

**Wind Ensemble, Symphonic Band,  
Percussion Ensemble, Color Guard**  
[www.mandarinband.com](http://www.mandarinband.com)

**Instructor: Pam Chaffin**  
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## **Syllabus**

### **Necessary Materials:**

1. Instrument in good working condition, music, pencil
2. Metronome & Tuner (recommended: Korg TM-50 cost 29.95 available at [www.wbw.com](http://www.wbw.com)). This is a combination metronome/tuner. Tuner pick up: (recommended: Peterson clip on pick up cost: 12.00) available from [www.wbw.com](http://www.wbw.com)
3. 3 ring black 1" binder with clear page protectors (pack of 25)
4. Woodwind players: 1 box of Van Doren reeds in rotation, reed case, cork grease, swab. NO RICO REEDS. If you need help with this, please ask me.
5. Brass: Valve oil (recommend Blue Juice), BERP, slide grease – trumpet/tuba/bar; trombone slide cream, spray bottle
6. Percussion: 1 pair Vic Firth SD1 general snare drum sticks, 1 pair Vic Firth general timp mallets, 1 pair Mike Balter Medium Blue keyboard mallets, stick bag (concert season).
7. Smartmusic – subscription available from [Smartmusic.com](http://Smartmusic.com) cost: 40.00/year

### **Grading:**

Since band is a performance-based curriculum, grades are primarily performance-based. Students perform individually and in groups. Marching band assessments are included.

Performances: 200-350 pts  
Sectionals: 10- 100 pts  
Projects: 200 pts

Full Band Rehearsals 100-200 pts  
Playing Exams & Quizzes: 1-200 pts  
Assignments: 1-200 pts

**Bonus Points:** (Semester 1 only) All students begin with 100 “bonus” points at the beginning of the school year by Ms Chaffin. Points are added/deducted accordingly. These points only HELP the student’s grade; however all students are expected to maintain above 70 points at all times. Please note that this is for the **benefit** of the student. These points are given by Ms. Chaffin at the beginning of the school year and points can be deducted at the director’s discretion (see points on/off page). The quarterly grade will be as follows:

Amount of Bonus points if > than class grade  
Class Grade if > than bonus points

See *Bonus Point System* for detailed breakdown of point additions and deductions.  
Students with fewer than 70 points will not be allowed to attend band – football activities

In the second semester beginning (term 3 and 4), rehearsals will reflect in the student’s “A” Grade (classroom grade).

**Concerts:** There are 1-3 full band concerts per semester in addition to district/state MPA in the spring. All students are required to participate/attend these concerts. Every student is vital to our ensembles.

The dress is “*Concert Blacks*”

**Men:** Black tuxedo pants, Black long sleeved plain front tuxedo shirt, Black long neck tie (satin finish), black socks, black dress shoes (or band shoes) no athletic shoes, Wind Ensemble - black tuxedo Jacket.

**Women:** LONG black dress, conservative bodice, black stockings, black dress shoes OR black dress slacks, black blouse (long sleeved), black dress shoes, black stockings or trouser socks. Wind Ensemble

Women: Official Wind Ensemble Formal (65.00)

**Marching Band:** Marching Band is a part of the band curriculum and all students enrolled in a band course participate.

**Sectionals:**

Sectionals are called throughout the year by the director or the principal players (student leadership).

**After school Rehearsals:**

The rehearsals after school are listed in the band calendar and updated on the website and through the weekly announcements. These rehearsals clean allow cleaning balance issues (occurring on stage and with additional players). **All students are required to attend.**

**Professional Instruction:**

Professional musicians are often brought in to teach master classes in particular sections or to run sectionals, guest conduct, clinic the ensemble, etc. The instruction includes some of the finest musicians and teachers in this area. This instruction is an additional cost to our program.

**Honor Bands:**

Students are strongly encouraged to prepare an audition for all state as well as other honor bands. Diligent practice for these auditions is the impetus for a better musician. Students auditioning are to perform their literature for the class at least one week prior to the audition. Wind Ensemble is expected to audition for All-District.

**Chamber Music:**

All students are encouraged to play in a chamber group. Chamber groups perform on various concerts.

**Projects:**

Each year, a project will be assigned. This project correlates to the music being played and integrates cross-curricular learning into the classroom. Students relate history, writing and research skills, analytical skills, technology and aural skills to music.

**Quizzes:**

In addition to playing exams, students will be responsible for different assignments. These include, but are not limited to listening assignments, performance critiques, intonation studies etc.

**Class Participation:**

All students are REQUIRED to play every class. If the student has orthodontic work or other such impairments, he is to finger the notes and participate as a member of the ensemble.

**Class Room Entry and Tardy Policy:**

Students are to enter the band class quietly and set up quickly and carefully. They begin their individual warm up ASAP, remembering the larger the instrument, the more time required to achieve “warmed up” status: Mind, Body, and Instrument.

Students must be in the room by the beginning of the late bell or are considered TARDY. Students are also tardy if they are not in their seat with their classroom materials at the time of the downbeat.

Gum, Food, and Drinks are NOT permitted in the band room at any time. This includes cups with lids. Students breaking this rule will be assigned clean up duty and possibly detention.

**Private Study:**

Students are HIGHLY encouraged to study privately with a master of his/her instrument. Students who study privately will develop listening skills, technical agility, and better intonation. These students are also more likely to make all state, tri-state, youth orchestra, superior ratings at solo/ensemble and win college scholarships. For a recommended instructor, visit the [mandarinband.com](http://mandarinband.com) website and click on the tab.

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Student Name (print)

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Student Signature

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

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date