

Percussion Ensemble (Instrumental Techniques)

Mr. Jones

Email: david.jones2@marion.k12.fl.us

Portions of this syllabus may change as the need arises. You will be notified in writing when changes occur.

Course Description:

The purpose of this course is the supplemental development of Percussion skills and fundamentals that are not able to be specifically honed in the course of the full band setting. There is so much needed information and a variety of skills that need to be mastered by the student percussionist that cannot be developed in a full band setting. This course has been designed specifically to focus on the wide range of skills and info needed to participate in the band as a successful percussionist.

This course will cover the following units (additional units may be added depending on the pace of the class):

- Music Theory (basic and advanced)
- Percussion Instrument Fundamentals
- Non- Pitched Instrument Basics
- Mallet Percussion Basics
- Primary Marching Unit Skills
- Secondary Marching Unit Skills
- Primary Concert Unit Skills
- Secondary Concert Unit Skills
- Small Ensemble Performance Fundamentals
- Large Ensemble Performance Fundamentals

As this class is designed to supplement percussion instruction in addition to the formal band setting, students in this class are required to attend all performances of the regular band class in addition to those specifically designate for this class.

During Marching Band Season (August-December), members of this class will participate as part of the Drumline as that is the focus of the instruction during this time. At the end of the Marching Band Season a select number of members will be chosen, based on performance skills and need, to participate with the concert band. The focus from December to April for this class will be performance in an small ensemble setting, supplemented with Drumline performances to ensure that our students are well rounded percussionists, not just “drummers”. Primary performances during this time of year are Solo and Ensemble (we will perform as a class. students may choose to take on a solo if they wish and is approved by the percussion instructor and Mr. Jones) as well as the Winter and Spring Concerts.

Materials student needs:

- Three ring binder for music and handouts
- Page Protectors (for music)
- Basic set of sticks and mallets (1 pair of snare sticks, 1 pair of yarn mallets, one pair of timpani sticks).-See Mr. Marcus' list of recommended items for this.
- Pencils

Grading Scale:

| | |
|--------|-----------------------------|
| 100-90 | A |
| 89-80 | B |
| 79-70 | C |
| 69-60 | D |
| 50- 0 | Lets hope we don't need it. |

Grade calculation:

| | |
|--|-----|
| Quizzes, performance reflections, Playing checkpoints | 35% |
| Portfolio Recordings, playing tests, performances | 55% |
| Weekly participation, in class written assignments, HW | 10% |

General Classroom Stuff:

Be On Time: you should be in your seat with your instrument out and setup, ready to play by the tardy bell. Each minute of rehearsal time is precious and should not be wasted. Always check the board for specific instructions for the day.

Food and Drink: All food MUST be eaten outside. There is no food in the band room or hallway. Water bottles with screw on lids are permitted but liquids may not be consumed in the room due to the carpet (No Yeti or like brand cups, please as they are likely to spill.)

Phones: phones should be in your backpack unless specified by the instructors for use in class (metronome, audio/video recordings related to the class). Phones that are visible and not being used for the previous listed reasons will be sent to the discipline office. First time is a warning, second offense will be a parent contact, third time and beyond will be a discipline referral.

Leaving the room: Bathrooms are located in the hallway. You will need to sign out when using the restroom. Practice rooms may be utilized if there is a large class of student and individual practice becomes difficult. You will need to reserve a room with Mr. Jones

Writing Utensils: the only accepted writing utensil in a band/music class is a **pencil**. When marking your music it should be light and erasable. In some cases, many students

will have to use the same music you are using down the road so be respectful to them. It also helps that if you make a mistake, you can erase it. No pens, markers, or erasable pens, please. You should have a pencil at all times for this class.

If you have any questions regarding the grading or classroom policies, please don't hesitate to ask. David.jones2@marion.k12.fl.us

"There are no foolish questions and no man becomes a fool until he has stopped **asking** questions" -Charles P. Steinmetz