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Course Objectives:
1. Students will continually improve individual playing ability and musical knowledge by engaging in full ensemble experiences, chamber groups, and individual practice.
2. Students will increase skill and comprehension levels by understanding and working towards mastery of various musical concepts including, but not limited to, posture, breath control, embouchure structure, specific instrument background information, characteristic sound, technical facility (including scales, articulation, rhythmic accuracy, sight reading, sight singing), musical terminology, etc. These improvements will be monitored in class but will also require outside practice.
3. Students will acquire skills necessary to be part of a successful organization by being a member of a structured social environment, which is set up to enrich their lives through musical interaction.
4. Students will learn to listen critically to music while acquiring a discerning appreciation for art music.

Course Descriptions
• Wind Ensemble – 1st Period
The Wind Ensemble is the premier performing ensemble at DeLand High School. The band is seated by audition and plays grade V-VI literature. It is an honor to be a part of this group. The band will perform many times throughout the year. It is imperative that students are able to participate in after school rehearsals (scheduled as needed), as well as monthly and semi-monthly performances. Students enrolled in Wind Ensemble must also participate in Marching Band.

• Symphonic Band – 4th Period
This is the intermediate band at DeLand High School. The band is seated by audition and plays grade III, IV, and V literature. Some after school rehearsal will be required of this ensemble, though less frequent than the Wind Ensemble. Students enrolled in Symphonic Band must also participate in Marching Band.

• Concert Band – 5th Period (Woodwinds) and 6th Period (Brass)
This is the beginning/intermediate band at DeLand High School, split into two separate courses: Woodwinds and Brass. Due to the set instrumentation of the Symphonic Band and Wind Ensemble, a wide range of players will exist in this group. The Concert Band exists to refine students’ skills on their instruments. The ensemble plays grade III and IV literature. Some after school rehearsal will be required in order to combine both the woodwind and brass players into a full ensemble. Students enrolled in Concert Band must also participate in Marching Band.
• **Percussion Ensemble – 7th Period**

All percussionists are required to enroll in this course as a substitute for a concert band course. This class will focus on the idiosyncrasies of percussion instruments, percussion ensemble literature (including drumline work in the fall), and detailed instruction on concert percussion parts. Percussion students will be assigned to a concert band and will be required to attend after-school rehearsals as concerts approach. Students enrolled in Percussion Ensemble must also participate in Marching Band.

**Required Materials:** Instrument, Instrument Accessories (Reeds, mutes, etc.), Pencil. Music and Music Folders will be distributed in class. Students assume responsibility for these items once distributed.

**Major Units**
- Marching Band Performance Preparation
- Fall Concert Performance Preparation
- Winter Concert Performance Preparation
- Concert MPA Performance Preparation
- Spring Concert Performance Preparation

**Major Performance Projects:**
- Marching Band Performances (football games, Competition, Marching MPA, parades)
  - *Competition – Oct. 10*
  - *Marching MPA – Oct. 24, with a rain date of Nov. 11*
  - *Veteran’s Day Parade – Nov. 7*
  - *For a complete list of football games, see [www.delandband.com](http://www.delandband.com).*
- Fall Concert – November 7
- Winter Concert – December 11
- Pre-MPA Concert – February 26
- District Concert MPA – March 3-5
- Spring Concert – May 11

**Methods of Assessment**
- **Diagnostic Assessments (0%)** – Student playing ability may be assessed by preliminary playing tests and/or self-assessment inventory.
- **Formative Assessments (40%)** – This category includes:
  - Daily class participation – 10 points daily for being present, participating, following classroom procedures, and having required materials.
  - Playing tests (scales, excerpts from music being rehearsed)
  - Written assignments (listening responses, performance self-assessments, etc.)
- **Summative Assessments (60%)** – This category includes all Major Performance Projects. Please make sure these dates are on your calendar.

**Grading Scale**
Scale is specified by Volusia County Schools. Note: Teacher has the authority to override the final grade if a student’s overall performance warrants it.
Percent: Grade:
90-100 A
80-90 B
70-80 C
60-70 D
0-60 F

Attendance at After-School Rehearsals and Performances
Regarding after school rehearsals, personal conflicts such as doctor's appointments, jobs, homework, review sessions, clubs, etc., are not excused. If a student wishes to receive an excused absence, the student must submit a request, in writing, to the director at least one week prior to the absence. Submission of a request does not guarantee approval.

In the event that a student must be absent due to an unforeseen emergency, such as personal illness, a parent or guardian is required to email delandband@gmail.com to inform the director of the absence. Additionally, the student is required to bring a parent note to the director on the day of his or her return to school. Failure to do so will automatically result in the absence being unexcused. If a student is well enough to attend class during the school day, the student is expected to attend any scheduled after-school rehearsal.

An unexcused absence from a rehearsal or performance may result in the student not being allowed to perform in the next performance (director's discretion). Attendance issues will also result in an alteration of the student's participation grade. Severe absences (missing major performances, assessments, etc.) will result in loss of letter grades, unless prior arrangements for an alternate assessment method were made with the director.

For more information regarding DeLand High School Band policies and procedures, please review the DHS Band Program Handbook (http://delandband.com/wp-content/uploads/2014/09/15-16-DHS-Handbook.pdf). All students are required to return a signed copy of the Handbook Agreement Form (p. 29), which acknowledges that both student and parent agree to the terms outlined in the handbook, as well as this syllabus.