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COLORGUARD COURSE SYLLABUS 2026-2027

Overview

The Villa Rica High School band program seeks to create and foster functionally literate, independent performers, who continually exhibit the highest level of character as ambassadors for the school. The Colorguard is an extension of this. The colorguard class is designed to provide students with an outlet for musical expression and performance through flag, rifle, saber, and dance. Enrollment in this course can only be satisfied by an audition and band director approval (for all grade levels).

Requirements

Students are required to have the appropriate attire for class time. There will be an allotted time and location designated for attire change at the beginning of each class period in the bathrooms or locker rooms adjacent to the band room. Incorrect attire will result in a daily participation grade deduction.

The storage room has room for students' equipment. Having the proper equipment is vital for daily participation. Please fix equipment prior to class or rehearsal beginning and keep it *well-maintained*.

The band room should be kept clean at all times. Please do not bring gum, candy, food, or drinks into the band room. Along with the band room, our guard room is not intended for personal belongings. We ask that all guard members have a cleaning responsibility to ensure the guard storage room remains functional. Keep all personal belongings in a common space neatly and organized. Failure to keep the guard storage room will result in the room being locked and unavailable for use.

Course Standards

DHSMOD2.CR1 – Demonstrate an understanding of creative/choreographic principles, processes, and structures
DHSMOD2.CR2 – Demonstrate an understanding of dance as a form of communication
DHSMOD2.PR.1 – Identify and demonstrate movement elements, skills, and terminology in dance
DHSMOD2.PR.2 – Understand and model dance etiquette as a classroom participant, performer, and observer
DHSMOD2.RE.1 – Demonstrate critical and creative thinking in all aspects of dance
DHSMOD2.CN.1 – Understand and demonstrate dance throughout history and in various cultures
DHSMOD2.CN.2 – Recognize connections between dance and wellness

Rehearsal Preparation Guidelines

In an effort to create a more positive learning environment and make rehearsals more efficient, the following policies will be in effect:

2:32 PM - 2:37 PM – Students should enter the room and immediately begin to change out in the bathroom or locker room area. The guard room is not a hangout space. **Students who have not entered the room by 2:37 PM are tardy to class.**

2:44 PM – Group warm-up will begin

3:28 PM – Pack-up/Dismissal

Rehearsal Expectations & Etiquette

- At no point should a student distract another student's ability to learn.

- ALL students must have their clothes to dress out and performance equipment each day.

The band directors will assess students weekly on the guidelines stated above. Students earn a total of 100 points per week for demonstrating exceptional rehearsal preparation. Students who choose not to adhere to the guidelines will lose points. The ultimate goal is to create an environment that mirrors professional performers; therefore, these expectations are in place to educate our students on being professional in their approach to rehearsal, not to punish them. High rehearsal standards will always yield high quality performances!

General Classroom Expectations & Procedures

- Students will bring equipment in good working condition to each class meeting and rehearsal.
- Food, drinks, and chewing gum are prohibited in the band facility (water only).
- Book bags and other personal items should be stored in the designated space in the band room.
- Use allotted time during class changes for restroom use; otherwise, restroom use is limited to emergencies only.
- Practice all evacuation and emergency procedures in a serious manner.

Consequences

- Step 1 – Verbal warning
- Step 2 – Teacher-student conference
- Step 3 – Parent contact via telephone or E-mail
- Step 4 – After school detention assigned by band directors
- Step 5 – Office referral

Rewards

- Verbal praise and encouragement
- Positive notes and phone calls to parents
- Special recognition at the annual band banquet
- Selection for special performances and activities

Cell Phone Policy

- Cell phone use is strictly prohibited during rehearsal and instructional time.
- Cell phone use will be restricted to specific assignments. Students will be notified in advance as to when they may use their devices in class. Otherwise, cell phones should be stored in bookbags.

Rehearsals and Performances

- All rehearsals and performances are mandatory. Dates for rehearsals and performances are posted on the band calendar.
- Any student who anticipates an absence from an after-school rehearsal or performance must fill out an [Absence Request](#) form. This form must be completed online and the directors must be notified via E-mail and in person one week prior to any anticipated absence. Please note that submitting the form does not guarantee that the absence will be considered excused.
- An absence will only be considered excused for one of the following reasons:
 1. Illness requiring an absence from school
 2. Death or serious illness in the immediate family
 3. Major religious observance
- **Personal conflicts such as work, homework, family vacation, birthday celebrations, etc. are NOT excused.**
- Students with an **unexcused** absence from a rehearsal will receive a zero.
- Students with an **unexcused** absence from a performance will be provided a make-up assignment. The assignment will be due one week after the date of the missed performance.

Grading Policy & Assessment

Individual and ensemble skill assessments will occur daily. The band directors will administer formal and informal assessments during class and for public performances.

100-90 = A 89-80 = B 79-71 = C 70 = D BELOW 70 = F

Summative Assessments (60%)	Formative Assessments (40%)
Performances/Assessments	Daily Participation/Rehearsals

Performances/assessments (60%) include parades, football games, competitions, recruitment performances, and any assessments the color guard instructor assigns; examples of an assessment may be a video recording displaying a portion of a routine. Assessments are used to hold students accountable as individual performers. To receive full credit for performances, students must be in the correct attire, on time, and be fully engaged throughout.

Daily participation and rehearsal attendance (40%) is essential for effective rehearsals. If students are not using this class time appropriately, they will be removed from the course. Students are expected to be in class on time. Tardies will affect their daily participation grades. Rehearsal attendance is mandatory. This includes all after school rehearsals and Saturday rehearsals.

Class Syllabus Parent and Student Acknowledgement

(Please sign by Monday, August 10th)

It is the intent of this class to provide a positive experience through the performance of quality musical literature. It is necessary to have a set of guidelines, procedures, and expectations in order to achieve the highest level of success in the music classroom. Our intent is to assist all students who have difficulties adapting to the rehearsal environment. Discipline concerns will be handled in the most expedient ways possible, according to the CCSS Code of Conduct. Students that choose to behave in a manner that disrupts the learning environment and culture of excellence may be subject to dismissal from the band.

I have read and understand the syllabus concerning the Villa Rica High School Band Program and agree to follow all policies contained within.

Please click [here](#) to electronically sign the acknowledgement.

*The directors reserve the right to alter this syllabus in the interest of more effective instruction.