

**Public Academy for the Performing Arts**

**Modern Band**

Faculty Name: Mark Opperman  
Class Location:Choir Building  
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**Please note: Students must use their PAPA email address when contacting instructor by email.**

*This syllabus describes general course content, requirements and materials. However, all aspects of this description are subject to my revision in order to best tailor the course to the needs of students, calendar, and circumstance..*

**Course Description**

This program will focus on the art of music making in a band setting. Students will rehearse music together in small groups and be expected to perform the songs they have put together. Students are free to choose their own repertoire, but the songs to be appropriate for school. Songs with foul or crude language, sexual references, or containing any form of racism, will not be tolerated and may result in the permanent removal of that student(s) from the class.

Repertoire 30% Quizzes 20% Participation 20%  
Concerts/Performances 30%

100% - 96% A+ 95% - 93% A 92% - 90% A  
89% - 86% B+ 85% - 83% B 82% - 80% B  
79% - 76% C+ 75% - 73% C 72% - 70% C  
69% - 66% D+ 65% - 63% D 62% - 60% D

59% and below is an F

**Practice**

You may need to spend time outside of class working on the assigned music. And remember that greater progress is made with consistent effort over time. It is paramount that you do not wait until the last minute before a performance to solidify your repertoire.

**Private Lessons**

Students are highly encouraged to take private lessons. If any student is interested in seeking private lessons, I can recommend several qualified teachers.

Participation in school concerts is mandatory and counts for 30% of your final semester grade. Documentation may be required.

Not having a ride or not being able to miss work will not be excusable reasons for missing a school concert and result in a grade penalty up to failing the semester.

### **Google Classroom**

We will utilize google classroom for the posting of daily class agendas, assignments, announcements, and other important information.

Parents/Guardians are encouraged to join the google classroom. Students will be given the code to their specific section in class. These codes are not to be shared with any person outside of PAPA. Codes are class specific and should not be shared with peers outside of the specific class section.

### **Grading Criteria**

Students will be graded on an individual basis by the instructor and will be asked to demonstrate their progress towards achieving the course learning objectives. This demonstration will take place during class as a quiz. Each student will perform/demonstrate a portion of the assigned material from the preceding weeks. This may include assigned pieces/parts, scales, chords, techniques, and theory. Students will be graded on their ability to perform all of the material included in the quiz along with accuracy of notes, rhythms, left/right hand posture, and finger placement. Tempo will not be considered as part of your quiz grade. You are free to play at a tempo that you are comfortable with. However, a steady tempo must be maintained and concert tempo should be achieved prior to performance. After the student performs the instructor will provide constructive feedback and suggest ways to improve as needed.

### **Classroom Etiquette**

Above all students are expected to be respectful and willing to learn.

Students should enter the classroom in a calm manner and set up their materials in this order:

Bathroom breaks should be taken during passing periods.

During quizzes and practice times students are free to work with each other on the assignments.

Any student who either intentionally or through irresponsible treatment damages a school instrument or equipment will be held financially responsible for the replacement of the school instrument. If a case arises where a student has intentionally damaged or destroyed any instrument, that student will no longer have access to any school instruments and will complete alternative assignments for the remainder of the academic calendar.

### **Cellphones**

Students may use their cellphones for tuning their guitars or other apps such as a metronome. All other cell phone use during class is prohibited unless specified by the instructor.

*Students who do not wish to follow these guidelines of conduct and etiquette will be placed on a behavior contract and may be excluded from participation in guitar related events inside and outside of the classroom. Please refer to the PAPA Student Handbook for further information on academic/conduct expectations for students, and the administrative discipline process.*

**Course Learning Outcomes** (as per approved master syllabus)

***At the conclusion of this course, students will be able to:***

1. Play confidently in an ensemble
2. Read musical notation
3. Express concepts of music theory using the appropriate vocabulary
4. Explain the historical and cultural context of musical repertoire
5. Perform solo and ensemble repertoire with confidence

**Additional Faculty Goals for students in this course:**

*At the conclusion of this course, students will be able to:*

1. Demonstrate fluid left/right hand techniques
2. Prepare and Perform multiple musical pieces
3. Apply music theory and musicianship concepts to the guitar

\*All dates and assignments are subject to change. Any changes to these dates and assignments will be announced in class and students will be notified via google classroom or Remind.

**Important Dates**

Fall Concert

Location: Warehouse 505 (Downtown Albuquerque)

When: Saturday December 9th