

Ragsdale High School Percussion Class - Spring 2015 Syllabus

Meets Daily during 1st Block

Instructor: Drew Leib

Classroom: C102

e-mail: leiba@gcsnc.com

website: ragsdaleband.org/percussion-ensemble

The purposes of the Percussion Ensemble Class are to further develop students' skills in four key areas of percussion curriculum; (1) Individual/Solo Development, (2) Percussion Ensemble Development, (3) Concert Band and Wind Ensemble Music Development, (4) Rudimental Percussion Development.

Individual/Solo Development:

Students will complete an Individual Development Plan (IDP) that will be used for classification into Beginner, Intermediate, Proficient or Advanced levels in the areas of Snare, Mallets and Timpani. **Students will declare a "concentration" based on recommendation from Mr. Leib for the semester and will complete the specified Barriers for that concentration. (See Barriers)**

Percussion Ensemble Development:

Student's participation is ongoing in preparation for concert and public performances of percussion ensemble repertoire. **Students are required to complete Percussion Ensemble Repertoire Benchmark Assessments throughout the semester as part of the Barrier system. The dates and repertoire will be predetermined by the instructor.**

Concert Band/Wind Ensemble Music Development:

Student's participation is ongoing in preparation for concert and public performances of Concert Band and Wind Ensemble repertoire

Marching Band/ Rudimental Percussion Development:

Throughout the semester, students will be required to participate in preparatory marching percussion camps and clinics to prepare for summer rehearsals and auditions for the Ragsdale Drum Line for the 2014 Marching Season.

Required Materials:

Each student is required to have the following equipment for participation in Percussion Ensemble:

- 1. Concert snare sticks*** (Innovative IPLD Concert Series Snare Drumsticks or Equivalent)
- 2. Marimba Mallets*** (Innovative F2 Fundamental Series Hard Marimba Mallets or equivalent)
- 3. Xylophone Mallets*** (Innovative F9 Fundamental Series Xylophone Mallets or equivalent)
- 4. Timpani Mallets*** (Innovative GT-3 General Series Medium General Timpani Mallets or equivalent)
- 5. Stick/Mallet Bag*** (Innovative SB3 Stick Bag or equivalent)*
- 6. Practice Pad** (required: Remo Tunable Pad, recommended: Vic-Firth Heavy Hitter Slim Pad)
- 7. Marching snare sticks** (Recommended Vic-Firth Corpsmaster or Innovative Field Series)

All materials are required. These materials, once purchased, will be used throughout your high school career as a member of the Ragsdale Percussion Ensemble. If you have questions or concerns about acquiring these materials, please see Mr. Leib.

**Indicates sticks and mallets that are available as part of the Innovative Percussion FP2 Intermediate Mallet Pack. This can be purchased through a local music retail store as a special order, or online at steveweissmusic.com (search FP2 on home page to find product)*

Grading:

Your grades will be made up of the following:

Total 1 st Quarter		40%
Total 2 nd Quarter		40%
Final Exam		20%
Total Overall Average	=	100%

Each Quarter, Your grades will be calculated using the following:

Daily Performance Grade	40%
Barrier/Proficiency Completion	20%
Rehearsals/Performances	20%
Total	100%

Barriers/Proficiencies:

In order to receive a passing grade for your Barriers, you must pass various percussion proficiencies. These are listed on “Barriers” Appendix to this Syllabus, but can also be found on the “Resources” page of the percussion website. If a student has barriers to play in their “Concentration” area (snare drum, mallets, timpani), the student must attempt to pass each barrier level by end of the semester. Barrier examinations (benchmarks) will occur weekly and will serve as a means to complete portions of each barrier. Failure to attempt each barrier as designated in the Barrier Appendix will result in a failing grade for the Barriers/Proficiency portion of your grade. (see “Barrier Assessment Rubric” Appendix)

Example: John has declared timpani as his concentration and is at the Proficient Level (as determined by Mr. Leib) and he needs to pass off the “Proficient” timpani barriers (outlined in “Barriers” appendix). John must sign up and attempt this barrier to receive a passing grade for the semester. If John attempts but does not pass the barriers, his teacher averages his final Barrier/Proficiency grade with no penalty. If John does not attempt his barrier material, he will receive an “F” for his Barrier/Proficiency grade. **NOTE:** students cannot declare the same concentration two semesters in a row

Repertoire Benchmark Assessments: As part of the Barrier system, All students will be required to complete various repertoire benchmarks throughout the semester. These benchmarks serve as a means to evaluate each individual student on their progress on different percussion ensemble/wind ensemble/concert band repertoire. The instructor will predetermine the number of benchmarks and the repertoire to be assessed throughout the semester.

Rehearsals/Performances:

Your rehearsal and performance grade will be calculated based on your regular attendance at after school combined band rehearsals and performances; this includes, but is not limited to:

- After school rehearsals prior to concerts (A calendar can be found at www.ragsdaleband.org)
- ALL Concert Band and Wind Ensemble Concerts
- After School Percussion Ensemble Rehearsals prior to Solo and Ensemble (as deemed necessary by instructor)
- Solo and Ensemble Competition

To ensure you receive a 100%, you simply need to come to each rehearsal and performance on time, and leave after all equipment is secured. **The Rehearsal and Performance grade will start at a 100% for each student at the beginning of each semester. This grade will be lowered 5 points for unexcused tardies and 10 points for absences from rehearsals** This applies to any after school combined rehearsal prior to the spring concert(s). A **10 point deduction** will be made for unexcused tardies or absences from performances (combined concert band concerts, percussion ensemble concerts, S&E,Etc).

Daily Performance Grade (DPG):

Your daily performance grade will be calculated based on your regular attendance and active participation in ensemble rehearsals, this includes any extra rehearsals called outside of regular school hours. To ensure you receive a 100% DPG, you simply need to come prepared (with all required materials), actively participate in rehearsal, always come to class with a good attitude, and always give your best effort.

The daily participation grade will start at a 100% for each student at the beginning of each semester. This grade will be lowered 5 points for the first and 10 points for each additional infraction. Infractions include:

- Not having all of the required materials
- Coming to rehearsals unprepared to make music
- Frequently missing rehearsals (including but not limited to rehearsals outside of the school day)
- **Not taking care of equipment (i.e. not being responsible for the equipment you used during a rehearsal)**
- Misconduct or behavior deemed inappropriate by the instructor
- Unexcused tardy

Student/Parent Agreement Checklist:

Please use this check list below, to ensure you have the required materials for the spring percussion ensemble class. Then, sign, date and return the bottom portion to Mr. Leib during your next percussion class:

- _____ Have sticks/mallets and mallet bag as outlined in the required materials section of the syllabus
- _____ Practice pad is ready for class, appropriately marked with your name
- _____ Checked the Ragsdale Band Website and marked any important dates on personal calendars
- _____ Read and fully understand the terms and conditions of grading as outlined in the class syllabus
- _____ Filled out/signed and dated the Student Parent agreement, and returned to Mr. Leib

If you have any questions about materials for class, please contact Mr. Leib.

Student/Parent Agreement

Student Name (Printed): _____

Student Signature: _____ Date: _____

Parent Name (Printed): _____

Parent Signature: _____ Date: _____

Contact Information:

Phone: _____ Phone 2: _____

Email: _____ Email 2: _____