
PETERS TOWNSHIP HIGH SCHOOL

COURSE SYLLABUS: WIND SYMPHONY

Course Overview and Essential Skills

Wind Symphony is an advanced band for students selected through audition. Literature is comprised of difficulty levels 3.5 to 5. Student musicians focus on developing tone production, articulation, phrasing, genre approaches, and musical public performance in a collaborative ensemble.

The focus of the course is geared towards individual/group musical performance. Students apply learned concepts and advanced techniques to execute higher level difficulty band literature.

Technology is used regularly to reinforce intonation, tempo accuracy, and technique development.

Course Textbook and Required Materials

- Band Literature : TBD each year based on ensemble balance and skill - provided
- Symphonic Band Technique, Rhodes & Bierschenk, Southern Music Co., Copyright 1986, B-354TBN
- Treasury of Scales, Leonard B. Smith, Belwin Mills, Copyright 1952 (Renewed 1980), EL 01869
- Tuner and metronome - provided or permitted on personal device via apps
- Music stand & folder - provided
- Personal instrument (personally owned, borrowed, rented or school issued)
- Additional Supplies - reeds for large wind instruments provided, mallets for percussion
- Percussionists provide own sticks

Course Outline of Material Covered:

Unit or Topic	Concepts/Skills/Resources	Timeframe
Tone Production Intonation	Embouchure and air support via oral cavity, lips, jaw, and diaphragm support Use of digital tuner	2 weeks
Scales and Technical Development	Major, minor, chromatic Application in 3rds Use of digital metronome	4 weeks
Articulation and Dynamics Rudiments	Staccato, legato, slur - all addressed through appropriate air support Volume spectrum from <i>pp</i> through <i>ff</i> Dynamic production assisted by air support Percussion rudiment knowledge and demonstration on battery (snare, bass,	6 weeks

	etc)	
Ensemble Literature Music Vocabulary	Application of previous concepts applied to literature performance Appropriate genre interpretation Musical terms applied towards performance expression	24 weeks

****The course outline is subject to change based on the class skill level and/or school district calendar changes.***