

2014-2015 JAMES MADISON HS BANDS
ADVANCED BAND / JAZZ ENSEMBLE
COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Grades in the James Madison Band program will be determined based on a weighted rubric grading scale. Each assessment/assignment will receive a grade of 0-4 (or a compound of) corresponding to the 4 point grading scale of FCPS – grades in each category will be averaged to create the final score in each category. Each category will be weighted as a percentage of the final quarter grade. The areas in which students will earn points are as follows:

- Classroom and Co-Curricular Rehearsal Assessment (Formative) – 30%
- Group Performance Assessment (Summative) – 30%
- Individual Performance Assessments / Written Tests – 20%
- Performance Project – 10%
- Non-Performance Project – 10%

AREA 1: Group Rehearsal Assessment- Formative

30% of Total Quarter Grade

Each Rehearsal assessment will be graded on the following Rubric:

Grade	Expectation
4 - A	Student <u>CONSISTENTLY</u> demonstrates improvement/success in <u>all</u> cycles of assessment in a given group rehearsal. Student demonstrates the ability to bring/utilize <u>all</u> of the equipment required for a rehearsal and adheres to the established expectations for the rehearsal
3 - B	Student <u>OFTEN</u> demonstrates improvement/success in <u>most</u> cycles of assessment in a given group rehearsal. Student demonstrates the ability to bring/utilize <u>most</u> of the equipment required for a rehearsal and adheres to <u>the majority</u> of the established expectations for the rehearsal
2 - C	Student shows <u>LIMITED</u> improvement/success in the assessment cycles in a given group rehearsal. Student does not bring/utilize the equipment required for a rehearsal and adheres to <u>some</u> of the established expectations for the rehearsal
1 - D	Student shows <u>MINIMAL</u> improvement/success in the assessment cycles in a given group rehearsal. Student does not bring/utilize the equipment required for a rehearsal and does not adhere to the established expectations for the rehearsal
0 - F	Insufficient evidence to evaluate

AREA 2: Group Performance Assessment - Summative

30% of Total Quarter Grade

Each Performance assessment will be graded on the following Rubric:

Grade	Expectation
4 - A	Student <u>CONSISTENTLY</u> demonstrates success and knowledge in <u>all</u> areas of assessment in a given group performance. Student demonstrates the ability to bring/utilize <u>all</u> of the equipment required for a performance and adheres to the established expectations for the performance
3 - B	Student <u>OFTEN</u> demonstrates success and knowledge in <u>all</u> areas of assessment in a given group performance. Student demonstrates the ability to bring/utilize <u>most</u> of the equipment required for a performance and adheres to <u>the majority</u> of the established expectations for the performance
2 - C	Student shows <u>LIMITED</u> success and knowledge in the assessment in a given group performance. Student does not bring/utilize the equipment required for a performance and adheres to <u>some</u> of the established expectations for the performance
1 - D	Student shows <u>NO</u> success or knowledge in the assessment of a given group performance. Student does not bring/utilize the equipment required for a performance and does not adhere to the established expectations for the performance
0 - F	Insufficient evidence to evaluate

AREA 3: Individual Performance Assessment / Written Tests

20% of the Total Quarter Grade

Students will be tested individually on the music they are preparing for public performance (concert, festivals, contests, football games, etc.), scales, and/or other assigned materials based on the rubrics for district band performance (as approved by VBODA and MENC). A letter grade/rating will be assigned for each playing assignment and will be converted to the point system. Playing tests/exams will each be assigned an individual point value.

Individual Performance Grading Criteria (Based on the “National Standards” – MENC/VBODA)

Grade	
4 <i>(Superior, A, or I)</i>	Symphonic quality; correct tempo and rhythm; musicianship, style, and tone are outstanding; no hesitation, stopping or mistakes.
3 <i>(Excellent, B or I)</i>	Very good performance but not fully mature; slower than required; some pitch/intonation problems; less consistent musicianship and style; stopped or hesitated one or two times.
2 <i>(Fair, C, III)</i>	Fair performance; tempo erratic or too slow; definite intonation problems; definite fingering problems; weak one quality; little evidence of musicianship; frequent stops an hesitations.
1 <i>(Poor, D, IV)</i>	Poor performance; missed notes or played wrong notes; stopped or hesitated often; problems with tone, fingerings, rhythms, and intonation.
0 <i>(Below Acceptable, F, V)</i>	Below acceptable standards; many intonation and rhythm problems; no concept of key or time signature; weak tone; faulty hand position or posture; incorrect fingerings and other significant problems.

AREA 4: Performance Project*

10% of Total Quarter Grade

Not required in Some Quarters as defined by teacher

Students will select one project from the listing below for each quarter of the school year, keeping in mind that certain activities occur only during certain quarters and times of the year.

- Audition for Regional Orchestra (1st Quarter only)
- Audition for District Band (2nd Quarter only)
- Audition for All-Virginia Band or Orchestra (3rd Quarter Only)
- District Band Event (3rd Quarter Only)
- Solo & Ensemble Festival (4th Quarter only)
- Regularly perform with an established ensemble (submit programs)
- Perform a solo for a church, synagogue, temple, or civic organization
- Practice and perform for Director an assigned etude of technical difficulty to insure mastery of a specific skill
- Take six lessons from a private teacher on your primary instrument. A form will be provided for you private teacher's signature
- Participation in the MTNA area competitions

AREA 5: Non-Performance Project

10% of Total Quarter Grade

Not required in Some Quarters as defined by teacher

Students will select one project from the list below for each quarter of the school year, keeping in mind that certain activities occur only during certain quarters and times of the year.

- CONSISTENTLY REHEARSE AND PERFORM WITH AN “ASSISTANCE PERIOD ENSEMBLE”. THESE ENSEMBLES WILL MEET ON A WEEKLY BASIS DURING THE ASSISTANCE PERIOD.
- Attend a performance by another James Madison High School department (Orchestra, Chorus, and Drama) and write a summary/review of the concert.
- Attend a “Professional Symphony Orchestra” concert and write a summary/review of the concert. The summary/review must include information about the composers of the selections performed in the concert.
- Attend a Capital Wind Symphony concert and write a summary /review of the concert. The summary/review must include information about the composers of the selections performed in the concert.

- Attend a concert by one of the Washington-based military bands and write a summary/review of the concert. The summary/review must include information about the composers of the selections performed in the concert.
- Attend a chamber music concert or solo recital and write a summary/review of the performance. The summary/review must include information about the composers of the selections performed in the concert.
- Write a 3-5 page paper in the style of an English term paper on a specific subject related to instrumental music with proper citations, specific bibliography, and title pages. The paper must be typed.
- Do specific clerical work for the director.
- Rehearsals/Performance as a “Tiny Tots” character (Nov./Dec.)
- Attend an instrument workshop (i.e. Eastern Trombone, T.U.B.A., National Trumpet Competition). A written summary must be submitted within two weeks of the workshop.

Attendance Policy (Group Rehearsal / Performance Assessments)

The James Madison High School Attendance policy will be in effect for absences to all daily classes.

Attendance at **ALL** group rehearsal and performance assessments of the James Madison High School Band is expected and required. Exclusion **from participation** in any rehearsal or performance assessment will be determined at the beginning of the activity by the ensemble director and/or the principal designee – attendance is required **even if** a student is excluded from participation.

In the event that a student is excluded from participation at any rehearsal or performance assessment, the grading of the activity will be governed by the UNEXCUSED ABSENCE policy.

EXCUSED ABSENCES

- Illness
- Family emergency
- Pre-Approved conflict – submitted in writing and **approved by director**
8 weeks in advance for Performance / 2 weeks in advance for rehearsal

ALL STUDENTS ARE INTERGRAL MEMBERS OF EACH ENSEMBLE – THE GROUP PERFORMANCE IS REHEARSED AND PREPARED FOR INTRICATELY – PERFORMANCES ARE GREATLY AFFECTED BY THE ABSENCE OF EVEN ONE STUDENT. **FOR THIS REASON EXCUSED PERFORMANCE ABSENCES ARE SELDOM GRANTED.**

A PRE-APPROVED AND EXCUSED ABSENCE IS GRANTED AT THE DISCRETION OF THE BAND DIRECTOR.

James Madison Bands

Required Co-Curricular Rehearsals and Performances Assessments

We have gone all Digital....

Please see the band calendar at www.jmhsband.org for a detailed calendar.

