

LHS Percussion Class Syllabus

OBJECTIVE: To cultivate musical skills specific to percussion as they pertain to technique, musicianship, and reading in a group learning environment.

1. Technique: skillfulness in the command of fundamentals deriving from practice and familiarity.
2. Musicianship: artistry and expression in performing music.
3. Reading: the ability to decipher and interpret musical symbols with skill and precision.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS:

1. Stick Bag with appropriate selection of sticks, mallets, etc.
(Please refer to the LHS stick bag requirements sheet)
2. Folder or binder with ALL assigned music, exercises, and handouts
3. Pencil

ASSESSMENT:

Playing tests (over assigned music, etudes, or exercises), written assignments (music theory, composition, and dictation), speed reading tests, participation grades, and other projects as given. Students will be evaluated individually and collectively throughout the semester on their music and other exercises at assigned tempos.

FALL SEMESTER: Marching Band/Concert Ensemble Focus

Students will rehearse marching percussion material in a sectional and full ensemble setting. Students will be evaluated individually and collectively throughout the semester on their music and other exercises at assigned tempos. At the conclusion of the competitive season, the class will focus on preparation for All-State auditions and the Holiday Concert and Parade.

SPRING SEMESTER: Percussion Ensemble/Concert Ensemble Focus

Students will be assigned to a percussion ensemble(s) and given music for their respective band (Wind Symphony, Symphonic Band, or Concert Band). In addition, each student will be assigned a solo to prepare for performance in class or evaluation at Solo and Ensemble Festival. Students are strongly encouraged to try out for All-District Band and to participate in the Percussive Arts Society Day of Percussion (www.PAS.org). After school sectionals will be required to help prepare for percussion ensemble and band performances. Master Classes will be held covering a variety of topics including: orchestral percussion (timpani, cymbals, bass drum, triangle, and tambourine), drum set, and world percussion. The culmination of the semester is the percussion ensemble/jazz band concert and the final band concert. In addition, auditions for marching band and concert ensemble placement are held in May.

The percussion section is a component of the band and, as such, percussion students are expected to adhere to guidelines as stated in the LHS Band Handbook and Student Code of Conduct. Students are strongly encouraged to participate in the M2 lesson program sponsored by the Lafayette Band Association. Please refer to the Lafayette Band Calendar and the band website (www.lafayetteband.org) for exact dates regarding all performances and rehearsals.