



Grading Policy

Students in a Cherokee Bluff HS band class are graded on a series of criteria. Final grades are a combination of regular participation, special projects, and performances. While a student is expected to attend all rehearsals and performances outside of the school day, occasionally emergency conflicts arise. Conflicts with work, sports, other school activities, family events, etc. are not emergencies and should be resolved in advance. It is the responsibility of the parent and student to communicate with the coaches/teachers/sponsors of BOTH activities and work out a viable resolution to the conflict at least two weeks prior to the events. In the event of missing a performance, material and experiences can be made up during class on the day following the absence. Students will play any music rehearsed or performed in front of the class for a grade, thus simulating the actual performance in front of a live audience.

Extra credit opportunities will be made available throughout each semester. These are typically additional performances, workshops, or clinics by professionals in the community. These are not mandatory, but will be announced and attendance encouraged.

Specific expectations and the percentage of the student's semester grade are listed below:

PROJECTS:

Musicianship Standards 25%

Students will prepare, perform, and/or record excerpts chosen from class materials. You will perform these exercises one-on-one for Mr. Cantrell or will record your performance on digital video during class or at home. There will be approximately 6 assignments per semester; most will consist of a single scale and arpeggio, a fundamental exercise, or a short excerpt from literature being studied in class. Certain projects will be made available for extra credit points. These might include researching a topic or finding performance examples on the internet (YouTube), completing an intonation graph, completing a rhythm sheet, etc.

ADDITIONAL GRADE REQUIREMENTS:

Audition 20%

Students will play the audition materials for band placement. Materials will include major scales, prepared etude, and sight reading. ALL students must complete the audition as a portion of their semester grade. Auditions will be mid-semester. Audition scores will be determined through a combination of live audition and project grades from the semester.

Final Exam 15%

A comprehensive written final exam will be administered on the designated final exam day.

Rehearsal Participation (curricular and co-curricular) 40%

Students will demonstrate basic musicianship techniques related to tone production, intonation, note and rhythm recognition, musical terms, and pedagogical specifics for their instrument. In order to successfully demonstrate these requirements, students will need to have instrument, instrument accessories (reeds, mouthpiece, etc), and music in class every day. Instrument must be in playable condition. Student must actively participate in all warmups, technical development exercises, and literature instruction in order to qualify for the maximum grade.