

Los Osos Fine Arts Department

Course: 2008-2009 Band & Color Guard Course Syllabus
(Concert Band, Symphonic Band, Wind Ensemble, Marching Band
(Regiment), Percussion Class, Color Guard, Jazz Ensembles I & II)

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Course Descriptions

These courses are designed to cover the fundamentals of musical and visual performance. They are designed to improve the playing skills needed to become a proficient musician of brass, woodwind, and percussion instruments, or an artistic technician of the color guard activity. The students will acquire an appreciation for the complexity involved in performing musical and visual routines with a high standard of excellence. To be an effective member of this organization, students must exhibit a strong work ethic and high level of discipline.

Course Objectives

By the conclusion of the 2008-2009 school year, all students will have achieved a high level of performance. They will have learned to function positively in both the full ensemble and small group settings. Students will receive feedback regarding their progress throughout the year.

Course Materials

- 1) Musical instrument and all necessary related items such as reeds, valve oil, neck strap, etc. for all rehearsals.
- 2) All of the sheet music that is issued.
- 3) One or more sharpened pencils for use at *every* rehearsal. (No pens of any kind, please.)
- 4) 3-ring binder and sheet protectors to hold music.
- 5) Gym-style combination lock for use on the band lockers. NOTE – students' combinations will be recorded in the band office so that locks can be removed for random locker inspections. No keyed padlocks will be allowed.
- 6) "Band & Color Guard Fees" apply to some fall and spring semester ensembles. Information regarding these expenses will be sent home to all parent/guardians for review.

NOTE – Any student who is financially unable to supply these course materials should see Mr. Andress for alternative arrangements.

Grading Standards

This program is a participation-based organization. Each student earns 0, 3, or 5 possible points each day based upon their attendance, preparation, and participation. Students who are absent will earn a score of "0" for that day. Missed rehearsals and performances cannot be made-up. Students who are tardy to a rehearsal or performance, or show up unprepared in any way will earn a score of "3" for that day. Students who are on time, prepared, and engaged in the rehearsal/performance process as expected, will earn the maximum score of "5" for that day. In addition to these daily scores, students will be given periodic playing and performance tests. Also, students will occasionally have "folder checks" and music/routine memorization tests which will be factored in to their overall grade for the class. PLEASE take the time to read the information regarding the tardy/absence policies and equipment policies. These are the number one grade infractions incurred by the students

Tardy Policy

A student is tardy if he or she is not seated in the band room or standing at attention in the parade block on the field at **6:45AM**. At this time, the student should have all necessary materials assembled and *ready to rehearse* when the Director or instructor is ready to begin. Please refer to the LOHS Parent/Student Handbook for a complete outline of the school Tardy and Truancy Policy. Band and color guard classes are *participation* based. Therefore, absences and tardies will result in a lower grade. Be prepared mentally, physically, and musically for the rehearsal to begin on time. **TO ARRIVE EARLY IS TO BE ON TIME – TO ARRIVE RIGHT ON TIME IS TO BE LATE – TO BE LATE IS ABSOLUTELY UNACCEPTABLE!** Please obtain and complete a “Blue Form” from the band office *prior* to any unavoidable tardies/absences.

Every Instrument, Piece of Equipment & Music Folder Goes Home Every Day

In order for the program to continually improve, each student must practice his or her instrument or piece of equipment on a daily basis. Just as math, English, and science homework is done daily, practice on the instruments and equipment is also necessary. We suggest that a minimum of 15 minutes a day of focused practice time be allotted for each student, in order that the student may continue to progress at a consistent level. On days when the student’s academic homework is such that it prevents the student from practicing for the band program (and this will happen occasionally – honors students more often), the student should make an effort to make-up that lost time on a day when academic homework is less stringent – **HOWEVER**, the equipment and music folders must still go home, regardless. The band room lockers will be periodically searched to ensure that all students are practicing, with a pass-fail grade assigned. With the exception of percussion instruments and tubas, the band lockers will be left completely vacant and with the doors locked on the weekends. Students will have until 3:15pm on Friday to have the lockers cleared. Please remember that having equipment lockers is a student privilege, not a right.

Classroom Procedures

PHONES – Students must ask to use the phone. The phone is to be used before or after school only. Please, no incoming messages for students.

BAND OFFICE – All students must knock on the door and wait to be acknowledged before entering.

EATING – Students may not eat, drink, or chew gum in any classes, rehearsals, or performances. Students will receive a detention **IMMEDIATELY** for this infraction. Bottled water is always acceptable and encouraged.

LOCKERS – All lockers will be randomly checked for cleanliness. After one warning the student will lose all locker privileges for the year.

CLOTHES – Students may bring a change of clothes on the mornings when the band is practicing outside for parade marching. Please note that students will **NOT** have enough time to change an entire wardrobe after rehearsal. No late passes will be given due to changing of clothes. All areas will be cleaned at the end of the day. Any items left on the floor will be thrown away.

INSTRUMENTS – All band instruments are to be placed in the lockers or designated area each day.

BE ORGANIZED – Take good care of all of your music, equipment, instrument, uniform, etc. Always have your equipment with you at every rehearsal and in an organized and usable state. Make sure that **ALL** of your equipment is in good condition throughout the year, and take the time to properly put away your equipment after each rehearsal and performance. The central problems generally arise from neglect.

Rehearsals

Attendance is mandatory at all school day and after school rehearsals. Missed rehearsals will affect the student’s overall grade, as rehearsal time that is missed cannot be made-up. Please try to schedule all medical or dental appointments on dates that do not conflict with scheduled band activities. Each member is important to the overall success of the Los Osos Band & Color Guard Program, and those who are missing from rehearsals can affect the progress of the other band members. Please obtain and complete a “Blue Form” from the program website *prior* to any unavoidable tardies/absences.

Performances

All performances are mandatory. One (1) unexcused absence will lower the student's grade to a letter of "F", at which point the student may be removed from the band program. Participation and performance in band and color guard classes is considered a privilege, and is not a required component for graduation from Los Osos High School. For that reason, 100% compliance with scheduled rehearsals and performances is required.

Schedule of Events

The band and color guard program's rehearsal and performance calendar can be accessed from the program website at www.losososbands.org. It is imperative that parents and students refer to this calendar on a frequent basis, and transfer the dates onto their family calendars when planning vacations, medical appointments, and so forth. Unexcused absences can result in the student being dropped from the program with a grade of "F."

Student Eligibility

Eligibility is defined as the minimum grade point average (GPA) required in order to participate in or try-out for any extracurricular/co-curricular activity. Progress reports circulated at any other time by teachers, individual students, parents, coaches, advisors, or counselors do not affect eligibility. Basic eligibility requires the student to be:

- 1) Currently enrolled in at least 20 semester units.
- 2) Passing the equivalent of 20 semester units.
- 3) Possess a minimum GPA of 2.0 at the last school wide grading period.

A student failing to meet the above scholastic requirements will be ineligible to participate or perform until the next grading period regardless if the student has paid money for participation. That money may not be refunded, and the student may not attend the activity during school hours even if he or she does not participate. THESE GUIDELINES ARE STANDARD, AS PER THE SCHOOL HANDBOOK.

Drop-Outs

Students who drop-out of the band or color guard prior to the completion of any given semester will not receive credit for the class, and will not be permitted to re-audition for the program until the beginning of the next semester. As these are elective classes, the Director reserves the right to cut students from the program at any time, should there be a serious infraction to the rules and regulations, or a lack of strong commitment on the part of the student.

Expectations and Discipline

All students in the Los Osos Band & Color Guard Program will adhere strictly to the Chaffey District and Los Osos High School policies concerning classroom behavior and consequences for infraction of rules. (Please refer to the district guidelines for information regarding the learning center, parent conferences, and after-school detention, etc.)

Criteria for Band Program Awards at Los Osos High School

In order to be considered eligible to receive the following awards, students must complete active enrollment in the Band Program for the designated time and have earned a grade of "C" or better (2.0) during that time. The student must have satisfactory attendance and citizenship, follow all guidelines of the course syllabus, and abide by all standards outlined in the Los Osos parent/student handbook.

2 Semesters =	1 st Year Patch (Band or Color Guard)
4 Semesters =	Varsity Band Letter (Eligible to purchase a letterman's jacket)
6 Semesters =	3 rd Year Patch
Graduating Seniors =	Graduation Gift. NOTE – graduating seniors are those who participate in the band or color guard during <i>both</i> semesters of their senior year.
Student Staff =	1 Gold Star pin for every year (2 semesters) of service

Annual Awards = "Outstanding Musician" for each ensemble, "Most-Improved Musician" for each

ensemble, the “John Phillip Sousa” Band Award, the “Patrick Gilmore” Band Award, the “Louis Armstrong” Jazz Award, the “Woody Herman” Jazz Award, the “Cameron Antillon Award for Service & Leadership, and the Los Osos “Director’s Choice” Award.

Band Program Code of Conduct Agreement

Students must adhere to the following conduct codes to remain eligible for membership in the band program at Los Osos High School.

- 1) Respect for Directors and Instructors
- 2) Reflect a positive image of the program
- 3) Be present and on time for ALL scheduled rehearsals and performances. ***It is highly recommended that all doctor/dentist appointments and vacations be scheduled around all practice, rehearsal, and performance schedules.***
- 4) Proper handling of all equipment and uniforms
- 5) Maintain a 2.0 grade point average
- 6) Follow all school district rules and regulations

Osos Code Of Conduct

The Osos Code of Conduct Committee is for Los Osos High School student behavioral eligibility. This code is founded upon the belief that students who are involved in extra-curricular and co-curricular activities should be positive role models and are expected to adhere to the Osos Code of Conduct. Students who have been suspended under California Education Code 48900 will have violated that Osos Code of Conduct. In addition to not attending any classes, once students are suspended, they are ineligible for practices, activities, events and/or competitions during the period of suspension. Further consequences will be determined by the Osos Code of Conduct Committee. This committee will determine the status of the student in the extra-curricular/co-curricular program(s). Depending upon the severity of the infraction, the committee may place the student on probation, suspend the student from the program(s) for a period of time or remove the student’s eligibility status for the semester and/or the semester following. Students who violate school rules, Education Codes or Penal Codes while on field trips/conferences or who break rules/laws when off campus, even on non-school days, in such a way as to reflect negatively upon the school, will be disciplined as having violated the Osos Code of Conduct. Consequences that might have been imposed by a coach or advisor prior to the conduct hearing will not remove the need for further consequences to be imposed by the Code of Conduct Committee.



LOS OSOS FINE ARTS DEPARTMENT

COURSE: 2008-2009 BAND & COLOR GUARD CLASSES

We have fully read the course syllabus (located at www.losososbands.org). We understand and will abide by all of the procedures and regulations for the course(s). We acknowledge that the purpose of these procedures and regulations is to construct and enhance the proper environment for a successful band and color guard program.

We have noted the program rehearsal and performance dates from the website (www.losososbands.org) for each ensemble in which we participate, and will be in attendance and on time for all planned activities. **We understand that an unexcused absence (including vacations planned after the schedule has been issued) may result in the student being dropped from the course without financial refund.**

TEAMWORK!

Student Name PRINTED

Student Signature

Parent/Guardian Signature

Date

**** Please return this page only to the BAND BOX on or before FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 2008 for a grade. Please take a moment to transfer the rehearsal and performance dates (located at www.losososbands.org) onto your family calendar!***