

Band 3-4 Honors

UC/CSU "f" approved/Not NCAA approved

Grade Level: 10-12

Estimated Work Outside of Class: 3-4 hrs per week (instrumental practice)

Course Description:

This Honors level ensemble course offers a performance-based learning experience through musical practice on traditional concert band instruments. Band 3-4 Honors is for students who have developed proficiency on their instrument. Students will have access to tools and strategies across a variety of ability levels within the ensemble setting. The curriculum will include both traditional and contemporary repertoire and will cover instrumental performance technique, historical context, as well as components of musical theory. Students are expected to practice their instruments outside of class time in order to be prepared for rehearsal. Supplemental instruction and student leadership opportunities are available and encouraged.

Instrumentation is limited to traditional woodwind, brass and percussion instruments: flute, oboe, clarinet, saxophone, trumpet, french horn, trombone, euphonium, tuba, percussion. Students interested in different instruments should inquire about other ensemble courses, such as orchestra. Students are responsible for providing their own instrument, but may elect to work through the school's recommended music vendor for convenience.

All Band students participate as members of the *Marching Dons*. Seasonal performances, outside of the school day, with the Marching Band are included as part of the grade expectations.

Prerequisite:

Completion of Band 1-2, Orchestra 1-2, Choral Music 1-2, or Music Composition and Technology

Recommended Prerequisite Skills:

Students enrolled in Band 3-4 Honors should have at least one year experience in a high school band ensemble or should demonstrate moderate proficiency on their instrument. This includes being able to perform at least 2 major scales, memorized, at a brisk tempo. Students should be able to comfortably sightread Grade 1 literature and perform Grade 2 literature when preparation time is provided.

Course Grade Categories:

- Practice and Rehearsals: 40%
- Written Assignments: 20%
- Assessments / Performances: 40%

Major Assessments/Units/Topics:

This is a performance-based course.

- Scales, techniques and sections of music can and will be regularly assessed, via video or live performance.
- Students also demonstrate their knowledge and connection to the subject through music literacy (note reading/writing), as well as written expression (essay/journals).

- Additional grades are determined by rehearsal participation, effort and etiquette as well as ensemble performances at school events/concerts.
- Students may also show progress on their instrument through solo playing
- Students will participate in seasonal ensemble performances (marching shows, Christmas Concert, Spring Concert).
- Students in advanced ensembles may have extra opportunities to participate in additional community performances.