**Concert Band Syllabus 2021-2022**

Spearfish High School

Ms. Appl, Instructor

[kappl@spearfish.k12.sd.us](mailto:kappl@spearfish.k12.sd.us)

(605) 717-1212

**Course/Program Description**

Welcome to Concert Band! Concert Band is a freshmen level course designed to improve playing fundamentals and musicianship. Students will be expected to play and read music in every class. Students will learn marching techniques, playing techniques, reading skills, and teamwork skills. As part of this class, students are members of the marching band and pep band.

**Materials/Textbook Information**

* **Daily Class Materials**
  + A sharpened pencil
  + Instrument (sticks, mallets)
  + Music and folder
  + Two *ready to play* reeds (woodwinds)
  + Blue Juice or another valve oil (brass)
* **Other Materials Needed**
  + Marching shoes (ordered in September)
  + Lyres-marching and pep band
* **Recommended Materials**
  + Personal water bottle
  + Metronome and tuner (both available as apps)
  + Instrument method book

**Course Requirements and Expectations**

**Performances**

* Students are required to attend and participate in all of the band performances and concerts.
* **Concert Dress**: For concerts, band students will wear black dress clothes. *Skirts/dresses need to be at least knee length and must be worn with black nylons.*

**Solo/Ensemble Contest**

* Students are required to prepare an ensemble selection to perform for Solo and Ensemble Contest in February. Students may also prepare a solo, duet, or small group piece.

**Daily Rehearsals**

* Students will be prepared and on time for all rehearsals, *including 7:20 AM marching band practices*.

**Student Performance Objectives**

* To develop performance skills on the various wind and percussion instruments.
* To provide for the musical needs of the school and the community.
* To acquaint the students with music theory/history and how history and musical composition relate to students’ lives and musical experiences.
* To provide all students with the opportunity for worthy use of their time, a means for self-expression, and a healthy social experience.
* To develop the ability to function as a responsible member of a group and foster leadership skills

**Class Procedures and Rules**

* Cell phones are not allowed in rehearsal. Students will place their cell phones on their designated space at the beginning of class.
* Food, drink, and gum are not permitted in the band room. Only water is allowed.
* Students will have respect for each other’s and the school’s space and property including instruments, sheet music, uniforms, music stands, and other equipment.
* Be in your seat and fully prepared with daily class materials on time.
* Closed-toed shoes and socks must be worn at all times for outside practices and performances.
* Hats and sunglasses are only allowed for outdoor marching band practices. Do not wear hats or sunglasses inside at any time.
* Be attentive at all times -- The purpose of a rehearsal is for you to learn the parts of others and how they relate to yours.
* *All school rules and policies will be enforced.*

**Laptop Procedures**

* When not used in class, laptops will be stored in the student’s backpack until class is completed.
* Students will not be on their laptops during rehearsals.
* See Spearfish High School Laptop Policy in the Student Handbook.

**Assessment Plan**

Letter grades are determined by the school wide-grading scale outlined below:

96-100 A 79-82 C+

92-95 A- 76-78 C

* 1. B+ 73-75 C-

86-88 B 69-72 D+

83-85 B- 65-68 D

60-64 D-

\**Grade Rounding Policy*: Grades will be rounded to the nearest whole number.\*

**Grading Breakdown:**

* **Daily Rehearsal Techniques**
  + ***Regular Class***: Earn 5 points per day by being prepared with daily class materials and displaying proper and respectful rehearsal etiquette.
  + ***Marching Band***: 7:20 AM practices are mandatory. Students will earn 2 points per rehearsal by being on time, prepared, and participate appropriately.
  + ***Deductions***: gum chewing, inappropriate behavior, cell phone use, tardiness, lack of preparation, etc.
* **Performances**
  + Concert, Contest, Pep Band Policy: Earn full points by being on time and participating. Earn zero points for an unexcused absence. Points may be deducted at Ms. Appl’s discretion for being late, not participating, inappropriate behavior, etc.
  + Students are responsible for communicating planned absences for any performance with Ms. Appl prior to the event.
* **Other Assessments**
  + Examples: reflection worksheets, rhythm worksheets, completed forms
  + Deductions for missing work, inappropriate answers, lateness, etc.

**Make Up/Missing Work Policies**

* **Missing Rehearsals**
  + Students will inform Ms. Appl about a planned absence *at least two days* before. The student will be given the rehearsal plan and are expected to complete any work and/or practice the rehearsal sections. Lesson plans can be accessed and viewed through Planbook.
* **Missing Pep Band Performances**
  + The student is responsible for communicating an excused absence with Ms. Appl *at least five days* before the pep band performance.
  + Students will *not lose points* for missing a pep band performance for a school-sponsored activity or a family emergency.
  + Students will *lose all points* for missing a pep band performance for an *unexcused absence* (overslept, work, vacation, other practice, etc.).
  + If a student has an unexcused absence, they may attend an additional pep band performance or lesson to earn back the missed grade.
* **Missing Concert Performances**
  + The student is responsible for communicating a planned, excused absence with Ms. Appl *at least three weeks* prior to the concert.
  + For missing a concert, students will meet with Ms. Appl to determine an assignment to earn back the missed concert points.

**Lessons**

Lessons are highly encouraged for every student, but are not required. Lesson times will be before school, after school, and Spartan Time. ***Lesson schedules will be posted on Ms. Appl’s door for students to sign up.*** Students auditioning for an All State ensemble will be required to fulfill a certain number of lessons with Ms. Appl.

**Supplemental Technology & Programs**

* **Planbook**: The join code for Planbook will be given in class and will be posted in Google Classroom.
* **Remind**: Join Remind by texting **@applcon21** to **81010**.
* **Google Classroom**: The class code is **hhbi6zt2**. The join code for Google Classroom will be provided in class. Invites for the Google Classroom will be sent as needed through school email.
* **Flipgrid**: Go to flipgrid.com or download the free app. The class join code is **89da5dd4**.