

## Syllabus

### All Band Classes: Concert Band, Symphonic Band, Marching Band, Jazz Band 2023-2024

Dr. Matthew Sedatole

Room 1409

matthew.sedatole@apsva.us

#### NOTES:

- Student grades reflect student achievement and not student behavior.
- This syllabus is a living document. Changes made after the start of the school year will be communicated with students and families.

#### Course Description

- The Washington-Liberty Concert Band and Symphonic Band provide a culturally and musically enriching experience through public performance, while affording the opportunity for continued development and improvement of technical skills, sight-reading, and musicianship to all members.
  - Participation in these courses requires a \$75 fee due Nov 17
- The primary goal of the W-L Marching Band, as one of the most visible groups in the school, is to meet the many challenges of public performance. This will be done through teaching the musical and marching skills necessary to perform at school and community functions while fostering school spirit. In order to achieve this goal successfully, each band member, with the support of the Band Director, must be willing to make a commitment towards reaching the highest potential possible in the development of musical as well as marching skills along with self-motivation, discipline, and pride.
  - Participation in this course requires a \$150 fee due Aug 25.  
Members of the Color Guard also have an additional \$75 fee due on the same date

#### Learning Objectives

Concert/Symphonic Band

- The Concert and Symphonic Band will meet during the daily school schedule and will rehearse and perform at school assemblies, winter and spring concerts, as well as at district assessment and out of area festivals on the national level. One full credit is offered for each class.
- The more advanced members in the Symphonic Band will be encouraged to participate in the Arlington Youth Symphony, All Regional Orchestra, and All District Band
- Complete attention will be given during class to the individual development of technical, musical, sight-reading, rhythm, and articulation skills while exploring various forms, styles and periods of band literature.
- Performance/Audition tests will be given at various times throughout the year and will be used through scores received to measure progress and determine chair placement. After school and evening rehearsals will also be weighed as a test and/or quiz grade.
- Mental skills and knowledge required in music will be emphasized and assessed in coordination with the Arlington Public School Instrumental Music Curriculum and the Virginia Standards of Learning.
- Members of the Symphonic Band are **required** to participate in the Marching Band. Participation in the Marching Band is optional (but highly encouraged) for students in the Concert Band.

### Marching Band

- The Marching Band meets after school periodically, dividing practice time between musical development and marching skills, which will culminate in the preparation of Halftime and Competition shows.
- In addition to preparation and performance of shows for all home games and competitions, the band will also participate in the Arlington Marching Showcase, the Wakefield and Yorktown away games, and the District 12 Assessment. The band will also perform as a pep band at home playoff games if needed.
- Although the band is most active during the football season, the ensemble will continue to perform at various events and activities throughout the year (e.g. pep rallies). Each member of the band will receive one half credit at the end of the semester.

### Jazz Band

- The Jazz Band's primary goal is directed towards rehearsing and performing music in the swing, bebop, fusion, and Latin idioms while offering members the opportunity to develop improvisational skills used in this style of music.
- The Jazz Band will perform at the Winter Concert, Spring Concert, Jazz Pyramid Festival, and other special performances throughout the year.

- Development of improvisational skills through instruction of jazz theory will be emphasized. Clinics with specialists in this field of study will be offered when feasible.

### **Course Materials**

- Pencil
- Instrument
  - School owned instruments are available for a fee (\$100 or \$25 for students with Free/Reduced Lunch)
  - Specialty instruments such as Bass Clarinet, Bari Sax, Tuba, etc. will be provided to students who are assigned to play them
- Items necessary to keep your instrument in good playing condition:
  - Valve oil
  - Slide grease
  - Cork grease
  - Reeds

### **Course Resources**

- Canvas
- Rhythm Randomizer
- Foundations for Superior Performance (provided)
- Concert repertoire (provided)

### **Extra Help Opportunities \***

- Dr. Sedatole will be available during Generals Period and during lunch on W days

### **Grading Policy**

- Grades will be posted to Canvas and synced to Synergy/StudentVue regularly
- Evaluation for all bands and ensembles:
  - Attendance: during class, extra rehearsals when called, and all performances
  - Musicianship: Application and understanding of all skills developed in class, and preparation of music
  - Responsibility: Music, uniforms, lockers, instruments and instrument needs

- Behavior: At all times while the group is together
- Special note: All of the after school performing ensembles are co-curricular courses and carry the same weight and letter grade as a core or elective class. Please don't confuse these courses with after school clubs and/or sports that are offered at W-L. All students should be cautious when auditioning for these ensembles that may cause conflicts with other after school activities. It is recommended that you talk with your sponsor, coach, or music teacher before making your final decision. In most cases an agreeable solution can be worked out between you, the sponsor/coach, and music teacher for those W-L after school activities on campus.
- Quarterly grade calculation:
  - Marching Band/Concert Band/Symphonic Band/Jazz Band:
    - Summative Assessments - 60%
      - Concerts and Performances
      - Written reflections
      - Playing tests
    - Formative Assessments - 40%
      - Weekly rehearsal technique
      - Sight Reading Factory assignments
      - Written assignments as needed
  - Quarterly exams calculated into quarter grades
  - Quarterly grade will round up when percentage is .5 or higher
- Final exams:
  - A final examination is **required** for the Concert Band and Symphonic Band students in grades 9-11. Students may be exempted from this exam if it is the Orchestra's year to perform at the graduation. This exam will consist of two rehearsals and a final performance at the W-L graduation. All **senior band members are exempted** from this performance. All senior band members will perform in the spring concert before leaving for their senior experience at the end of the year. **All senior band members should arrange their senior experience so they are able to attend the in class or night rehearsals for the spring concert.**
- Rubrics for all assignment types will be posted in canvas for students to view
- Grade reporting:
  - Quarterly report cards will be issued electronically
  - Weekly progress reports will be sent via email to parents/guardians through the student information system.

## APS Marking Period and Final Exam Grading Scale

## Letter Grade Percentages Quality Points AP and Dual Enrollment Quality Points

A	90 - 100	4.0	5.0
B+	87 - 89	3.5	4.5
B	80 - 86	3.0	4.0
C+	77 - 79	2.5	3.5
C	70 - 76	2.0	3.0
D+	67 - 69	1.5	2.5
D	60 - 66	1.0	2.0
E	0 - 59	0.0	0.0

### Late Work Policy

- Late work will be accepted and will receive a maximum grade of 90%
- Students will have until the date of a performance to submit late work on music that is being rehearsed. After the performance assignments will not be accepted

### Re-take policy

- Students may re-take performance assessments for assignments that they have submitted previously, or missed because of an **excused absence**
  - It is the student's responsibility to initiate the re-take process

### Attendance Expectations

- Students learn best when they are on-time, present, and engaged.

- It is expected that any anticipated absences be communicated by a parent asap
- Whether an absence is excused or not (beyond illness or family emergency) is up to the discretion of the director

### **Expectations for Student Engagement**

- *APS Student/Parent Handbook*
- Students must follow the Code of Conduct
- Students must follow the guidelines for Digital Citizenship
- Students are expected to have their phones **off** and out of sight during class. There will be certain times when they will be directed to use their phones for specific rehearsal purposes, otherwise they will be confiscated for the duration of the class period if a student is found with their phone out more than once
- Students are expected to assemble their instrument and begin warming up in an appropriate manner (long tones, tuning, lip slurs, etc.) immediately upon entering the room.
- Rehearsal will begin 5 minutes after the bell. Students are expected to have looked at the agenda for the day and gotten their music out in the rehearsal order listed.
- Students are expected to remain mentally engaged during rehearsal. There will be times when the director is working with another section in the ensemble for a period of time—students should use this time as an opportunity to mentally practice the same section of music, or a different section that they can improve.
- Students are expected to treat each other with respect at all times

### **Academic Integrity**

Students at Washington-Liberty are expected to respect the principles of honor and academic integrity. Failure to do so will result in disciplinary action.

Artificial Intelligence can be a positive resource for education, but misuse will not be tolerated. Any misuse of software or representing another source's work as your own (without teacher permission or proper citation) is considered a violation of our principle of honor and will result in disciplinary action.

Please refer to the Student Handbook for more information on this policy.

## **W-L Bands Schedule**

**August 7- August 25 – Marching Band Camp (This Camp IS NOT OPTIONAL)**

**BAND CAMP 3-9 PM DAILY MONDAY THRU FRIDAY**

August 25 – Marching Band Activity Fee Due – **150.00**

**August 31 – Marching Band Performance @ Home Football Game – 5-10 PM**

**September 9– TAG DAY 8:30-3 PM – Marching Band and Guard**

**September 9 – Senior Regional Orchestra Event – Wakefield HS Host**

**September 14 – Marching Band @Away Football Game YHS - 5-10 PM**

**September 22 – Marching Band @ Home Football Game – 5-10 PM**

***September 23 – Marching Band Competition – VMBC – Loudon Invitational / Dominion HS/ Loudon, County, VA***

**September 29 – Marching Band @ Homecoming Game – 5-10 PM**

October 2 – Senior Regional Orchestra Auditions

October 7 – All VA Jazz Ensemble Audition- TBA

***October 7 – Marching Band Competition –VBMC - Woodgrove Classic, Purcellville VA***

***October 21 – Marching Band Competition – VMBC – Freedom HS Showcase, Woodbridge, VA***

***October 25 - Marching Band @ APS Marching Showcase – 7-9 PM***

***October 27 – Marching Band @ Home Football Game – 5-10 PM***

***October 28 – VBODA State Marching Band Assessment – Liberty High School, Bealeton, VA***

***October ??? – Annual Band Fruit and Nut Sale begins***

**November 1 – Jazz Big Band Auditions – 3-5 PM**

**November 3 – Marching Band @ Home FB Game – Wakefield HS**

*November 16-18 – VMEA Conference – Richmond VA*

November 17– Concert Band Activity Fee due – 75.00

**December 14– WL Winter Band Showcase Concert – 7 PM Concert Band/Symphonic Band Jazz Big Band / Advanced Guitar Ensemble**

January 6 – All District Band Auditions – McLean HS

February 1, 2,3 – All District Band Event – Oakton HS

*February 8– WL MS Band Parent Information Night – 7 – 8 PM*

*February 9 – WL Middle School Band Auditions – 5-9 PM*

**February 22 Symphonic Band Pre-Assessment Concert 7PM**

**February 24 – All VA Band Auditions - JMU**

**March 14 – APS Concert Band Assessment - TBD**

**March 15-16 – Symphonic Band @ District 12 Band Assessment – WLHS**

**April 17– WL Pyramid Jazz Festival – 6:30 – 9:00 PM**

**April?? – WL Music Dept. Band Trip – TBD**

April 19 – Solo & Ensemble Contest – Carson MS

April 18-20 – All Virginia Band, Orchestra, and Choir in Richmond, Virginia

**May 16 – WL Spring Band Showcase – 7 PM Concert Band / Symphonic Band**

**May 18 – Kenmore Jazz Café – 6:30 PM**

**June 6– WL / MS Marching Band reading Session – 6-8 PM**