

## North Mac High School HONORS BAND Syllabus

2018-2019 School Year

Mrs. Braley, Director

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### **Course Description:**

High School Honors Band is based on and structured around the *Illinois Academic Standards for High School Instrumental Music* (part of the IL Fine Arts Standards) and the *National Standards for Music Education*. Students taking this course are provided with a balanced, comprehensive study of music through the marching, pep, jazz, and concert band program.

All band course requirements are implemented, in addition to an honors curriculum. This course requires both ensemble and solo activities, which are designed to develop elements of musicianship including tone production, technical skills, intonation, music reading skills, listening skills, analyzing music, studying historically significant styles of literature, and integration of other applicable disciplines. Experiences include improvising, playing by ear, sight-reading, and researching music. Students develop the ability to understand and convey composers' intent in the performance of music.

A number of public performances will serve as a culmination of daily rehearsal and musical goals. Students are required to participate in performance opportunities outside of the school day that support and extend learning within the classroom.

This ensemble is open to students in grades 11 and 12, as recommended by the band director. In order for a student to be accepted into the honors course, they must have written consent obtained at a meeting with the band director. This class will meet one period a day for the entire school year.

### **Required Materials:**

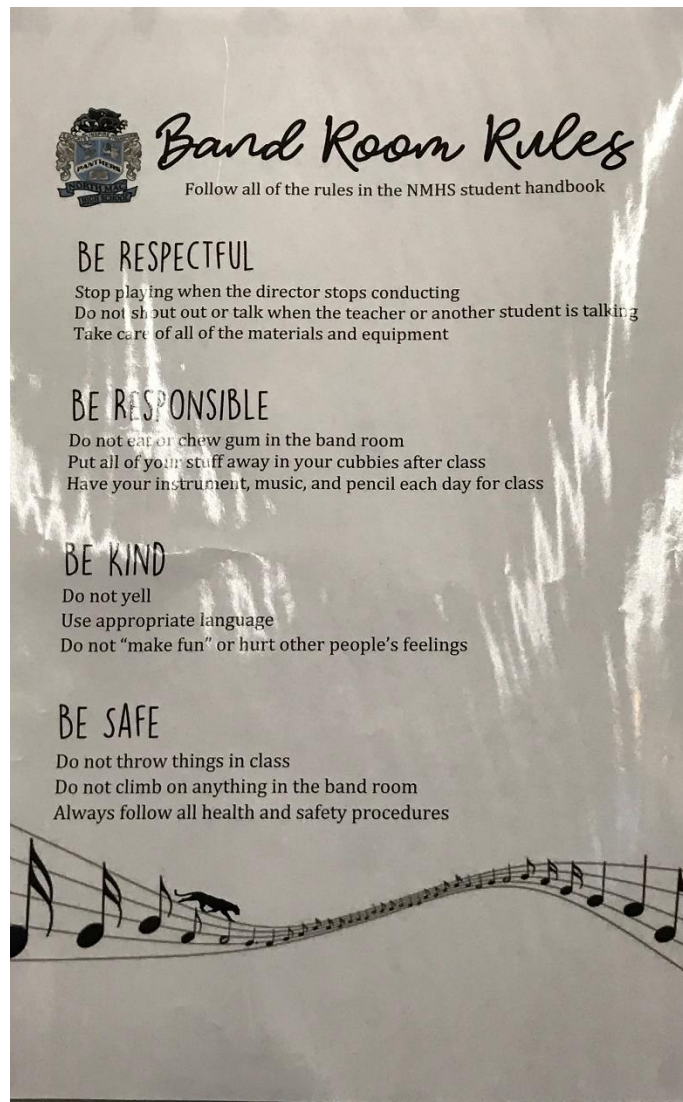
- Instrument: Students are expected to provide their own instruments, with some exceptions. Percussionists must provide their own sticks. Any damage or repair is the responsibility of the student.
- Supplies (reeds, valve oil, cork grease, slide oil, cleaning tools, ect.)
- Music Folder, Flip-Folder, Lyre
- Music: Please handle music with care, as it is very expensive.

- Pencil
- Notebook
- Binder

### Classroom Rules:

Observe all rules within the student handbook at all times.

- Be Safe, Make SMART Choices
- Be Respectful, Be Nice
- Be Responsible, Work Hard
- Be Kind, Do Great Things



YOU and I are responsible for your education! We must work together to be sure you are getting the best experience possible. This means, come talk to me! We can work out problems, conflicts, and other issues. College is right around the corner, so let's start preparing!

### **Performance Attendance:**

Attendance at all performances is mandatory. When there are extenuating circumstances, as determined by the director, one make-up assignment will be allowed per semester. The make-up work will be an alternative performance or practice as determined by the director. This will include a project (listening, writing, analyzing) on a topic pre-approved by Mrs. Braley.

All football and basketball players are required to play and participate at all pregame and halftime performances. These performances are for a grade and cannot be made up. Once the performance is complete, athletes may attend their team meetings and warm-ups.

### **Classwork/Projects: See attached rubrics, and checklists**

Students will complete all assignments, performances, and requirements of the general band course in addition to honors curriculum.

- Music Theory and History  
Listening Critiques: The students will listen to a selection, critically think about the piece, and critique it using musical language. Correct and proper English and writing procedures must be used.
- Rhythm and Pitch Exercises: The students will identify and write rhythm counts and pitch names. Music theory symbols will also be included.
- Musical Vocabulary: The students will define musical vocabulary of increasing difficulty.
- Musical Road Mapping: The students will explain in writing how to read a selection of music using the symbols and terms within the piece.
- One Minute Theory Worksheets and Quizzes – 2<sup>nd</sup> Semester
- Class Discussions: Together as a class, we will discuss bell ringer daily and relate them to the work we are completing within the rehearsal.
- Students will demonstrate advanced musical performance skills through a project each semester. First semester student should master the music and audition for ILMEA, prepare a holiday solo or ensemble, or complete 5 approved hours of band tutoring or lessons. Second semester the student should take a solo or ensemble to contest that is advanced level and classical in nature, or complete 5 hours of approved tutoring or lessons. Other projects are an option, but must be approved by the director at the beginning of the semester.

- Students are required to attend two music performances per semester. A review of at least two pages must be written about the concerts they attend. Options include church performances, other area school concerts, college and university concerts, and popular music concerts.
- Students will complete one research project per semester. First semester will be music in society, and second semester will be music history. Students will choose from a list of topics and projects provided, and research will be approved and supervised by the director. Please see attached research project details.

### **Grading Policy:**

High School Band follows the grading scale in the student handbook. I expect all students to learn, so I will be looking for individual musical growth throughout the year.

We will complete written assignments and class discussions for credit throughout the year. These will be outlined as they arise.

Honors students must create a portfolio that documents they have met the honors requirements. The portfolio is due one week before the final exam. This portfolio will be reviewed by the director, graded, and a conference will be held with the student.

### **Performance Guidelines:**

- Dress: \*unless otherwise specified
  - Marching Band
    - Uniforms: Each member will be issued a uniform. Please use care with the uniform.
  - Concert Band
    - All Black
  - Other Events
    - Band Shirts

### **Important Dates:**

- See attached Calendar and Schedules

(Please detach below section and return to director)

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**I have read and understand the course syllabus for the North Mac High School Band, and understand the expectations and guidelines of the class.**

**I am also aware of all scheduled performance dates throughout the school year and will be present at each of them.**

**I agree to abide by all rules and expectations.**

**Student Name** \_\_\_\_\_

**Student Signature** \_\_\_\_\_

**Parent Signature** \_\_\_\_\_