

SULTANA HIGH SCHOOL
INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC PROGRAM
2019-2020 Color Guard Syllabus

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COURSE DESCRIPTION

This class provides opportunities for beginning through advanced color guard students to continue the development of dance, movement, and equipment skills, and apply them through performance appropriate to their ability levels. We will explore and perform classical and contemporary literature as a percussion ensemble and with other instrumental ensembles on campus, and further the development as musicians in a variety of ways, including the use of group and individual technique studies, learning various forms of major scales and percussion rudiments, study the basics of music theory, the critique and analysis of other musical performances, and the research of various related topics. This course is co-curricular with the 7th period Marching Band course, and will require after school and weekend rehearsals and performances.

CLASSROOM EXPECTATIONS

In my classroom, there are three guiding principles for a safe and effective learning environment that all students and the teacher will abide by at all times. Each student will do the following at all times:

- 1) contribute to an emotionally safe environment
- 2) contribute to a physically safe environment, and
- 3) respect all property and facilities

In addition, students are expected to follow certain classroom guidelines throughout the year:

DO'S:

- Come to class on time and prepared to rehearse each day, including having all proper materials
- Try your personal best at all times
- Have a positive attitude and don't give up on yourself
- Ask questions when you have them
- Respect and be courteous to all your classmates and teacher
- Follow the classroom expectations and all school-wide rules

DON'TS:

- Eat, drink or chew gum in the classroom or before rehearsing
- Have any electronic devices turned on or visible in the class unless when given permission
- Disrupt the learning process for other students by being inconsiderate or disrespectful to others or the teacher, including talking or entering the room tardy
- Use foul, inappropriate or derogatory language

BEHAVIOR & DISCIPLINE POLICY

Students will be expected to follow all classroom expectations and all school-wide rules at all times. Failure to follow these procedures may result in proper disciplinary action, as outlined in the Student Handbook. For all others, the following classroom consequences may be in effect:

Consequences:

1. Verbal warning
2. 15 minute lunch detention & phone call home
3. 30 minute after school detention & parent-teacher conference
4. Referral to the office

Severe Clause: Any student who fights, damages school property (including that of the teacher or another student), or is disrespectful as determined by the teacher, will be sent to the office immediately with a referral. I also reserve the right to skip consequence steps when deemed appropriate.

REQUIRED MATERIALS

All students are expected to have ALL materials with them in class, each day:

1. Appropriate rehearsal clothing, including athletic shoes and clothing
2. All equipment (flag, rifle, sabre, other props, etc.)
3. Chromebook, for music, choreography, drill, and video purposes
4. **Enthusiasm, positive attitude, & willingness to learn and perform together!**

ATTENDANCE, PARTICIPATION & GRADING POLICIES

Attendance is Important: Attendance is an integral part of improving as an individual performer and as a group. If a student is absent, they cannot participate in or contribute to the rehearsal, so their participation grade will suffer. Each student will be held to the school-wide attendance policy, in addition to my own. Every day, each student will start off with 5 points for being present in class with their required materials. An unexcused absence will result in that student not earning those 5 points for the day. It is each student's responsibility to make up or learn whatever they have missed due to unexcused absences. At the end of each grading period, the total points earned will be divided by total points possible, and that will be converted into a percentage, which will make up their participation grade.

Attendance: Attendance will be taken at the start of each period, during the daily stretching. As per the SHS Student Handbook, *"Athletes, cast members, choir members, etc... must attend 4 class periods on the day of a competition, play, performance, etc... or he/she may not be eligible to participate in the competition or performance."* All performers will be held to this.

Tardy Policy: For every tardy, 2 points will be subtracted from that student's 5 participation points for the day. This is in addition to the school tardy policy and disciplinary actions, which can be found in the SHS Student Handbook.

Grading Policy: My Grading Policy is as follows:

A: 100% - 90% | B: 89% - 80% | C: 79% - 70% | D: 69% - 60% | E: 59% and below
Daily Participation: 5 pts Performances: 50-200 pts Sectionals: 25 pts Assignments/Tests: TBD

Concert Involvement: Our color guard students may act as ushers, stage crew, assistants, or other roles at all concerts. This class is 'co-curricular' and performance-based, so participation in after school concerts, weekly sectionals, and performances are a mandatory part of this class, and a significant portion of each student's grade. For all performances, students will need to wear the proper concert attire to help with ushering or working the concerts. Descriptions of that can be found in the Program Handbook, the band website, or discussed in class.

Sectionals: As part of this class, students may be expected to participate in weekly sectionals when assigned. Sectionals can consist of 1 hour after school, or two half hour lunch sessions. Sectionals must be held with at least 1 other person from the same section, unless prior teacher approval for an exception is given. Students present for the sectional must each complete a Sectional Log and submit by Friday of each week for credit. No late or make-up sectionals will be accepted, without prior teacher approval.

Forgetting Your Instrument: Students will have one 'freebie' each quarter to forget their required materials (clothing or equipment). After this freebie, students may be asked to serve a 15-minute detention before school, after school, or during lunch. They will also not receive participation points for the day. It is essential to always come prepared to class every day for the success of the student & group.

Lockers: Each student will be assigned their own locker in the color guard room. This is designated for their color guard-related equipment, materials, and clothing only. Students may provide their own locker (key or combination) if they choose, and a copy of the key or code must be provided to Mr. Costantino. Food is NOT allowed to be stored in lockers, and lockers are only available during 6th period for changing purposes. School or personal supplies not related to color guard should not be stored in these lockers.

STUDENT & PARENT RESOURCES

The Sultana High School website is an excellent resource for information. Students can use the school website for their various resources available to them. I encourage both parents and students to visit www.sultanahighschool.com often!

The Instrumental Music Program also has its own website. Students and parents are all encouraged to visit this website for up-to-date news and information on the program, as well as resources specific to each ensemble, practice tools, a calendar of events, and more! The band website address is www.sultanaband.org.

Students and Parents can also subscribe to Mr. Costantino's class texting service, which is a mass texting and email communication service that allows you to receive notices from the teacher regarding the class. This is a free service (standard text messaging rates apply), and is a safe way for the teacher to stay in contact with students and parents without either party sharing their personal information. Text the number **81010** with the code **@shsbandpar** to subscribe.

Registering for this service is simple: Students and parents can text the code **@sultanaCG** to **81010** or email sultanaCG@mail.remind.com to receive the messages their student receives. To unsubscribe, reply with "unsubscribe @sultanaCG" to be removed from that group, or "stop" to be removed from all groups.

PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT

Thank you for your continued support in your child's academic and artistic success! The arts are a vital, enriching part of any child's academic, social and personal development. The arts teach countless valuable lessons that your child will take with them on through adulthood. As parents, I ask that you support your child in all aspects of their education, including the performing arts, by encouraging and assisting them with their practicing and homework for all classes, having the proper materials with them each day, coming to school well-fed and dressed for success, and encouraging positive behavior, good communication, the following of all classroom and school rules and expectations, and other positive behaviors expected of them. Also, volunteering says more than you think – show your student you care by volunteering often. The gift of volunteering benefits your child, the band program, and is a rewarding experience for yourself as well!

I am always here for your student and want them to have a successful academic, personal, and musical career. Please inform me if they are experiencing any major changes or disruptions in their life, or any other pertinent information you feel I may need to know to better educate them and provide a healthy, effective learning environment for them. I strive to provide the best possible performing arts education for your student that I am able to by getting to know each student on a personal level, and together we can make this happen! I thank you again for the opportunity to enrich your child's life through the beauty of music and the arts!

Musically,

Mr. Costantino

----- CUT FORM HERE -----

COLOR GUARD

2019-20 Year

Please fill out, sign, detach, and return this portion to Mr. Costantino

Student Name: _____ Parent Name: _____

Parent E-mail: _____ Parent Phone: _____

By signing and submitting this form, I am indicating that I have read and understand this syllabus in its entirety, will follow it to the best of my ability, and will keep it for future reference.

Student Signature

Date

Parent Signature

Date