

Band

Course #8023

1.0 Credit

August, 2014

Tim Plath

I. Course Description

Band is a two-semester course open to all students with at least one year of instrumental experience. Students without instrumental experience may gain membership to the band after basic study of an instrument has been completed. Band members study the basics of ensemble technique, music reading and theory; perform in several concerts and other appearances and are also eligible for pep band, jazz ensemble, and solo/ensemble contest. Emphasis is on individual growth and group experience.

II. Objectives

The student will:

- Realize that music is a precious gift from God:
- Learn to better use the musical talents with which God has blessed him/her;
- Perform alone and with others, a varied repertoire of music
- Develop individual and ensemble skills through daily practice
- Develop appropriate stylistic performance practices for each music genre
- Gain an appreciation of musical style, history and basic music theory through analysis, discussion and by relating music to other disciplines.

III. Course Content

The students will daily rehearse music for concerts and performances throughout the course of the year. Warmup materials will be used daily, as will music theory.

IV. Methodology

Band class periods will be spent primarily in large group rehearsals. Time may be spent in smaller group sectionals as seen fit.

V. Requirements

Each student will need to be prompt and attentive in rehearsals in order to prepare selected band works for concerts and other performances. It should be understood that the band member will remember to bring his/her instrument to rehearsal each day. Attendance at all concerts is mandatory. A schedule of performances is distributed to the band, as well as other expectations of the group.

VI. Grading Guidelines

Because of the fact that Band is a credited class at MVL, a grade must be given at the end of each quarter and semester. The grade is determined according to these guidelines:

As a member of the MVL Band, each student is expected to be in attendance at all performances (including Pep Band). When a student is in attendance at all the

performances, the grade received will be a “B.” In order to reach a grade of “A,” a student will need to:

1. Play an extended solo of 8 measures or more for Band;
2. Participate in the Solo/Ensemble contest as a soloist or part of a small ensemble;
3. Attend a **band** concert and write a 100 word essay on the concert. This typed essay will be due no later than 7 days after the date of the concert and should be turned in to the director. The program from the concert should accompany the essay. (Please note that the Bethany Christmas Concert is not eligible to be included.) Essay may be submitted electronically to tplath@mvlhs.org. Scan the program and include it with the document.
4. Take private instrumental lessons from an instructor. The instructor will then write a note of verification towards the end of the semester.
5. Serve as a librarian (limit of two students) for the semester.
6. Work for the LES Solo-Ensemble contest in second semester.
7. Other potential areas of assistance to the director that may arise during the year

Should a student miss a performance and be considered unexcused, the grade will be lowered one full grade. By accomplishing one of the tasks listed above, that grade can be raised.

Excused absences do not negatively affect the student’s grade. When an absence is likely, contact must be made with the instructor. Extenuating circumstances may affect the implementation of this policy.

VII. Materials

A variety of band literature will be rehearsed and performed. In addition, warmup materials will be used to help increase flexibility, stamina, and music theory.

Web Sites for Potential Concerts to Attend 2014-15

Martin Luther College <http://www.mlc-wels.edu/home>

Bethany Lutheran College <http://www.blc.edu/finearts/>

Mankato East <http://www.ehs.isd77.org/page/3485>

Mankato West <http://www.whs.isd77.org/page/3285>

New Ulm Public <http://www.newulm.k12.mn.us>