

SUMMARY:

The District's Educational Services Department has recommended updates in our district-wide course catalog. When a course is discovered to be out of date or curriculum programs have made changes, the department team is requested to work together to bring the course of study current. The Band instructors revised these courses to align with the current music standards and curriculum to best support our students. These courses were last revised in 2003. These courses are pending to meet the UC/CSU requirement of "F," Visual and Performing Arts.

Beginning Band is an introductory course for students with little or no musical experience. Through performance, students will learn basic musical knowledge and performance skills. The focus will be on technique, music literacy, theory, historical context, and practice skills. Students must demonstrate their abilities to play brass, woodwind, and percussion instruments with minimum proficiency at a beginning level. Proficiency will be evaluated individually, in small groups, and whole band performances. Students with no prior musical experience will be able to play a woodwind, brass, or percussion instrument, incorporating all elements of music performance and content-specific vocabulary. They focus on the fundamentals of their specific instrument, sound production, tone quality, rhythm/note reading skills, and the necessary skills required to progress into a more advanced band class.

Marching Band is a participation-based class involving performances at football games, local parades, community events, and state-wide competitions. Students will achieve an advanced level of performance skills on their instruments. Individual instrumental technique growth, group dynamics, and introduction to leadership skills will be emphasized. May be repeated for credit. Through standards-based instruction, the goals of the marching band include proficiency in musical concepts and ideas and an understanding of musical aesthetics by performing varied styles of music and repertoire. The students will perform and analyze music through various competitions throughout the season. The goals of the class include the ability to perform in a public setting with good musical quality and professionalism.

Percussion Ensemble, previously called Percussion Ensem, is an instrumental music class focused on integrating performance training on all members of the percussion family with the musical

knowledge necessary for the interpretation of diverse genres of music, rhythmic sight-reading, basic music theory, rudimentary music history, and past and contemporary percussion music and performers. The course emphasizes performance techniques, compositional techniques, and the cultivation of aural awareness skills as they pertain to the percussionist's role in wind ensembles, bands, and popular and orchestral ensembles. Students will be assessed through performances of musical pieces, excerpts, exercises, etudes, and student-created material. Emphasis will be placed on the understanding of group versus solo performance.

Jazz Band furthers the education of a music student by connecting their performance skills with their ability to investigate and solve musical challenges, using research where necessary. Students will demonstrate independence performing alone and in small groups, making appropriate personal choices of tone, interpretation, and musicality. They will study diverse repertoire, focusing on multi-movement works, 20th-century notation, and the music of the Americas. They will develop an expanded knowledge of scales and cadences, create compositions with multiple parts, and evaluate musical performances at an advanced level. They will study instrument development, analyze the role of form in works from different backgrounds, and identify the process of composing for film. Students will have the skills necessary to perform in the professional outside community.

Advanced Band, previously titled Intermediate Band, is designed to develop skills and knowledge to enhance one's understanding and enjoyment of music. It is a continuation of instruction in the basics of playing the chosen band instrument, starting in Beginning Band or elementary school band, with added emphasis on developing musicianship and band performance skills through study and performance of various appropriate band literature. A reasonable amount of practice time is required. Students will experience and discover the world of music through hands-on work with a wind or percussion instrument. Students will learn musical terminology, rhythmic figures, and basic musical notation skills. The instruments being offered are flute, oboe, clarinet, bassoon, alto saxophone, tenor saxophone, baritone saxophone, trumpet, French horn, trombone, baritone, and tuba, pitched and unpitched percussion. The name change for this course was necessary to meet the UC/CSU standards and be recognized as a Visual and Performing Arts course.