

Marching/Concert Band Syllabus

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Instructor Name and Preferred Title: Dr. Zachary D. Wills / Dr. Wills

E-mail: zwills@chatham.k12.nc.us

Office: Band Room

Office Hours: 7:00 – 7:30 AM, 3:10 – 5:30 PM

Full Course Description

This course is performance-based. Students will perform repertoire that is aligned with the North Carolina Standards. The repertoire will be selected by the instructor with student input. Students will meet daily for approximately 85 minutes. Homework will include individual practice times. **Some co-curricular participation (rehearsals and performances outside of school hours) is expected. See the schedule below for Fall/Spring Semester rehearsals and performances and the Band Website**

<https://sites.google.com/chatham.k12.nc.us/cchsbands?usp=sharing>

calendar for more up-to-date information. **Please sign and return pages 5-6 indicating you have received this syllabus and understand the course requirements.**

I will communicate with you on occasion via email. In addition, you will need to monitor the calendar on the [Band Website](#) for up-to-date commitment and co-curricular activity information. I also have an active Remind class. Updates will be sent via Remind. Check the website for the code.

Prerequisites

None

Learning Outcomes

After successful completion of this course, you will be able to:

1. Identify fundamentals of performance on your instrument.
2. March and simultaneously perform repertoire.
3. Perform a diverse repertoire of musical texts across genres, cultures, and historical periods.
4. Analyze diverse musical texts across genres and media.
5. Apply strategies for close reading and critical analysis.
6. Create a consistently effective warmup routine.
7. Create and utilize a comprehensive practice process including error detection, isolation, and correction measures.
8. Develop a consistent music performance and evaluation vocabulary.
9. Evaluate internal and external musical performances.
10. Discuss course repertoire via consistent vocabulary.
11. Perform 12 major scales from memory.
12. Perform a 1 octave chromatic scale on your instrument.

Course Materials

Your **instrument**, a **pencil**, your **binder**, and a **positive attitude**! All course materials comply with copyright/fair use policies. I will communicate with you on occasion via email. In addition, you will need to monitor the [Band Website](#) calendar for up-to-date commitment and co-curricular activity information. I also have an active TalkingPoints account. Please ensure you are able to receive messages via TalkingPoints.

Attendance Policy

If you must miss a group performance, I should know about it in advance. Of course, emergencies happen. If you miss a group performance, you must perform the repertoire you would have performed at the missed performance for me in its entirety within 5 school days. As an alternate assignment, Dr. Wills may ask you to provide a written assignment instead of performing. You will be graded on the same rubric as those who performed together if you are required to perform your make-up. You will be provided with a rubric for each written assignment.

Band requires active participation in the daily learning objectives as well as all performances.

Course Assignments and Grading

General Assignment Information By QUARTER

- 30% of the overall quarterly grade will be **Concert Performances (Tests)**
- 30% of the overall quarterly grade will be **Concert Performances (Projects)**
- 20% of the overall quarterly grade will be **Assignments (written or short, performance-based tasks)**
- 20% of the overall quarterly grade will be **Weekly Performance Grades (Quizzes)**. This includes **performance and rehearsal etiquette, and bringing all required materials to class. Daily slides will be available to remind students of what materials they will need. Usually, this includes their instrument, music binder or folder, and a pencil (provided).**

Performance assessment rubric is [here](#) with descriptions of each rating [here](#). These rating forms and guidelines are the same as those used for Music Performance Adjudication (MPA) for North Carolina music ensembles. Your child has received this syllabus via email in order to allow you access to linked items. Typically, there are no more than five performances per semester, with one capstone event concert each semester. It is important for you to attend every performance opportunity, as the group is depending on you to cover your part. Conflicts with sports and other school-based activities should be communicated to Dr. Wills as early as possible after every effort has been made to de-conflict schedules in favor of our major concerts/events. It's a WE thing, not a ME thing. ***Some assignments may be counted in multiple categories, or may be weighted more heavily than others based on the degree of rigor involved and the duration of the assignment. For example, a Capstone performance requires several months of work toward a rigorous objective of performing multiple pieces of repertoire. Therefore, I will use the grade from Capstone concerts as both a Test and a Project grade for the quarter in which the Capstone performance occurs. In addition, I may weight the Capstone event (major concert or performance) more than once to ensure the student grade is truly reflecting the performance achievement level of the individual student. As this is a performance based class, performances are heavily weighted. I will notify you when assignments are weighted differently.***

THESE PERCENTAGES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE. I will notify you when and if that occurs.

Each quarter counts 40% of your final grade, and the **final exam counts as 20%**. If you are exempt from my final, your weighting is 50% per quarter. Your grades will be updated in Infinite Campus weekly. If you see something that doesn't appear accurate, please let me know as early as possible.

A = 90 - 100, B = 80 - 89, C = 70 - 79, D = 60 - 69, F = 0 - 59 Extra credit is available via Solo and Ensemble, All County Band, and other opportunities. Auditioning for these opportunities will provide an additional performance assessment grade in the gradebook. If you have questions, comments, or concerns, please let me know.

CCHS Concert Band After School Rehearsals

- ~~January 10, 2026 All-District Auditions~~
- ~~January 14, 2026 3:15 - 5:30 PM CCHS~~
- January 28, 2026 3:15 - 5:30 PM CCHS
- February 11, 2026 3:15 - 5:30 PM CCHS
- February 25, 2026 3:15 - 5:30 PM CCHS
- March 3, 2026 Pre-MPA performance/adjudication TBD CCHS**
- MPA Performance March 18-20 (only one of these dates and it will be during school hours).**
- March 25, 2026 3:15 - 5:30 PM CCHS
- April 22, 2026 - One Chatham Solo and Ensemble Event at CCHS**
- April 28, 2026 5:30 - 7:00 PM (Concert Performance at CCHS)**
- May 6, 2026 3:15 - 5:30 PM CCHS
- May 20, 2026 3:15 - 5:30 PM CCHS

WCJE Rehearsals/Performances Spring 2026 (Concert Band Season)

- ~~January 21, 2026 4:00 - 5:30 CCHS~~
- February 4, 2026 4:00 - 5:30 CCHS
- February 18, 2026 4:00 - 5:30 JMHS
- March 4, 2026 4:00 - 5:30 CCHS
- March 11, 2026 4:00 - 5:30 JMHS
- March 24, 2025 5:00 - 7:00 (Concert Performance at JMHS)**
- April 8, 2026, 4:00 - 5:30 CCHS
- April 15, 2026 4:00 - 5:30 JMHS
- April 28, 2026 5:30 - 7:00 PM (Concert Performance at CCHS)**
- April 29, 2026 4:00 - 5:30 PM CCHS
- May 21, 2026 5:00 - 7:00 PM (Concert Performance at JMHS)**

WCCB Calendar Dates - Preparation for a performance at Carowinds and a day in the park (Students and parents must sign an agreement for students to participate)

- January 29, 2026 4:00 - 5:30 PM JMHS
- February 12, 2026 4:00 - 5:30 PM JMHS
- February 26, 2026 4:00 - 5:30 PM JMHS
- March 12, 2026 4:00 - 5:30 PM JMHS
- March 26, 2026 4:00 - 5:30 PM JMHS
- April 9, 2026 4:00 - 5:30 PM JMHS
- April 23, 2026 4:00 - 5:30 PM JMHS
- April 28, 2026 5:30 PM - 7:00 PM (CCHS Auditorium)**
- May 7, 2026 4:00 - 5:30 PM JMHS
- May 21, 2026 4:00 - 5:30 PM JMHS
- CAROWINDS PERFORMANCE May 30, 2026, 12:00 PM Performance Time. Have fun in the park upon completion until 6:00 PM.**

**Chatham County Schools
PERMISSION SLIP FOR FIELD TRIP
Chatham Central High School**

Destination :	Multiple. Please see attached list on pp. 3-4	Teacher Name:	Dr. Zach Wills
Departure:	Multiple. Please see attached list.	Return:	Multiple. Please see attached list.
Mode of Transportation:	Activity Bus or Yellow Bus		
Additional Information:	Multiple. Please see attached list. Band Calendar will reflect the most up-to-date information.		

Admission Cost: \$ _____ Miscellaneous Cost \$ _____ Total Cost: Varies by Event. \$ _____

Please fill in the bottom portion and return to school with any payment indicated above

I, the parent or guardian of the student named below (referred to as "my child"), give my permission for my child to participate in the field trip described above.

Name of Student: <i>(Please Print)</i>	DOB:		
Name of Parent/Guardian: <i>(Please Print)</i>			
Parent/Guardian Physical Address:			
Parent/Guardian contact numbers: (home):	(h):	(w):	(cell):
Alternative emergency contact name:	Relationship to child:		
Alternate emergency contact phone #'s:	(h):	(w):	(cell):

Health Insurance Information (including company and policy/group information):

I understand the School District does not provide medical insurance for my child for purposes of this trip, and I am solely responsible for providing such insurance and for payment of any medical treatment expenses for my child that are not covered by insurance. If emergency medical procedures or treatment are required for my child during the trip, I consent to the trip supervisors taking, arranging for, and consenting to the procedures or treatment in their discretion. I understand the potential risk associated with COVID-19 during the field trip my child is attending, and I give permission for my child to attend. All COVID-19 safety protocols will be utilized during the field trip.

Child's physician: _____ Physician's phone number _____
Preferred Hospital _____.

Please indicate health problems concerning your child. Include any medications, allergies or other instructions:

Waiver of Liability and Hold Harmless Agreement

To the maximum extent permitted by law, I RELEASE, WAIVE, DISCHARGE AND COVENANT NOT TO SUE the Chatham County Board of Education, its individual members, agents, employees, and representatives from and against any and all claims which I or any other person, firm, or corporation have or may have, known or unknown, arising out of, during, or in connection with my child's participation in the field trip regardless of the manner or type of injury or claim that may arise. I further agree to indemnify, hold harmless, and reimburse the Chatham County Board of Education, its individual members, agents, employees and representatives, if such a claim is made. If the student is at least 18 years old, he/she has signed below signifying acceptance of the above conditions and releases.

I give permission for my child to participate in this field trip. I agree that the information provided above regarding my child's medical information is accurate and complete. I have read the information regarding "Medical Information and Release" and "Waiver of Liability and Hold Harmless Agreement." I understand these waivers, I sign them voluntarily, and I agree to be bound by them. If my child is at least 18 years old, he/she has signed below signifying acceptance of the above conditions and releases

Parent/Guardian Name (Print)

Parent/Guardian Signature Date

Student Signature if 18 years old or older Date

Medical Information and Release _____

Parent/Guardian Name (Print)

Parent/Guardian Signature

Date

I, _____ (Parent/Guardian printed name), have received a copy of the syllabus for Marching Band, and understand there are numerous required events throughout the Marching Band semester, and I will make every effort to ensure my child is present at the events listed on Page 3-4 of this syllabus. **I am aware of the Band Calendar, the Band Website, and that I should add myself and my student to Dr. Wills' REMIND class (code available on Band Website). I will check the band calendar for each event to see the most up-to-date information.** I also understand that as Band is a team activity, my child's absence may have a negative impact on the rest of the students. **Failure to ensure your student's participation in all required events may negatively impact their ability to participate in future events such as Carowinds, All County, All District, and All State Band, and other fun and rewarding opportunities.**

Student Printed Name

Parent Signature

Date of Signature