

Department: Performing Arts
Course Name: Beginning Band 6

Course Description:

Beginning Band is an introductory instrumental music course designed for students new to band instruments or those with limited prior experience. The course develops foundational musicianship, music literacy, and ensemble performance skills consistent with best practices in independent school music programs. Students select a band instrument and learn proper playing position, posture, embouchure formation, breath support, and an understanding of how their instrument functions mechanically. Instruction focuses on reading music in treble and bass clefs, rhythmic accuracy, counting systems, articulation, tone production, and expressive elements. Students engage in listening, ear training, rhythm and pitch recognition, melody and harmony, and an introduction to basic music theory and historical perspectives. Emphasis is placed on steady beat, note reading, and combining individual parts to perform together as a cohesive ensemble. Rehearsals include full ensemble instruction, sectional work, and guided practice strategies that promote individual responsibility and skill development.

Performance is an essential component of the course. The ensemble performs at school concerts and events throughout the year, either independently or in collaboration with other groups. Students develop teamwork, focus, and collaborative skills through performance opportunities each semester and are encouraged to maintain consistent home practice to reinforce classroom learning.

No prior musical experience is required.

Content:

Critique – Peer Review; Self Analysis

Creative Integrity – Produce Original Work; Emulate Style/Technique

Content Vocabulary

Technology as a Tool

Composition

Meter – Duple; Triple; Compound Duple; Compound Triple; Mixed

Utilities – Transposition

Staff/Clefs – Treble; Percussion; Bass

Key Signature – Sharps; Flats

Measure Attributes – Bar Lines; Double Bar; Finale Bar

Tuplets – 3 quarters over 2 quarters; 3 8th's over 1 quarter

Articulations – Slur; Tiel 8va/8ba; Glissando; Staccato; Accent; Accent w/Staccato; Stress; Fermata;

Trill; Flat Trill; Sharp Trill; Mordent; Double Mordent; Turn; Breath; Grace Note

Posture – Body; Instrument

Instrument – Anatomy; Mechanics

Sound – Tube Length; Pitch Alteration

Breathing

Musicality – Phrasing; Taper; Balance; Blend

Technique – 8va; 8ba; Con Sord; Mute; Open; Sanza Sord; Choke; Div.; Unison; Divisi; L.V.; Let

Ring; LH; RH

Repeat – Forward Repeat; Back Repeat; Back Ending; 1st & 2nd endings; DS al Fine; DS al Coda; DS del Segno; Coda; Back to S (segno)

Scales – Major, Natural Minor, Chromatic; Pentatonic

Rudiments – Single Stroke; Multiple Bounce Roll; Double Stroke; Open Double Stroke Roll; Five Stroke Roll; Seven Stroke Roll; Nine Stroke Roll; Thirteen Stroke Roll; Single Paradiddle; Double Paradiddle; Flam; Flam Accent; Flam Tap; Flamacue; Flam Paradiddle; Drag; Single Drag Tap;

Lesson 25; Single Ratamacue; Triple Ratamacue

Intervals – Major; Minor; Perfect; Half Step; Whole Step

Chords – Major; Minor; Triad

Notation (Notes/Rests) – Double Whole; Whole; Dotted Half; Half; Dotted Quarter; Quarter; Dotted 8th; 8th; Dotted 16th; 16th; Dotted 32nd; 32nd

Accidentals – Sharp; Flat; Natural

Dynamics – ffff; fff; ff; f; mf; mp; p; pp; ppp; pppp; fp; fz; sf; sfz; sffz; subito p; subito f

Expressive Text – Dolce; Agitato; Con Brio; Cantabile; Crescendo; Diminuendo; Espresso; Legato; Leggerio; Marcato; Memo Mosso; Ped.

Tempo – Adagio; Moderato; Allegro; Grave; Largo; Lento; Maestoso; Presto; Spirito; Vivace; Swing; Andante

Tempo Alterations – Accellerando; Ritardando; A Tempo; Rubato

Form – AB; ABA; Minuet & Trio

Skills:

Learn the appropriate techniques for assembly, tone production, fingerings, and reading music.

Develop self-discipline, and individual initiative through group rehearsal and individual practice.

Establish collaborative teamwork.

Text and Materials:

Rush, Scott, Jeff Scott, and Kevin Boyle. 2020. *Habits of a Successful Beginner Band Musician*.

Edited by Marguerite Wilder. GIA Publications, Inc.

Various Music Literature as selected by the Instructor.

There is a \$100.00 course fee. There is an additional maintenance/rental fee for students that rent a HRA owned and maintained instrument.

Methods of Instruction:

Individual, partner, and group rehearsal

Teacher directed instruction

Methods of Evaluation:

Practice Logs

Playing Assignments

In Class Participation

Performance