



7/8A - Band Syllabus 2025 - 2026

Mission Statement

Committed to Jesus Christ, NCCS provides a biblically based, academically excellent education in a nurturing environment, developing students' potential to impact their world for Christ.

Course Description

Students in 7th and 8th grade can choose band as one of their fine arts options. Students will learn about being part of a performing ensemble, as well as other lifelong character development skills such as teamwork, problem solving, creativity and expression. We will have four performances for parents throughout the year and a field trip! At least one year of experience on a band instrument (flute, clarinet, saxophone, trumpet, french horn, trombone, baritone, tuba, or percussion) is required for admittance into this ensemble. Exceptions are by interview/audition only.

Instructors

Megan Pruitt - Director of Bands

mp Pruitt@ncchristian.org

Josh Inglis - Assistant Director of Bands

jinglis@ncchristian.org

Band directors are available most mornings from 7:30am to 8am or 3:15pm to 3:45pm for additional help or make-up playing tests. Students or parents should notify the directors the day prior that their student plans to come before or after school to ensure that one of the directors is in the classroom.

Performance Dates

October 13th - Fall Band Concert - 6pm (Northstar Church)

October 16th - MS Grandparents Day - Time TBD

December 18th - Christmas performance - 8am (during chapel)

March 9th - Spring Concert - 6:30pm (Northstar Church)

Week of March 23rd - Large Group Performance Evaluation - Time TBD (during school)

May 12th - End of Year Band/Orchestra Concert - Time TBD (NCCS Commons)

*** Occasional morning rehearsals may also be necessary and will be scheduled and communicated to parents well in advance.***

Dates for optional honor band/all-state auditions, Reinhardt Honor Band, and Midfest will be sent in a separate google form at the start of September

Materials for Class

1. Instrument
2. Stick Bag, Snare sticks, and Marimba mallets (for percussion instruments)
3. Pencils (no pens)
4. Reeds, Reed Case, and Cork Grease (for woodwind instruments only - specifics emailed later)
5. Valve Oil and Slide Oil (for brass instruments)

Be sure to label first and last name on instrument case name tag and books

Instrument Lockers

Instrument lockers will be assigned to all students to store instruments in during the school day. This is for your convenience so that you have a safe place to store your instrument before school and then pick it back up after school if needed. Nothing except for the student's instrument should be stored in these lockers.

Grading Categories for this Course

Major Grades - Performances	45%
Intermediate Grades - Playing Assessments	35%
Minor Grades - Rehearsal Techniques / Written Assignments	20%

All concerts are required unless a student is sick or has a family emergency. An unexcused absence for a concert will result in a 0 unless prior arrangements have been made.

Grading Scale

Grading is numerical. Letter grade equivalents are as follows:

A= 90-100

B= 80-89

C= 70-79

F= 69 & below

Grading Policies

1. **Concert Attendance Grade:** The 7/8 Band is a performing ensemble. Public and school performances are vital to the growth and development of the band. Students are expected to make all arrangements necessary in order to attend all concerts/performances. Excused absences include illness or a family emergency and should be communicated to the director as soon as possible. Sports practices are not an excused reason for missing a concert. Punctuality, having all necessary items, maintaining appropriate performance etiquette throughout the entire concert, and being in full concert attire are also requirements.
2. **Rehearsal Techniques Grade:** Students have chosen to be in this class. Proper behavior is expected at all times, using the student handbook as a guideline. Participation is a must in order to build a strong ensemble. Students' grades are represented here by being prepared with their music binders, beginning band book, instruments, a pencil, and participating fully in each class period. Students who do not have their instruments will be given a written assignment and receive partial credit for participation for that day. A rubric is used to grade

this portion using the following categories, rehearsal prep, rehearsal techniques, and music marking.

3. **Playing Assessments:** Students will also be asked regularly to pass-off playing assignments given in class – scales, arpeggios, assignments out of the book, excerpts from their music, etc. The initial test will be played in class. Students are welcome to retake playing tests as many times as they would like to get the grade desired. These additional attempts or make-up tests due to absence can be done by appointment before or after school, or submitted as a video through Google Classroom.

Concert Attire:

Gentlemen

Black dress pants

The black Arts Polo (ordered by directors and included in Arts fee)

Solid black close toed shoes

Black tall socks

Black belt

Ladies

Black dress slacks or skirt (skirts must be knee length or longer)

The Arts Polo Shirt (ordered by directors and included in Arts fee)

Black tights (for skirts) or tall black socks

Solid black close toed shoes

Classroom Expectations

Students are expected to follow all behavior expectations outlined in the school handbook including the cell phone policy. Students who are disruptive in class by talking, not participating fully on their instrument, shouting out without raising their hand, not following classroom procedures, etc. will be given one warning/redirection. If the student continues to be disruptive or not follow classroom procedures they will be asked to pack up their instrument and do a written assignment. Each time a student has to pack up/do written work the following disciplinary actions will be issued:

1. Parents are notified that their student had to pack up and do written work
2. Parents are notified and a fix it ticket is sent home
3. Parents are notified again and a silent lunch will be issued
4. Parents are notified a third time and a Disciplinary Action Report (DAR) will be sent home

Performing Arts Fee

All middle school performing arts students (band, orchestra, chorus) will be charged a one time fee of \$80 to their FACTS account. This will cover the polo shirt (mentioned above), a band t-shirt, black binder/page protectors, and festival/instructor fees as needed throughout the school year. Students will not experience additional expenses (outside of instrument rental, reeds/valve oil, and method book) unless there are travel expenses for field trips, hotel/food costs involved in an honor band event.

Order Arts Polo Here (Required Uniform for Concerts - Due Friday, August 16th):
[Arts Polo Order Form](#)

North Cobb Christian Arts Alliance

Please consider joining the Arts Alliance here at NCCS. The Arts Alliance is the key volunteer and fundraising arm of parent support for our thriving visual, instrumental, vocal, and theatre arts programs at NCCS. Becoming involved through giving of your time and treasure provides our students with top-notch equipment and resources to help them fully develop their God-given gifts. If you have any questions you can direct them to Kimberly Leftwich (kimberlyleftwich@gmail.com), the Arts Alliance President, or you can join with the link below. Corporate sponsorships are also available.
<https://www.ncchristian.org/arts/arts-alliance>

Electronics Policy

All cell phones must remain in the student's locker during the school hours. Please refer to the MS handbook for more information and consequences for having a phone in class.