
- no equipment necessary to play or contribute to the rehearsal (i.e. reeds, sticks, valve oil, pencil, proper marching attire, having instrument in proper playing condition, etc.)

**Course Schedule Outline:**

**1st Six Weeks:** all-region master classes, daily participation in marching band rehearsals, marching band music pass offs and memorization assessments, daily work on marching band warm-up and technique exercises

**2nd Six Weeks:** continue all-region master classes, continue daily participation in marching band rehearsals, finish marching band music pass offs and memorization assessments, continue daily work on marching band warm-up and technique exercises, marching band contests, begin work on concert band music near end of six weeks, begin work on sight-reading skills/concert band warm-up/technique exercises

**3rd Six Weeks:** finish all-region master classes, continue daily work on concert band music and Christmas Concert music, continue work on sight-reading skills/concert band warm-up/technique exercises, all-region auditions, select music for Chamber Ensemble Concert & Contest, Christmas Concert

**4th Six Weeks:** daily preparation of chamber ensemble music, begin concert ensembles sectionals, Chamber Ensemble Concert & Contest, continue work on sight-reading skills/concert band warm-up/technique exercises, begin work on UIL Concert music

**5th Six Weeks:** continue concert ensembles sectionals, continue work on sight-reading skills/concert band warm-up/technique exercises, continue daily preparation of UIL Concert music, UIL concert music pass offs, BSD Pre-UIL Concert, select solo for BSD Solo Contest

**6th Six Weeks:** finish concert ensembles sectionals, finish work on sight-reading skills/concert band warm-up/technique exercises, finish preparation of UIL Concert music, Pre-UIL Concert, UIL Concert & Sight-reading, BSD Solo Contest, begin work on Spring Concert music, Spring Concert, Leadership Auditions, Banquet, Spring Trip, Graduation Performance (2017-18 Wind Symphony)

## **Class Expectations:**

1. **LEARN YOUR MUSIC.** Students are expected to prepare notes and rhythms during personal practice time at home.
2. **RESPECT YOUR INSTRUMENT.** If you own your instrument, you know how important it is to maintain its care. If you are using a school-owned instrument, treat it as if it were your own. Polish it, clean it, put it properly in the case, and store the case appropriately.
3. **RESPECT THE FACILITY.** This is your band room. Everyone is expected to pick up after themselves, store instruments in their proper location, and not bring food or drink into the room. Storage areas in the band room will be used for instruments and band equipment only. Please note that personal items (i.e. clothes, shoes, books, etc.) will be stored in hall lockers unless approved through a band director.
4. **RESPECT ONE ANOTHER.** Respect one another by not worrying about anyone other than yourself when it comes to roles within the ensemble. Show respect for each other's instruments and personal property as well.
5. **BE PROFESSIONAL.** This is perhaps the most important expectation of all since it embodies and encompasses everything we do from rehearsal, to practice at home, to performance, to attending a concert.  
Be prepared for rehearsal.  
Practice at home, not at rehearsal. Amateurs practice until they get it right. Professionals practice until they cannot get it wrong!  
Remain quiet during rehearsal when you are not being addressed.  
Dress accordingly to the concert attire guidelines - professionally.  
Always mind what you say when representing the ensemble. Profanity is NOT tolerated!  
Extend respect to individuals outside of the ensemble and BHS. Leave a positive impression in the minds of others about our band and our school!  
When in a concert, never speak during the performance, either on stage or in the audience.  
Be human. Kindness can have the most profound impact of all. If you have nothing nice to say, keep it to yourself. If it will brighten someone's day, say it!

## **Specific Concert Ensemble Requirements:**

### All Concert Ensembles

- All Football Games, Pep Rallies, and Parades
- 9<sup>th</sup> Grade All-Region Auditions (9<sup>th</sup> Graders Only)
- Christmas Concert
- Before or After School Concert Ensemble Sectionals
- BISD Chamber Ensemble Concert
- BISD Pre-UIL Concert & Sight-reading Contest
- Pre-UIL Concert
- UIL Concert & Sight-reading Contest
- Local Spring Festival Trip Performance (if applicable)
- Spring Concert

### Additional Wind Symphony Requirements

- High School All-Region Auditions
- BISD Solo Contest
- Graduation Performance