

Symphonic Winds - Course Syllabus

James Island Charter High School



Course Description: Symphonic Winds is a performing ensemble, designed for students who demonstrate intermediate to advanced technical skills on their instrument. This course is designed to build on the foundational skills learned in middle school or a previous year of high school band. Students will continue to develop musicianship, technique, and performance-related music theory skills in this course. Students will study a varied repertoire of music ranging from grade levels IV to VI. While minimal, students should expect that some activities may occur outside of the regular class period. Attendance at after-school rehearsals and performances is required. Marching Band participation, while not mandatory, is highly encouraged for all students enrolled in this course.

Course Numbers:

Band 1H - 353100HW

Band 2H - 353200HW

Band 3H - 353300HW

Band 4H - 353400HW

Appropriate Grade: 9, 10, 11, or 12

Credit: 1.0 unit

Department: Fine Arts

Prerequisites: Previous participation in band

Course Goals:

1. Students will develop individual and ensemble skills (components of playing), including tone production, timing, intonation, breathing, embouchure, fingering, rhythm, style, phrasing, articulation and scales (technique). They will use these collectively and simultaneously in expressive musical performance.
2. Through the rehearsal/performance process, students will improve musicianship and technical facility on their respective instruments.
3. Students will be able to demonstrate and maintain proper posture, instrument placement, and breathing technique.
4. Students will learn and regularly test all twelve major scales, and be able to play comfortably and confidently in all twelve major keys.
5. Students will be able to perform the All-State required chromatic scale with a characteristic tone quality in all registers.
6. Students will study/rehearse/perform music of varying levels of difficulty and styles.
7. Students will continue developing reading and writing skills in standard music notation.
8. Students will be able to clap, sing, and play rhythms in a variety of combinations and meters.
9. Students will study the common elements of music and develop a vocabulary to discuss and describe music.
10. Students will be able to speak and write intelligently about music from evaluating a variety of musical performances.
11. Students will be able to improvise melodies in several keys and add original material to incomplete melodies.
12. Students will gain a rudimentary understanding of the history of Western Classical Music, their instrument, and other related topics.
13. Students will demonstrate basic care and maintenance for their respective instruments.
14. Students will become independent musicians, participating in Region Band, All-State Band, Solo & Ensemble, and other individual/ensemble opportunities.

South Carolina Instrumental Music Standards:

1. I can compose and arrange music.
2. I can improvise music.
3. I can produce a characteristic tone.
4. I can perform with technical accuracy and expression.
5. I can perform using musical notation.
6. I can analyze music.
7. I can evaluate music.
8. I can relate musical ideas to personal experiences, culture, and history.
9. I can relate music to other arts disciplines, other content areas, and career path choices.

Instructional Materials and Resources:

Habits of a Successful Musician - Rich Moon & Scott Rush

Foundations for Superior Performance - Richard Williams & Jeff King

Tuning with Technology - John Denis, Jordan Stern

Premium student subscription to MusicFirst

Required Materials:

Tuner/metronome App

Woodwind Players

Instrument swab

Small flathead screwdriver

Cork grease

Vandoren reeds

Brass Players

Valve oil or slide oil, spray bottle (trombones)

Tuning slide grease

Straight mute (trumpet and trombone players)

Grading Policy:

Rehearsal Skills 15% - Students are expected to have their music/materials every day, a pencil at every rehearsal, all while showing maximum effort to be an active member of our ensemble.

- Arrives to rehearsal on time and ready to play when the Director steps onto the podium. To be early is to be on time. To be on time is to be late. To be late is to be unacceptable.
- Follows directions the first time they are given
- Use appropriate posture, technique and hand/instrument position at all times
- Stops playing immediately and listens for critique when director stops conducting
- Knows at all times what section of the music is being rehearsed
- Has appropriate materials in class (instrument, music, pencil, tuner, reeds, valve oil)
- Properly puts materials away at the end of rehearsal

Band Curriculum 85% - Assignments will be presented at the beginning of each nine weeks. Students are responsible for all assignments, including written material, pass-offs, playing tests, etc. An email will be sent at the beginning of each nine-weeks listing assignments and their due dates.

- 30% - Attendance
 - Master Classes
 - Clinics
 - After-school sectionals
 - After-school rehearsals
 - Concerts
- 50% - Playing Tests
 - Smart Music
 - Scales Tests
 - Chair Placement Auditions
 - Chamber Ensemble Performance
- 5% - Self Assessment/ Peer Assessment
 - Reflection Essays
 - Peer Reviews

Grading Scale:

- A - 90% - 100%
- B - 80% - 89%
- C - 70% - 79%
- D - 60% - 69%
- F - 0% - 59%

Q1 Playing Tests/Grades:

- Rehearsal Skills
- Masterclass Attendance (*Dates/Times Determined by Section Coach)
- Music First Playing Tests
- Chair Placement Auditions
- Chamber Group Performances
- After-School Rehearsal
- Fall Concert**

Rehearsal Expectations

- Be on time and participate in all rehearsals, concerts, masterclasses and clinics.
- Students are expected to be in their seat with music, instruments, and all equipment, ready to play 2 minutes after the bell. If you arrive late, do not disrupt the learning that is already in process.
- Come to rehearsal with a good attitude.
- Students are expected to have a pencil with them at all times.
- Students are expected not to talk while the teacher is on the podium so as not to disrupt the rehearsal. Students will be given time between pieces to talk before beginning the next piece.
- At the end of rehearsal, put materials back in their proper place.
- Assume responsibility for your own actions. Admit when you are wrong.
- Respect yourself, your peers, your equipment, and those in authority.
- Cell phone use is strictly prohibited unless the teacher asks the student to use it for educational purposes.

Chamber Ensembles**Fall Semester**

- Based on the number of students and instrumentation, the teacher will determine the types of chamber ensembles the band could be divided into.
- The students will have the opportunity to choose their own chamber ensembles.
- After choosing their groups, the students will then begin to select the music they want to perform.
 - This may be something in our band library, or they may choose to purchase something, or write something of their own to perform.
- The students will rehearse one hour a week during class.

- They are encouraged to rehearse outside of class.
- The teacher will coach the ensembles, reminding them of rehearsal techniques, but allows the students to run their rehearsals, and stays available for questions and whatever help the students ask for.
- Groups will perform for class at the beginning of December for a grade
- Many students have, by their senior year, performed with the same ensembles/students for 4 years.
- These more advanced groups will have opportunities to perform throughout the James Island community.
- Groups who have successfully prepared their music will perform on one of the December Concerts.

Spring Semester

- Students will continue to work in the same groups
- Students will again choose their own music
- Students work each week in class for 1 hour
- The teacher will coach the ensembles, reminding them of rehearsal techniques, but allows the students to run their rehearsals, and stays available for questions and whatever help the students ask for.
- Groups will perform for class at the week before Spring Break in the middle of April for a grade
- The more advanced groups will have opportunities to perform throughout the James Island community.
- Groups who have successfully prepared their music will perform at the Spring Chamber Ensemble Concert and possibly the SCBDA Solo and Ensemble Festival at the end of April

Chamber music experiences develop musical independence and increase personal responsibilities of students individually to what is on the page. While some aspects of chamber ensemble playing differ from large ensembles, it still means we emphasize playing with exemplary tone, intonation, balance, expression, clarity of articulation. Every musical decision a student makes in a chamber music experience is amplified – including the decision of how well they prepare for rehearsal. Students intimately learn to pay attention to other lines, refine their listening skills, increase confidence in playing, and develop technical and analytical skills that carry over to a larger group.

Trust between members is enhanced and tested. Students find their voice in a chamber group much easier than a larger ensemble, take ownership of musical decisions, and become more invested in their band program. Mentoring and sharing of knowledge between students is more common as part of the rehearsal process. Students have opportunities to take on enhanced leadership responsibilities, and a sense of mutual cooperation towards a shared goal becomes very tangible.

Important Dates:



2023-2024 MASTER Band Calendar

August

- | | |
|---|------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Band Camp | Aug. 7 - 11 (8:00 am - 5:30 pm) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Band Camp Showcase | Friday, Aug. 11 (6:30 pm) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Marching Rehearsal | Tuesday, Aug. 15 (5:00 - 7:00 pm) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Marching Rehearsal | Thursday, Aug. 17 (5:00 - 7:00 pm) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Football @ Stratford (tentative) | Friday, Aug. 18 (5:00 - 11:00 pm) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Marching Rehearsal | Tuesday, Aug. 22 (5:00 - 7:00 pm) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> First Day of School | Wednesday, Aug. 23 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Marching Rehearsal | Thursday, Aug. 24 (4:15 - 6:15 pm) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Football vs. Stall | Friday, Aug. 25 (6:00 - 10:30 pm) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Marching Rehearsal | Tuesday, Aug. 29 (4:15 - 6:15 pm) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Marching Rehearsal | Thursday, Aug. 31 (4:15 - 6:15 pm) |

September

- | | |
|---|-------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Football vs. First Baptist | Friday, Sept. 1 (6:00 - 10:30 pm) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Labor Day - No School | Monday, Sept. 5 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Marching Rehearsal | Tuesday, Sept. 5 (4:15 - 6:15 pm) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Marching Rehearsal | Thursday, Sept. 7 (4:15 - 6:15 pm) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Football @ BE (tentative) | Friday, Sept. 8 (5:00 - 10:30 pm) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Marching Rehearsal | Tuesday, Sept. 12 (4:15 - 6:15 pm) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Marching Rehearsal | Thursday, Sept. 14 (4:15 - 6:15 pm) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Football vs Cane Bay | Friday, Sept. 15 (6:00 - 10:30 pm) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Symphonic Winds Rehearsal | Monday, Sept. 18 (4:00 - 6:00 pm) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Marching Rehearsal | Tuesday, Sept. 19 (4:15 - 6:15 pm) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Marching Rehearsal | Thursday, Sept. 21 (4:15 - 6:15 pm) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Concert Band Rehearsal | Monday, Sept. 25 (4:00 - 6:00 pm) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Marching Rehearsal | Tuesday, Sept. 26 (4:15 - 6:15 pm) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Marching Rehearsal | Thursday, Sept. 28 (4:15 - 6:15 pm) |

- ❑ Football vs Colleton County Friday, Sept. 29 (6:00 – 10:30 pm)

October

- ❑ Symphonic Winds Rehearsal Tuesday, Oct. 3 (4:00 – 6:00 pm)
- ❑ Concert Band Rehearsal Tuesday, Oct. 10 (4:00 – 6:00 pm)
- ❑ Marching Rehearsal Thursday, Oct. 12 (4:15 – 6:15 pm)
- ❑ Football vs. Bluffton HS - Homecoming Friday, Oct. 13 (3:00 – 10:30 pm)
- ❑ Concert AND Symphonic Rehearsal Monday, Oct. 16 (4:00 – 6:00 pm)
- ❑ Fall Concert - w/CRMS Tuesday, Oct. 17 (6:30-8:30 pm)
- ❑ Marching Rehearsal Thursday, Oct. 19 (4:15 – 6:15 pm)
- ❑ Football vs. Hilton Head HS - Senior Night Friday, Oct. 20 (6:00 – 10:30 pm)
- ❑ Concert Rehearsal Tuesday, Oct. 24 (4:00 – 6:00 pm)
- ❑ Symphonic Winds Rehearsal Monday, Oct. 30 (4:00 – 6:00 pm)

November

- ❑ Symphonic Winds Clinic (tentative) Friday/Saturday, November 3 and 4 - TBD
- ❑ Concert Band Rehearsal Monday, Nov. 6 (4:00-6:00 pm)
- ❑ Chamber Ensembles Thursday, Nov. 9 (4:00 – 6:00 pm)
- ❑ Concert Band Brass Sectional Monday, Nov. 13 (3:45 – 5:15 pm)
- ❑ Symphonic Winds Brass Sectional Monday, Nov. 13 (5:15 – 6:45 pm)
- ❑ Concert Band Woodwind Sectional Tuesday, Nov. 14 (3:45 – 5:15 pm)
- ❑ Symphonic Winds Woodwind Sect. Tuesday, Nov. 14 (5:15 – 6:45 pm)
- ❑ Chamber Ensembles Thursday, Nov. 16 (4:00 – 6:00 pm)
- ❑ Fall Break Nov. 20 – 24, 2023
- ❑ Concert Band Rehearsal Monday, Nov. 27 (4:00 – 6:00 pm)
- ❑ Symphonic Winds Rehearsal Tuesday, Nov. 28 (4:00 – 6:00 pm)

December

- ❑ JI Tree Lighting (Jazz Band) Friday, Dec. 1 (7:00 pm)
- ❑ Symphonic - Rehearsal Monday, Dec. 4 (4:00 pm – 6:00 pm)
- ❑ Percussion/Jazz Concert Tuesday, Dec 5 (7:00 pm)
- ❑ Concert Band Rehearsal Wednesday, De. 6 (4:00 – 6:00 pm)
- ❑ Concert/Symphonic Winter Concert Thursday, Dec. 7 (7:00 pm)
- ❑ Parade Rehearsal Friday, Dec. 8 (4:00 pm – 6:00 pm)
- ❑ Folly Beach Parade Saturday, Dec. 9 – TBD
- ❑ Winter Showcase Thursday, Dec. 14 (during school hours)
- ❑ Winter Break Dec. 18, 2023 – Jan 2, 2024

January

- Chamber Ensembles Thursday, Jan. 11 (4:00 – 6:00 pm)
- Chamber Ensembles Thursday, Jan. 18 (4:00 – 6:00 pm)
- Region Band Auditions Saturday, Jan. 20 – Summerville HS
- Concert Band Woodwind Sectional Monday, Jan. 22 (4:00 pm – 6:00 pm)
- Symphonic Winds Woodwind Sect. Tuesday, Jan 23 (4:00 – 6:00 pm)
- All-State/All-State Jazz Auditions Saturday, Jan. 27 – Lexington HS
- Concert Band Brass Sectional Monday, Jan. 30 (4:00 – 6:00 pm)
- Symphonic Winds Brass Sect. Tuesday, Jan. 31 (4:00 – 6:00 pm)

February

- Chamber Ensembles Thursday, Feb. 1 (4:00 – 6:00 pm)
- All-State Inclement Weather Make-up Saturday, Feb. 3
- Symphonic Winds Rehearsal Tuesday, Feb. 6 (4:00 – 6:00 pm)
- Jazz Band Rehearsal Monday, Feb. 12 (4:00 – 6:00 pm)
- Concert Band Brass Sectional Tuesday, Feb. 13 (3:45 – 5:15 pm)
- Symphonic Winds Brass Sect. Tuesday, Feb. 13 (5:15 – 6:45 pm)
- Chamber Ensembles Thursday, Feb. 15 (4:00 – 6:00pm)
- Concert Band Woodwind Sectional Tuesday, Feb. 20 (3:45 – 5:15 pm)
- Symphonic Winds Woodwind Sect. Tuesday, Feb. 20 (5:15 – 6:45 pm)
- Region Band Clinic Feb. 23-24 Charleston School of the Arts
- Symphonic Winds Rehearsal Monday, Feb. 26 (3:45 pm – 5:15 pm)
- Jazz Band Rehearsal Monday, Feb 26 (5:15 pm – 6:45 pm)
- Concert Band Rehearsal Tuesday, Feb. 27 (4:00 pm – 6:00 pm)
- Pre-CPA Concert (w/CRMS) Thursday, Feb. 29 (6:30 pm)

March

- All-State Jazz Band Clinic March 3 – 4 Newberry College
- Jazz Band Performance Assessment Friday – Saturday March 3 – 4 – Newberry
- Concert Band Rehearsal Tuesday, March 5 (4:00 – 6:00 pm)
- Chamber Ensembles Thursday, March 7 (4:00 – 6:00 pm)
- Symphonic Winds Rehearsal Monday, March. 11 (4:00 pm – 6:00 pm)
- Concert Band Rehearsal Tuesday, March 12 (4:00 pm – 6:00 pm)
- All-State Band Clinic March 15-17 – Furman University
- Concert Band Rehearsal Monday, March 18 (4:00 pm – 6:00 pm)
- Symphonic Winds Rehearsal Tuesday, March 19 (4:00 pm – 6:00 pm)
- Chamber Ensembles Thursday, March 21 (4:00 – 6:00 pm)
- Concert Performance Assessment March 19-21 at West Ashley High School
- Rehearsal for Spring Trip Tuesday, March26 (4:00 – 6:00 pm)

April

- ❑ Spring Break April 1 - 5, 2024
- ❑ Rehearsal for Spring Trip Tuesday, April 9 (4:00 - 6:00 pm)
- ❑ Chamber Ensembles Thursday Apr. 11 (4:00 - 6:00 pm)
- ❑ Rehearsal for Spring Trip Tuesday, April 16 (4:00 - 6:00 pm)
- ❑ Chamber Ensembles Wednesday, April 17 (4:00 - 6:00 pm)
- ❑ Spring Trip April 18 - 21 TBD
- ❑ Concert Band Rehearsal Tuesday, April 23 (4:00 - 6:00 pm)
- ❑ Chamber Ensemble Concert Thursday, April 25 (6:30 pm)
- ❑ Solo and Ensemble Festival April 26 - 27 - JICHS
- ❑ Symphonic Winds Rehearsal Tuesday, April 30 (4:00 - 6:00 pm)

May

- ❑ Concert Band Rehearsal Tuesday, May 7 (4:00 pm - 6:00 pm)
- ❑ Symphonic Winds Rehearsal Monday, May 13 (4:00 - 6:00 pm)
- ❑ Jazz/Percussion Concert Tuesday, May 14 (7pm)
- ❑ Spring Concert Thursday, May 16 (7pm)
- ❑ Band Banquet Friday, May 17 (5pm)
- ❑ Marching Band Spring Training May 20 - 22 (4:00 - 6:00 pm)
- ❑ No School - Memorial Day Monday, May 27
- ❑ Last Day of School Monday, June 10