

# CHS MUSIC DEPARTMENT

## COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

### Objective of the High School Band

- To give each student an education in music that will challenge and enrich their lives.
- To develop the personal character traits of leadership and self-discipline.
- To develop cooperation and teamwork.
- To develop confidence and poise.
- To develop the skill and technical ability that leads to proficiency on an instrument.
- To acquaint the student with a wide and varied repertoire of band literature.
- To provide the foundational study which may lead to a career in music.
- To serve and represent the school in public concerts, parades, competitions, and other functions.

Music plays an important part in all our lives. The Concord High School band program, both as an academic study and an interactive activity, contributes to the growth of an individual's character, citizenship, and leadership.

These goals can all be achieved through the hard work, dedication, discipline, and the pursuit of excellence evident in the Concord High School band program.

Band is a 3 Trimester Class		
<b>Fall</b>	<b>Winter</b>	<b>Spring</b>
Concert Band	Concert Band	Concert Band
Or		
Instrument Ensemble		
Or		
Independent Study		

### **CONCERT BAND, SUMMER ADVANCED (Includes Summer Marching Band Activities)**

FIVE WEEKS 1 CREDIT 9,10,11,12

Requisite: Must be enrolled in Fall, Winter & Spring Concert Band Classes

COURSE DESCRIPTION: Advanced Concert Band provides students with a balanced comprehensive study of music. Instruction is designed so that students are enabled to connect, examine, imagine, define, try, extend, refine, and integrate music study into other subject areas.

Ensemble and solo activities are designed to develop elements of musicianship including, but not limited to: (1) tone production, (2) technical skills, (3) intonation, (4) music reading skills, (5) listening skills, (6) analyzing music, and (7) studying historically significant styles of literature. All students who elect to take the Fall Concert Band Class must participate in the Summer Concert Band program in preparation for the fall marching activities and performances. Summer Concert Band begins approximately five weeks prior to the beginning of the school year. Freshmen and other new students may begin summer band earlier to learn the fundamentals of marching. **BAND CAMP is required of all members without exception!** During the weeks of mandatory attendance for all members of the high school band and color guard, the state fair and fall field competition shows are prepared. Personal illness, a death in the family or unsolvable conflict with a school activity will be the only accepted excuses to be absent from BAND CAMP! All excused absences must be cleared with the Director and are requested in writing! ANY MEMBER not participating in the required BAND CAMP will not be a member of the Marching Band. All missed rehearsals must be made up if the student is to receive credit for the class. Students who miss rehearsals may also be used as alternates in the marching band show. Work is not a valid excuse.

### **CONCERT BAND, FALL ADVANCED (Includes Fall Marching Band Activities)**

1 TRIMESTER 1 CREDIT 9,10,11,12

**(Fall)**

Prerequisite: Summer Concert Band

Requisite: Must be enrolled in Winter & Spring Concert Band Class

COURSE DESCRIPTION: Advanced Concert Band provides students with a balanced comprehensive study of music. Instruction is designed so that students are enabled to connect, examine, imagine, define, try, extend, refine, and integrate music study into other subject areas. Ensemble and solo activities are designed to develop elements of musicianship including, but not limited to: (1) tone production, (2) technical skills, (3) intonation, (4) music reading skills, (5) listening skills, (6) analyzing music, and (7) studying historically significant styles of literature. Band repertoire is of the highest caliber. All members of the Concord High School Band

program are required to participate in the Concert Band Class during the Winter Trimester and the Spring Trimester. Extra rehearsals are scheduled on an arranged basis with a minimum of 6 extra hours of rehearsal scheduled outside of the school day each week during the marching season. All members of the band are encouraged, but not required, to study privately. Attendance is required at all rehearsals and performances unless excused by the Director. All freshmen band members and all band members new to Concord High School are required to participate in the marching activities of the fall concert band class during the Fall Trimester of their first year at Concord High School. Other band members may elect to participate in the marching band activities, the Instrumental Ensemble Class or the Independent Study Private Lesson program during the Fall Trimester. All students who elect to take the Fall Concert Band Class must participate in the Summer Concert Band program in preparation for the fall marching activities and performances.

#### **INSTRUMENTAL ENSEMBLE**

##### **(Indoor Class-Fall)**

1 TRIMESTER 1 CREDIT 10, 11, 12

Prerequisite: 1 year in the Fall Concert Band  
Requisite: Must be enrolled in Winter & Spring Concert Band

COURSE DESCRIPTION: Students taking this course are provided with a balanced comprehensive study of chamber ensemble and solo literature. Student participation will develop elements of musicianship including, but not limited to: (1) tone production, (2) technical skills, (3) intonation, (4) music reading skills, (5) listening skills, (6) analyzing music, and (7) studying historically significant styles of literature as pertaining to chamber ensemble and solo literature. The Instrumental Ensemble is an alternative to the Fall Concert Band Class, which allows students to continue in band without the requirement of marching. Students in the Instrumental Ensemble class study solo and ensemble literature and take a private music lesson each week during the twelve-week trimester. A fee is assessed for these lessons. Student progress is evaluated at each weekly private lesson. Members of the Instrumental Ensemble are not members of the Marching Band and therefore may not participate in the summer marching program nor may they participate in travel associated with the Marching Band. The Instrumental Ensemble class must continue band

in the Winter and Spring trimesters as members of the Concert Band Class.

#### **BAND, INDEPENDENT STUDY**

##### **(Fall)**

1 TRIMESTER 0 CREDIT 10, 11, 12

Prerequisite: 1 year in the Fall Concert Band  
Requisite: Must be enrolled in Winter & Spring Concert Band

COURSE DESCRIPTION: Students taking this course are provided with a balanced comprehensive study of chamber solo literature. Student participation will develop elements of musicianship including, but not limited to: (1) tone production, (2) technical skills, (3) intonation, (4) music reading skills, (5) listening skills, (6) analyzing music, and (7) studying historically significant styles of literature as pertaining to chamber ensemble and solo literature. The Independent Study Program is an alternative to the Fall Concert Band Class, which allows students to continue in band without the requirement of marching. Students in the Independent Study Program study solo literature and take a private music lesson each week during the twelve-week trimester. A fee is assessed for these lessons. Student progress is evaluated at each weekly private lesson. Independent Study students are not members of the Marching Band and therefore may not participate in the summer marching program nor may they participate in travel associated with the Marching Band. The Independent Study program must continue band in the Winter and Spring trimesters as members of the Concert Band Class.

#### **CONCERT BAND, ADVANCED CLASS**

##### **(Winter & Spring)**

2 TRIMESTERS 2 CREDITS 9,10,11,12

Prerequisite: Fall Concert Band Class \*(Required of all 1<sup>st</sup> year members) or Instrumental Ensemble Class or Independent Study

COURSE DESCRIPTION: Advanced Concert Band provides students with a balanced comprehensive study of music. Instruction is designed so that students are enabled to connect, examine, imagine, define, try, extend, refine, and integrate music study into other subject areas. Ensemble and solo activities are designed to develop elements of musicianship including but not limited to: (1) tone production, (2) technical skills, (3) intonation, (4) music reading skills,

(5) listening skills, (6) analyzing music, and (7) studying historically significant styles of literature. The Advanced Concert Band Class performs repertoire of the highest caliber. The concert band studies and performs a variety of band literature suitable to the development of the musical skills of the group. All members of the band are encouraged, but not required, to study privately. All members of the band are encouraged, but not required, to participate in solo and ensemble activities. Attendance is required at all rehearsals and performances unless excused by the Director. All students who elect to take Concert Band Class must participate in the Fall Concert Band Class marching activities their first year at Concord High School. Thereafter, they must participate in either the Fall Concert Band Class, the Fall Instrumental Ensemble Class, or must take private lessons during the Fall trimester as an Independent Study option.

**CONCERT BAND, INTERMEDIATE CLASS (Winter & Spring)**

2 TRIMESTERS 2 CREDITS 9,10,11,12  
Prerequisite: Fall Concert Band Class \*(Required of all 1<sup>st</sup> year members) or Instrumental Ensemble Class or Independent Study

COURSE DESCRIPTION: Intermediate Concert Band provides students with a balanced comprehensive study of music. Instruction is designed so that students are enabled to connect, examine, imagine, define, try, extend, refine, and integrate music study into other subject areas. Ensemble and solo activities are designed to develop elements of musicianship including but not limited to: (1) tone production, (2) technical skills, (3) intonation, (4) music reading skills, (5) listening skills, (6) analyzing music, and (7) studying historically significant styles of literature. The Intermediate Concert Band Class performs a large and varied repertoire of concert band literature that is developmentally appropriate. The concert band studies and performs a variety of band literature suitable to the development of the musical skills of the group. All members of the band are encouraged, but not required, to study privately. All members of the band are encouraged, but not required, to participate in solo and ensemble activities. Attendance is required at all rehearsals and performances unless excused by the Director. All students who elect to take Concert Band Class must participate in the Fall Concert Band Class marching activities their first year at Concord High School. Thereafter, they must

participate in either the Fall Concert Band Class, the Fall Instrumental Ensemble Class, or must take private lessons during the Fall trimester as an Independent Study option.

**JAZZ ENSEMBLE (Concord Jazz Band I & II)**

2 TRIMESTERS 2 CREDITS 9,10,11,12  
Prerequisites: Must be a member of the Band, Instrumental Ensemble, or Orchestra Class. An audition is required.

COURSE DESCRIPTION: Students taking this course develop musicianship and specific performance skills through group and individual settings for the study and performance of the varied styles of instrumental jazz. Students develop their creative skills through (1) improvisation, (2) composition, (3) arranging, (4) performing, (5) listening, and (6) analyzing. Admission to the Jazz Band I and Jazz Band II classes is by audition and is limited to students who are also participating in the band or orchestra classes, unless circumstances negate this rule. Extreme demand is placed on each individual to achieve a high level of musical proficiency. Therefore, students are expected to practice regularly, on their own, several hours per week. Private lessons are recommended. The Jazz Band performs for school and community events as well as various jazz festivals throughout the year. Additional rehearsals may be scheduled as needed.

**BASKETBALL PEP BAND (Extracurricular)**

- A. Voluntary membership, open to all members of the band.
- B. Meets 1 hour before each basketball game.
- C. Pep Band is extra-curricular.

**SOLO & ENSEMBLE (Extracurricular)**

- A. Voluntary participation, open to all members of the band.
- B. Meets on an arranged basis.
- C. Solo & Ensemble participation is extra-curricular.

<b>Orchestra is a 3 Trimester Class</b>		
<b>Fall</b> Orchestra or Independent Study	<b>Winter</b> Orchestra	<b>Spring</b> Orchestra

**ORCHESTRA, ADVANCED**

3 TRIMESTERS 3 CREDITS 9,10,11,12

Prerequisite: None

COURSE DESCRIPTION: Students taking this course are provided with a balanced comprehensive study of music through the orchestra, string and/or full orchestra. Instruction is designed so that students are enabled to connect examine, imagine, define, try, extend, refine, and integrate music study into other subject areas. Ensemble and solo activities are designed to develop elements of musicianship including, but not limited to: (1) tone production, (2) technical skills, (3) intonation, (4) music reading skills, (5) listening skills, (6) analyzing music, and (7) studying historically significant styles of literature. All members of the Concord High School Orchestra program are required to participate in the Orchestra Class during the Winter Trimester and the Spring Trimester. All students who elect to take Orchestra Class must participate in the Fall Trimester Orchestra Class, or students in grades 10, 11, and 12 may take 12 private lessons during the Fall Trimester as an Independent Study option. Any student who has been involved in the junior high string program or its equivalent is eligible to participate in the Orchestra program. The Orchestra studies and performs a variety of orchestral literature suitable to the development of the musical skills of the group. Symphony orchestra rehearsals are scheduled outside of school hours, on an arranged basis, from January through May. All members of the orchestra are encouraged, but not required, to study privately. All members are also encouraged to participate in solo and ensemble activities. Attendance is required at all rehearsals and performances unless excused by the Director.

#### **ORCHESTRA, INDEPENDENT STUDY**

1 TRIMESTER 0 CREDIT 10,11,12

**(Fall)**

Prerequisite: 1 year in the Orchestra Class

Requisite: Must be enrolled in Winter & Spring Orchestra Class

COURSE DESCRIPTION: The Independent Study Private Lesson Program is an alternative to the Fall Trimester Orchestra Class that allows students to continue in orchestra without participating in the Fall Trimester class due to conflicts with other required courses. Independent Study requires students to study solo and ensemble literature and take a private music lesson each week during the 12 weeks of the trimester. A fee is

assessed for these lessons. Student progress is evaluated at each weekly private lesson.

#### **CHORUS, BEGINNING (a)**

1 TRIMESTER 1 CREDIT 9

**(Fall)**

Prerequisite: None

COURSE DESCRIPTION: Freshman Choir (a) is open to any freshman that demonstrates an attitude of interest, self-control, and a willingness to cooperate to achieve a common purpose.

Freshman Choir is a performing organization. This group performs at the Fall Vocal Concert. The class is involved in the study of the fundamentals of proper techniques of singing and reading music for the purpose of attaining a good concept of choral sound production. Music includes unison, two, and three-part literature.

#### **CHORUS, BEGINNING (b)**

2 TRIMESTERS 2 CREDITS 9

**(Winter & Spring)**

Prerequisite: Audition and Beginning Chorus (a)

COURSE DESCRIPTION: Freshman Choir (b) is open through audition to any freshman who successfully completes Beginning Chorus (a). The audition includes pitch matching, vocal range, projection and intonation. Freshmen must demonstrate an attitude of interest, self-control, and a willingness to cooperate to achieve a common purpose. Freshman Choir is a performing organization. This group performs at the Christmas Spectacular, the winter Freshman Choir concert, and the spring Vocal Pops Concert. The class is involved in the study of the fundamentals of proper techniques of singing and reading music for the purpose of attaining a good concept of choral sound production. Music includes unison, two, and three-part literature.

#### **CHORUS, INTERMEDIATE**

3 TRIMESTERS 3 CREDITS 10,11,12

Prerequisite: Audition

COURSE DESCRIPTION: The Intermediate Choir is open by audition or recommendation of the Director. The audition will include sight singing, a solo of the student's choice, test of vocal range, and rating of tone quality, projection, and intonation. The Intermediate Choir is a performing group. This group performs at all regular concerts, including the Fall Concert, Christmas concerts, the winter Intermediate Choir Concert and Pops Concert. The Intermediate Choir also participates in choral festivals

periodically and performs for the community upon request. Emphasis is on the study of fundamentals of proper singing technique and music reading. Attention is placed upon individual voices and technique when possible. This choir sings unison, two, three, and four part music composed or arranged specifically for intermediate level choir.

**CHORUS, ADVANCED (Concert Choir)**

3 TRIMESTERS 3 CREDITS 10,11,12

Prerequisite: Audition

COURSE DESCRIPTION: This course is open to any student by audition. The Concert Choir gives numerous performances throughout the school year, including the Fall Concert, Christmas concerts, community church concerts, and Pops concert. The Concert Choir also performs for various school functions and community events upon request. Music includes four to eight part mixed choral work of all styles and variety with occasional unison, two, or three part works of unusual character and worth. Sectionals are held on a regular basis to help students with more difficult pieces of music. Sight-reading, interpretations, and basic music fundamentals are constantly emphasized within the music studies.

**VOCAL JAZZ ENSEMBLE (Concord Singers)**

3 TRIMESTERS 3 CREDITS 11,12

Prerequisite: 1 year Concert Choir or Girls' Choir

COURSE DESCRIPTION: Concord Singers is open by audition to any student who has been a member of the Concert Choir or Girls' Choir. The audition will include moderate to advanced sight singing, a solo selected by the student, one choreography session, oral quizzing, and a rating of tone quality, projection, and intonation. A student's attitude and work ethic are also taken into consideration at the time of the audition. This group is a jazz/show choir, which studies and performs all types of contemporary music as well as some other forms of ensemble literature. Performances are given at all regular concerts, and for various clubs, organizations, and businesses in the community, as well as for other schools.

**SOLO & ENSEMBLE (Extracurricular)**

- A. Voluntary participation, open to all members of any choir.
- B. Meet to rehearse on a regular basis.
- C. Solo & Ensemble participation is extra-curricular.

**MUSIC THEORY & COMPOSITION**

2 TRIMESTERS 2 CREDITS 11,12

Prerequisite: 2 years previous musical training such as piano, band, choir, or orchestra and/or approved by music department staff.

COURSE DESCRIPTION: Music Theory & Composition is an upper-level music course designed for students who wish to further enhance their knowledge of music. This class is highly recommended for students who are considering music as a major or minor in college. Areas to be studied include acoustics of sound, notation, rhythm, keys, intervals, chords, ear training, basic piano instruction, sight singing and music history with an emphasis on advanced music technologies and theory.

**MUSIC THEORY, ADVANCED PLACEMENT**

2 TRIMESTERS 2 CREDITS 11, 12

Prerequisite: 2 years previous musical training such as piano, band, choir, or orchestra and/or approved by music department staff.

COURSE DESCRIPTION: Music Theory, Advanced Placement is a course based on the content established by the College Board. Music Theory is intended for secondary school students who have completed music studies comparable to a first-year college course in music theory. The guidelines for the course that are published by The College Board may not match any particular college program, but they do reflect the coverage of content and level of skills typical of most first-year college courses. This course should integrate aspects of melody, harmony, texture, rhythm, form, musical analysis, elementary composition, and, to some extent, history and style. The student's ability to read and write musical notation is fundamental to this course, and it is also assumed that the student has acquired at least basic performance skills in voice or on an instrument. **AP Exams are ordered for each student taking an AP course. Students absent on the day of the exam are responsible for the unused test fee of approximately \$15.00.**

**New!**

**PIANO & ELECTRONIC KEYBOARD**

1 TRIMESTER 1 CREDIT 9,10,11,12

Prerequisite: Little or no previous musical (piano) knowledge

COURSE DESCRIPTION: The purpose of this course is to provide instruction in basic piano keyboard techniques as well as an understanding of basic music fundamentals. Instruction is provided

in a piano lab where students may advance at an independent rate based on their progress using standardized assessment as a guide. Students: (1) perform with proper posture, hand position, fingering, rhythm, and articulation; (2) compose and improvise melodic and harmonic material; (3) create and perform simple accompaniments; (4) listen to, analyze, sight-read, and study the literature performed; (5) study the elements of music as exemplified in a variety of styles; and (6) make interpretive decisions. Students may also work on approved solos in addition to the regular class piano methods.

**DANCE PERFORMANCE: BALLET, MODERN, JAZZ, OR ETHNIC-FOLK (Level I Advanced Classroom Dance)**

1 TRIMESTER 1 CREDIT 9,10,11,12

Prerequisite: None

COURSE DESCRIPTION: The purpose of this course is to provide instruction in beginning dance techniques including such dance forms as ballet, modern, ethnic, jazz, tap and others. Students learn the proper body mechanics for the prescribed dance movements, develop partnering skills, perform in groups, and develop a personal aesthetic quality of movement. Students develop the ability to express their thoughts, perceptions, feelings, and images through movement. This performance class provides opportunities for students to experience degrees of physical prowess, technique, flexibility, and the study of dance performance as an artistic discipline and as a form of artistic communication. Students perform in classroom recitals.

**DANCE PERFORMANCE: BALLET, MODERN, JAZZ, OR ETHNIC-FOLK (Level II Advanced Classroom Dance)**

1 TRIMESTER 1 CREDIT 9,10,11,12

Prerequisite: Level I Dance

COURSE DESCRIPTION: The purpose of this course is to provide instruction in beginning dance techniques including such dance forms as ballet, modern, ethnic, jazz, tap and others. Students learn the proper body mechanics for the prescribed dance movements, develop partnering skills, perform in groups, and develop a personal aesthetic quality of movement. Students develop the ability to express their thoughts, perceptions, feelings, and images through movement. This performance class provides opportunities for students to experience degrees of physical prowess, technique, flexibility, and the study of dance

performance as an artistic discipline and as a form of artistic communication. Students perform in classroom recitals.

**DANCE PERFORMANCE: BALLET, MODERN, JAZZ, OR ETHNIC-FOLK (Outdoor Performance with Marching Band)**

1 TRIMESTER 1 CREDIT 9,10,11,12

Prerequisite: Must audition for this class in the spring of the year.

Prerequisite: Summer Dance Performance Class

COURSE DESCRIPTION: Sequential learning experiences are provided in the specific genre offered, whether it is ballet, modern, jazz, or ethnic-folk. In addition, this course provides instruction in flag choreography with dance techniques such as ballet, modern, ethnic, jazz, tap and others. Students learn the proper body mechanics for the prescribed flag and dance movements, develop partnering skills, perform in groups, and develop a personal aesthetic quality of movement. Students develop the ability to express their thoughts, perceptions, feelings, and images through movement. The performance class provides opportunities for students to experience degrees of physical prowess, technique, flexibility, and the study of dance performance as an artistic discipline and as a form of artistic communication. This class performs as the color guard/dance ensemble with the Fall Concert Band Class and the associated marching activities. Attendance is required at all rehearsals and performances unless excused by the Director. All students who elect to take the Fall Dance Performance Class must participate in the Summer Dance Performance Class in preparation for the fall activities and performances.

**DANCE PERFORMANCE: BALLET, MODERN, JAZZ, OR ETHNIC-FOLK (Indoor, Winter Competition Dance Team)**

1 TRIMESTER 1 CREDIT 9,10,11,12

Prerequisite: Audition

COURSE DESCRIPTION: The purpose of this course is to provide instruction in advanced dance techniques including such dance forms as ballet, modern, ethnic, jazz, tap and others. Students learn the proper body mechanics for the prescribed dance movements, develop partnering skills, perform in groups, and develop a personal aesthetic quality of movement. Students develop the ability to express their thoughts, perceptions, feelings, and images through movement. This performance class provides opportunities for

students to experience degrees of physical prowess, technique, flexibility, and the study of dance performance as an artistic discipline and as a form of artistic communication. Students perform in winter competitions, at several school activities as well as the music department's Christmas Spectacular, and Carnival Variety Show.

**DANCE PERFORMANCE: BALLET,  
MODERN, JAZZ, OR ETHNIC-FOLK  
(Indoor, Spring Recital, Dance Team)**

1 TRIMESTER 1 CREDIT 9,10,11,12

Prerequisite: Audition

COURSE DESCRIPTION: This class is offered after school hours, 3 or 4 days per week. The purpose of this course is to provide instruction in advanced dance techniques including such dance forms as ballet, modern, ethnic, jazz, tap and others. choreography. See description above for more information. Students perform in the Spring Recital.