

Band Auxiliary Syllabus
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Course Description

This semester course will teach students the basics of dance and flag spinning techniques. They will learn to listen to music and add appropriate moves that enhance the aural sound. They will work with a choreographer in order to enhance the sounds of the band with color and with movement. The color guard meets throughout the summer in order to condition their bodies for the physical demands of the class. They meet after school as well as during the school day and they travel with the band to all events, including parades, football games, and competitions.

Instructional Philosophy

This class will be a hands-on class where the students will be expected to physically participate every day. They will need appropriate clothing that allows them to move, run, march, and dance. They will be working with the choreographer, reviewing routines, or learning charts on the field with the band.

Course Goals

By the end of the semester, the student will be able to:

1. Demonstrate alignment, articulation, strength, flexibility, agility, coordination, and focus while dancing and spinning.
2. Be able to perform a routine that demonstrates expression and clarity and includes a variety of complex movement sequences (use of space, dynamics, rhythms, pathways, and forms).
3. Perform a routine that demonstrates increased technical skill, dynamic range, and expression for an audience.
4. Observe a variety of performances and describe the dance and theatrical elements.
5. Determine and articulate the relationship between movement and sound in a routine.
6. Use established criteria to assess the effectiveness of dance and theatrical elements in communicating meaning.
7. Discuss how elements of production (costumes, props, sound and venue) affect the meaning of dance.

Major Course Projects and Instructional Activities

Because this is a performance-based class, major projects will be performances. The first quarter will contain more performances than the second. Performances will include, but are not limited to parades, football games, competitions, and one marching band concert.

Students will also participate during class and after school rehearsals as well be tested periodically on the routines and technique that we are performing in class.

Course Assessment Plan

Routines/Technique/Written Testing	30% of total grade
Daily Class Preparation and Performance	15% of total grade
After School Rehearsal Preparation and Performance	15% of total grade
Performances	40% of total grade

Attendance at each rehearsal, performance, or class period is not enough to earn full credit. Students will be visually assessed by the band director and guard instructor to determine the grade for each assignment. Proper dance and performance techniques are expected daily as well as during after school rehearsals. Competitions will not only be taped but will also be assessed by an outside source. Comments from the impartial “judge” along with observations by the director (after reviewing DVD of performances) will be used in determining the final assessment of each student’s skill in displaying feeling and emotion as well as their grasp of the technical aspects of the routine.

If you have any other questions or concerns, please refer to the band handbook or contact me via e-mail (samantha.preisner@swantonschools.org).