

Milwee Concert Band Syllabus - Band 2

Joshua Autrey, Band Instructor

This Syllabus is a brief summary of the FULL BAND HANDBOOK. As such, this Syllabus DOES NOT replace the handbook as your guide to all Milwee Band Policies and Procedures.

Please take 10 minutes to read the full handbook found at:

<http://www.milweeband.com/fileshandbook.html>

Course Description: The Milwee Middle School Concert band is composed of students who have at least one year of middle school band experience are growing on their band instrument for the second year. Members will study and perform grade 1-2 concert band literature and will be responsible for various assignments, concerts, and projects that will include time spent both inside and outside of normal school hours.

Materials, required by August 15th.

- One 3-ring binder, black preferred
- Pencils, with eraser; Pencil Pouch strongly recommended
- 25 Plastic Sheet protectors
- Instrument and proper accessories, band book (once this is passed out in week 3)

Concert Dates and Attire:

- Fall Concert: Tuesday, Oct. 11th at 6:30 in the Milwee Gym
- Winter Concert: TBD in December
- *Music Performance Assessment Festival Concert (Band Competition):* March 30 - April 1, save the dates!
- Spring Concert: TBD in late April or early May
- Black Uniform Polo (Bought from band boosters for \$17)
- Black Dress Pants, Shoes, Socks (Bought on your own)

Classroom expectations, norms, and procedures: Please visit the band handbook for a complete list of student expectations, norms, and procedures: <http://www.milweeband.com/fileshandbook.html>

Grading: Milwee Band uses a "Pass/Fail" system, called "Pass Offs", for most graded performance assignments. Please visit the handbook under the section "Grading" for more details on how this system works.

Approximate Points System:

- Weekly Class Preparation (Having materials and Instrument, performing in class) - 10 points, about 80 points per quarter
- "Pass Off" Assignment - between 10-20 points, about 120 points per quarter
- Written Assignment/Worksheet - 10 points, about 50 points per quarter
- Fall, Winter, MPA and Spring Concert Participation - 100 points per concert. once per quarter.
- **PLUS** - Students whom *do not have* their instrument or materials in class 3 times in one quarter will receive a ONE FULL LETTER GRADE DROP in their overall Quarter Grade (example, A- drops to a B-). A notification will be emailed to parents each time a student does not bring their instrument or materials to class. There is NO PENALTY for first two times a student forgets their instrument during any quarter.

Please understand how PARAMOUNT it is for your student to have their instrument with them to class each day. It is also expected that students bring their instrument (or mouthpiece) home on days they do not have band class to practice. To keep up with the rigorous curriculum involved in concert band, students are expected to practice for a MINIMUM of 1.5 hours outside of class.

Most successful students spend 2.5 hours per week of practice outside of class.

Milwee Concert Band Course Outline:

FALL SEMESTER

Quarter 1:

- Basic Organization, locker assignment, instrument check out (week 1)
- Review breathing singing & posture, review characteristic tone, review Bb Major and F Scales (weeks 1 & 2)
- Improve characteristic tone, Review Musical Terms and Symbols, Eb Major, Fall Music (weeks 3 & 4)
- Articulation Review, Ab Major scale , 3 scale review, Fall concert music (weeks 5 & 6)
- Students auditioning for All-County in November should be practicing all 7 scales (weeks 5-13)
- Preparation for Fall Concert. Eb Major review (week 7)
- Fall Concert Week, October 8th at 6:30 in the Milwee Gym (Week 8)
- Winter Concert Sight Reading, Chromatic Scale Review (week 9)

Quarter 2:

- Review Chromatic scale plus 4 major scales learned in 1st quarter (week 10)
- C Major Scale, Musical Terms and Symbols for Winter Concert (weeks 11 & 12)
- Introduction to Solo and Ensemble Festival (optional festival in February) (week 13)
- G Major Scale, Db Major Scale Winter Concert Music (weeks 14 & 15)
- Winter Concert @ Lyman HS (TBD in December)
- Full 7 Major Scale, plus chromatic scale review and pass offs (Due by end of semester)

SPRING SEMESTER:

Quarter 3:

- Sight Read MPA Music, F Major Scale 2nd octave (weeks 1 & 2)
- MPA Music, Eb Major Scale 2nd octaves (woodwinds & percussion only) (weeks 3 & 4)
- Solo and Ensemble (*optional* student music festival) Preparation (weeks 3 & 4)
- MPA Music Preparation, Solo and Ensemble Festival (optional) Preparation (weeks 5 & 6)
- MPA Music Preparation, Monday after school rehearsals begin (weeks 7 & 8)
- Spring Concert Music Passed Out, Review of 3rd Quarter Curriculum (catch up week!) (week 9)

Quarter 4:

- MPA Music Preparation (week 10), and MPA Music festival! (week 11)
- Db Major Review, Spring Concert Music (weeks 11 & 12)
- G Major 2 octaves, Spring Concert Music (weeks 13 & 14)
- Spring Concert @ Lyman HS (TBD in late April or early May)
- Full 7 Major Scale review, multiple octaves determined by instrument (weeks 15 & 16)
- Performance of all 7 major scales from memory, multiple octaves, 2 octave chromatic scale (weeks 17 & 18)

Percussion Curriculum:

- *In addition* to the curriculum above, Percussionists will follow their own curriculum throughout the year that includes learning rudimentary snare drum, bass drum, and other percussive accessories.
- About 80% of beginning percussion practice time is spent on their mallet/keyboard percussion instruments, with 20% spent on snare, bass drum, and accessories.
- Percussion students will often be practicing on their own, in a practice room area of the band room on their own curriculum goals. Thus, *it is imperative that percussion students are hard working, focused, and independent students, capable of completing classwork without the help of a teacher.*
- Milwee band does hire a percussion instructor to coach percussion students throughout the year -- all ***advanced percussion students are strongly encouraged to enroll in private instruction, outside of class time to supplement their in class percussion coaching.***