

# AMERICAN LEADERSHIP ACADEMY

## BAND

2018-2019

### Advanced/Marching Band Syllabus

This course is designed to give the student an enriching, comprehensive and relevant instrumental music education. This class provides many performance opportunities for the student in a variety of settings. The daily objective of the course is to foster and promote an appreciation and love for instrumental music as a performer and an active listener.

As a member of the band program, group effort and cooperation are necessary to a successful program. Band is a skilled effort in which each student is expected to show technical and musical growth throughout this course.

#### **American Leadership Academy Mission Statement**

To provide the best educational experience to as many students as possible in a moral and wholesome environment.

#### **Band American Leadership Academy Mission Statement**

Supporting Intellectual Development through Musical Excellence.

**RAISE Values:** On top of providing a high-quality education, ALA Eagles Band wishes to further develop the contribution our students will make in society through the integration of the RAISE Values into our curriculum. Using the RAISE Values in our lesson plans EVERY DAY will help us create a band culture that will be second to none.

## RESPECT

#### **Classroom Policies**

##### **Please Do:**

- Come to class with a positive attitude.
- Seek out those that need your friendship.
- Come to class prepared with your materials EVERY DAY.
- Make sure that your personal playing space is left clean and that chairs and stands are placed in the correct spot every day before you leave.
- Let Ms. Mathusek know if you have a planned absence.
- Be Exceptional. Always.

##### **Let's Not:**

- Use cell phones, EXCEPT when in use as a tuning device for the first 5 minutes of class. Ms. M does not confiscate phones. She just expects the students to do the right thing!
- Chew gum in Band. Ever. Duh.
- Talk to your neighbor when the director is giving instruction or we are in the middle of rehearsal.
- Eat in the Band Hall. We don't want bugs. We already spit on the floor. Also, eating food and then playing your instrument is a HUGE no-no. It's gross. Just think about it for a minute. Ewwww. Shudder.
- Drink anything other than water in the Band Hall. Sugary drinks not only do bad things to our floors, but it corrodes the insides of your instruments and does terrible things to the pads (if you have them). Don't ever drink anything other than water before playing your instrument!

## ACCOUNTABILITY

#### **Required Materials (All Students)**

- Black 1-inch binder with some page protectors and white lined paper
- Korg TM -50 Combo Tuner Metronome (With Microphone!!)
- Your Instrument
- Mechanical pencil- dedicated to your binder
- Instrument cleaning supplies
- Percussionists need a minimum of a practice pad, general and 5A drumsticks and a METRONOME without microphone

## **Required Uniform**

- ALA Band Polo. It can be purchased on our website on the Band Store page.
- Grey Dress Pants. It can be purchased on our website on the Band Store page.
- Closed toe, black dress shoes
- Black socks (if worn)
- Black belt

## **Class Fees**

There is a \$50 Class Fee for the year. (It is broken up into \$25 per semester) This is paid to Infinite Campus. There is also a \$300 fee for Marching Band. The Marching Fee is paid to our Booster Organization through the Band Fee page on our Band Website:

<http://gnbands.alaschools.org/band-fees-materials.html>

- The cost of the class fee goes toward the purchase of music and communal class instruments and materials.
- The Marching Band fee helps us pay for our Drill Writer, Clinicians, Music Writers, Equipment, travel expenses and instruments.
- There will be at least one class trip this year. Cost of this trip will be disclosed once the details of the trip are announced.

# **INTEGRITY**

## **Attendance**

Commitment to 100% attendance is extremely important to the success of the band as a complete ensemble, in addition to the student's individual growth on their instrument. In band, most students play a part that is entirely their own. If the student is absent from a rehearsal, important cues that the other ensemble members rely on will not be heard. Each student is incredibly important.

Attendance is mandatory for all performances. Make up assignments will be issued on an individual basis. Only illness, death in the family, and an immediate family wedding will be accepted as an excuse for being absent from a performance.

## **Late Assignment Policy**

With instructor approval, assignments may be accepted for up to one week after the due date, however, 10 points per day will be deducted. Extenuating circumstances may be determined on rare occasions and an extension allowed without a deduction, but only at the sole discretion of the instructor. No assignments will be accepted after the last day of the course (end of term).

## **Academic Integrity**

Plagiarism and cheating will not be tolerated at any level on any assignment. The reality of cyberspace has made academic dishonesty even more tempting for some, but be advised that technology can and will be used to help uncover those engaging in deception. If you ever have a question about the legitimacy of a source or a procedure you are considering using, please ask Ms. Mathusek.

# **SERVICE**

**The band program WILL provide several service opportunities during the course of the school year!**

## **Peer Tutoring**

Students with a GPA of 3.5 or higher will be eligible to become peer tutors for other band members that need help maintaining a GPA of 2.0 with no F's, so that they can perform with us. Tutoring tables will be set up in the auditorium during marching band season from 7:30am-8:15am every day.

## **Service Through Performance**

Students may sign up to perform at either a soup kitchen or a retirement home this year! More to come as those dates are booked.

## **Band Council/Section Leaders**

Service the band through leadership opportunities! We will be choosing these leadership positions during the course of Marching Band camp.

# EXCELLENCE

## REQUIRED PERFORMANCES

### Concert Band Performances (500 Points per performance)

- **Winter Concert: December 13, 14, 15 at 7:00pm. Please note that there are THREE performances!**
- **Spring Concert: Monday, March 4 at 7:00pm**
- **Final Concert: Monday, May 13 at 7:00pm**
- **Baccalaureate: Sunday, May 19 Time TBA**
- **Graduation: Tuesday, May 21 Time TBA**

### Marching Band Performances (200 points per game)

Advanced Band has a "Marching Band Unit." We begin the year with marching and once the season is done, we begin preparing concert music for the Winter Concert.

We will have **5 Home Games** on the following dates:

- |              |                                   |                     |
|--------------|-----------------------------------|---------------------|
| • August 24  | Half-time                         | Call time at 5:30pm |
| • August 31  | Half-time                         | Call time at 5:30pm |
| • Sept. 21   | Pre-game                          | Call time at 5:30pm |
| • October 5  | Half-time (DURING FALL BREAK!!!!) | Call time at 5:30pm |
| • October 19 | Pre-game                          | Call time at 5:30pm |

We will travel to **4 Away Games** on the following dates:

- |            |                                  |                     |
|------------|----------------------------------|---------------------|
| • Sept. 7  | Round Valley HS, Eager, AZ       | Call time at 2pm    |
| • Sept. 14 | Northwest Christian, Phoenix, AZ | Call time at 4:30pm |
| • Sept. 28 | Fountain Hills, AZ               | Call time at 4:30pm |
| • Oct. 26  | Coronado HS                      | Call time at 4:30pm |

Marching Band members get into the games free of charge. Families will need to pay. The students will be performing in the stands AND will do a halftime show.

Marching Band performances are MANDATORY. Attendance is 80% of the grading for this unit of the class. If a student will be absent, two week's notice is required so we can change the drill to accommodate the empty hole. Illness is an acceptable reason to be absent. Make up work will be required if a performance is missed.

## GRADING STANDARDS:

Grades for each student will be entered Friday each week.

### Participation: 5 points a day (25 points a week)

- Binder
- The KORGE Metronome
- Pencil
- Music (IN BLACK BINDER, never lose!)
- Instrument

### Assessments: (50 points per each assessment)

An assessment will be given once a week. The assessment will always be based on the rehearsal map which will be handed out at the beginning of each quarter. We will rotate the following assessments, one per week in the following order.

- **Playing Tests:** The student will be asked to play the excerpt from the rehearsal map.
- **Memory Checks:** To enhance the student's ability to memorize music, the student will be asked to play Scales, Fight Song, Land of a Thousand Dances and the Marching Show from memory.
- **Scale Tests:** The student will be asked to play the scale as noted on the rehearsal map. Mastery, not memorization, is required during standard scale tests.

### Midterms/Finals: (500 Points each)

Concerts/Performances are weighted as Midterm/Finals with the exception of marching performances.

### Written Assignment: (250 Points each)

Students will be required to submit an additional two written assignments this year, one in each semester. The students will have a rubric and an assignment description to work from. Since this is not an English class, the students will not be graded on grammar, punctuation or spelling; rather the content and fulfillment of rubric objectives.

- **Written Assignment 1: My Instrumental Mentor!**
  - Choose a RECORDED ARTIST who plays your instrument and write a paper on what makes them special to you.
  - A rubric will be given as a guide.
- **Written Assignment 2: My Favorite Band Piece**
  - Go onto Youtube and find a band piece that you really like and write a one page paper about the Band piece.
  - A rubric will be given as a guide.

### Regional Auditions (500 Points each)

There is no better way to achieve excellence than to strive for it! Therefore, **ALL** High School Advanced Band Students will be REQUIRED to audition for the Central-Region Band. **Regional Auditions are on January 25 and 26, 2019.** If the student makes it into the Regional Band, the Festival dates are February 15 and 16 of 2019. The student's grade will not be based on the score achieved at festival, but rather their attendance and participation. In other words, if they show up for their audition time, they will receive a grade of 500 points. If they do not, they will receive a grade of 0 points. Death in the family or sudden illness are just about the only reasons a make up will be given.

### Extra Credit Possibilities:

Participation in Solo and Ensemble, achieving a spot in the Regional Band, auditioning for All-State Band, and achieving a spot and performing in All-State Band will each yield 100 points of extra credit which will be applied to Playing Test Scores.

Attending one of the performances from any of our other Fine Arts Department classes, such as Dance, Drama, Orchestra, Choir or Art, will yield 50 points of extra credit which will be applied to Participation Points. You must turn in a copy of the concert program with notes written directly on the program to Ms. M. in order to receive credit.

## Assignments At-A-Glance

### Quarter 1

Assignment/Activity	Qty.	Points	Total Points
Weeks 1-8: Participation	8	25 per week	200
Weeks 1-8: Assessments	8	50 per week	400
Semester 1: Marching Band Football Game Performances	3	200	600
Semester 1: Written Assignment	1	500	500
<b>TOTAL POINTS POSSIBLE</b>	1700		

### Quarter 3

Assignment/Activity	Qty.	Points	Total Points
Weeks 1-8: Participation	8	25 per week	200
Weeks 1-8: Assessments	8	50 per week	400
Semester 2: Midterm-Concert	1	500	500
Semester 2: Written Assignment	1	500	500
Regional Band Auditions January 25th or 26th	1	500	500
<b>TOTAL POINTS POSSIBLE</b>	2100		

### Quarter 2

Assignment/Activity	Qty.	Points	Total Points
Weeks 1-8: Participation	8	25 per week	200
Weeks 1-8: Assessments	8	50 per week	400
Semester 1: Marching Band Football Game Performances	6	200	1200
Final (Winter Concert)	1	500	500
<b>TOTAL POINTS POSSIBLE</b>	2300		

### Quarter 4

Assignment/Activity	Qty.	Points	Total Points
Weeks 1-8: Participation	8	25 per week	200
Weeks 1-8: Assessments	8	50 per week	400
Semester 2: Final Concert	1	500	500
Baccalaureate	1	500	500
Graduation	1	500	500
<b>TOTAL POINTS POSSIBLE</b>	2100		

## Grading Scale

Grade	Percentage
A	90 to 100%
B	80 to 89%
C	70 to 79%
D	60 to 69%
F	≤59%

You will be able to see your child's grade updated every Friday on Infinite Campus

## How to Contact Ms. Mathusek and How to Keep Informed

Having a consistent and open line of communication with the parents of my students is very important to me. As a parent of a graduated band student, I understand exactly what it means to have a child in a busy band program!

- We have a **WEBSITE** for our band which will always have current information. On it, you will find Calendar Events, Forms to download such as permission slips, practice logs, tax credit donation forms, class descriptions, etc.

Please visit: <http://gnbands.alaschools.org> (No www.)

- **Phone:** The fastest way to reach me is through email and reminder texts
- **Email:** [cmathusek@alaschools.org](mailto:cmathusek@alaschools.org)
- **Reminder Texts:** This is for up to the minute reminders for call times, changes in activities and playing text reminders! PARENTS AND STUDENTS should join. I will also give updates as to where we are and what we are doing on class trips through this app. You really, really, really need to utilize this!
  - Download "Remind 101" App
  - Create a regular text (outside of app) and:
  - Enter this number: 81010
  - Text this message: @alagnb
  - Follow the prompts to complete registration