



Fort Nelson Secondary School

Senior Concert Band - Course Outline 2012

Teacher: Mr. Johnstone
Grades: 9-12
Block: A (Full Year)
Room: 138 – Band room

Course Description

The music option for grades 8 to 12 focus on developing skills on an instrument in a concert band setting. Concert band instruments include those belonging to the brass, woodwind, and percussion groups. The musical styles of present day, classical, and traditional concert band works are studied and performed. You are expected to participate in learning all facets of music, including performance, theory, history, and ear training.

Learning Outcomes

- You will create, listen to, and perform music, demonstrating understanding of expressive and physical properties of rhythm and melody, harmony, texture, dynamics, tempo, timbre, and articulation.
- You will create, listen to, and perform music, demonstrating understanding of a variety of forms and the principles of design.
- You will create, listen to, and perform music, demonstrating understanding and appreciation of the thoughts, images, and feelings it expresses.
- You will demonstrate an understanding of the various roles and responsibilities required to create, listen to, and perform music.
- You will create, listen to, and perform music, demonstrating understanding of the historical and cultural contexts.

Required Equipment

Pencil x 3 (the more the better!)

1.5 inch binder

Dividers for the binder – at least 5

Headphones / Ear Buds

Instrument (you can rent from either Sight and Sound, or the School)

Instrument Supplies (Reeds, oils, etc)

Assessment

Performance Testing (35%): Playing tests will be taken from current repertoire and method books we are working on. Expect to have a minimum of 2 playing tests a term. A list of performance tests and dates will be posted in the band room. Note that concerts also count as a performance test. Playing tests will not take place during class time – they must either be completed at an arranged time with me or sent in via e-mail. Most cell phones can accomplish this easily – ask me for assistance if you want me to show you how to do this.

All playing are to be submitted to fnssplayingtests@gmail.com

Theory (15%): Understanding the musical language is vital if you want to be a great musician. Each term we will explore a few theory concepts and you will be expected to demonstrate your understanding of it.

Rhythm (10%): A strong knowledge in rhythm will help you learn new music at a much faster rate. You will be expected to demonstrate your ability to count, perform, and notate various rhythmic patterns in simple and compound time. You will be assessed on your rhythmic accuracy and steady pulse.

Ear Training (10%): Using your ears is what music is all about! Ear training in class will help you develop your listening skills, which in turn will result in you being a better musician. You will be required to play various online games and activities to identify intervals, pitch, and rhythmic patterns.

Term Project (15%): Each term you will be given the opportunity to explore a different aspect of music that is not covered in the performance aspect of the course. Such projects could include music history, conducting, composing, art, the science of sound, etc.

Miscellaneous (10%): Goal setting, performance reflections, clicker quizzes and short written quizzes and assignments are part of this category.

Late Assignment Policy

It is expected that you will have assignments completed by the due date, however, I understand that students have busy lives and there may be times when completing an assignment by the due date is just not possible. If you are unable to complete an assignment on time you are expected to inform me BEFORE the due date and provide a valid reason as to why it is not possible.

Students who do not hand in work on time will be contacted and told they must come in to complete their work, either at outside of school time, or during their PE Block.

For each day that an assignment is late, the student will serve 5 minutes in detention at lunch on Wednesday in the band room. If they miss the detention, the time is doubled.

THERE WILL BE NO SUCH THING AS AN NHI! Work must be completed.

Late assignments affect your work habit:

- 1 Late Assignment – No penalty
- 2 Late Assignments – Work Habit G
- 3 Late Assignments – Work Habit S
- 4 or More Late Assignments – Work Habit N

You parent will be contacted every time an assignment is not handed in by the due date. If an assignment is late by over one week an alternative assignment may have to be arranged.

Cell Phones Policy

Cell phones are wonderful tools and have made life so much better in many ways. However, they are also a big distraction to both you and Mr. Johnstone when used during class time. In order to run a successful rehearsal where everyone is fully engaged cell phones must not be present. Students must be sure they are put away and out of sight (not just on the stand turned 'off'). Students who are expecting a call or text message from a parent will need to inform them to contact the office instead. Students who are caught having their cell phone on and using it during class time will have it confiscated and they can pick it up at the end of class.

Website – www.fnssmusic.ca

The FNSS Music department is a valuable site for all music students. It contains recordings of all the pieces we are playing, links to resources that will help you with assignments, upcoming events and due dates. When you log in with your email and password you are then able to access your marks, fundraising information, attendance history and loans. I highly encourage you to bookmark the site and visit it regularly!

iPod App

Download it to have access to upcoming assignments, grades, fundraising details, and recordings of our current music. Visit the iTunes store and search for Fort Nelson Music Department. It's FREE!

Home Practice

Although there are no practice records required it is expected that you will spend time outside of class practicing your instrument. Practicing about 2 hours per week will ensure you are successful on performance tests and at our performances.

Sectionals and Extra Curricular Rehearsals

Extra morning / lunch / afternoon rehearsal times will be established early on in September. It is expected that all students attend these rehearsals. If you are unable to attend, please

let me know if advance. Sectionals may be required at certain times of the year as we near festivals and other performances. It is required that all members of a section will attend any set sectional rehearsal.

Concerts

Our concerts this year are on Thursday, December 13 and Thursday, June 6. Both concerts begin at 7pm and are at the Phoenix Theater. Other concerts may be scheduled. You will be given plenty of notice as to when these events are. "I have to work" is NOT an acceptable reason for missing a concert.

Uniform

Festival adjudicators as well as our audiences like to see us looking sharp on stage. It is required that each person own a pair of black pants, black socks and black shoes. A black shirt, vest, and tie will be provided before each concert for all students to wear. You must return these uniforms immediately after the concert. Replacement value for a missing uniform is \$100.

Classroom Expectations

The band room is a safe learning environment and it is expected that everyone will follow the 5 P's:

1. Punctual - arrive on time for all rehearsals, don't pack-up until dismissed
2. Prepared - have all necessary music, pencils, binders, etc.
3. Polite - treat your peers and teacher in a respectful manner
4. Positive - any comments made are encouraging and constructive
5. Proactive - if you see something that needs to be done, you do it before being asked

Students who choose not to follow the 5 P's will be dealt with using a progressive system of consequences.

1. Verbal warning
2. Detention (help in band room)
3. Meeting with parents
4. Meeting with principal and parent

Have a great year!