

# Howard High School Concert Band Syllabus

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[www.howardbands.com](http://www.howardbands.com)

## COURSE DESCRIPTION:

Students perform a variety of band literature, with an emphasis placed on building a foundation of individual and ensemble performance skills. The band may participate in concerts and performance assessments. After-school activities and practices are integral to the course, and grades may reflect such participation.

## HCPSS MUSIC GRADING STANDARDS

Mus s1: Creativity & Composition 5%

Develops and applies strategies to generate and express a variety of musical ideas.

Mus s2: Musicianship 25%

Uses best practices and experiences to inform and develop an authentic voice.

Mus s3: Applied Skills & Technical Development 40%

Demonstrates skills and strategies appropriate to music-making

Mus s4: Procedures & Practices 25%

Demonstrates appropriate musical practices in the classroom or rehearsal environment.

Mus s5: Reflection 5%

Communicates an understanding of concepts and strategies through the evaluation of music.

## COMMUNICATION AND CALENDAR

A. Calendar – the full performance and rehearsal calendar can be found at

<http://www.howardbands.com/-performance-and-rehearsal-calendar.html>.

B. Synergy/Canvas – both will be used for communication purposes. It is vital that all parents and students, log in to HCPSS Connect and ensure that email addresses are correct.

## SCHEDULED ASSIGNMENTS AND PERFORMANCES

Note: Due dates may change and other assignments will be added. Students should listen for announcements in class, check Canvas, and [howardbands.com](http://www.howardbands.com) for updates. Students and parents should be sure that their Canvas settings regularly send them notifications.

**Quarter #1:**

Instrument Maintenance Video, September 14 (Mus s4)  
Fall Concert: October 9 (Mus s2, Mus s3)  
Fall Concert Critical Analysis: October 12 (Mus s5)  
Playing Assessments (Mus s3, Mus s2)  
Rhythm Checks (Mus s3)  
Listening Quiz (Mus s2)

**Quarter #2:**

Winter Concert- December 13  
Winter Concert Critical Analysis  
Playing Assessments  
Rhythm Checks  
Listening Quiz

**Quarter #3:**

Band Assessment Preview Performance - March (TBA)  
Howard County Band Assessment – March 8 or March 9  
Band Assessment Critical Analysis  
Playing Assessments  
Rhythm Checks  
Listening Quiz

**Quarter #4:**

Spring Band Concert – April 10  
Spring Band Concert Critical Analysis  
Playing Assessments  
Rhythm Checks  
Listening Quiz

Go to <http://www.howardbands.com/-performance-and-rehearsal-calendar.html> for a full PERFORMANCE AND REHEARSAL SCHEDULE.

**REQUIRED AFTER-SCHOOL REHEARSALS AND PERFORMANCES:**

HCPSS defines the Concert Band as co-curricular classes that require time outside of the scheduled school-day. (HCPSS Policy 8090)

Rehearsals are required and graded the same as a school-day class. Please mark these on your calendar and communicate any potential conflicts ASAP.

**CLASS PROCEDURES**

A. Attendance/Tardiness – Regular attendance is essential to the cumulative development

of skills and ensemble building.

B. Class Participation – Students must be prepared with their instrument, music, pencil, and accessories (i.e, reeds, valve oil, etc)

a. Students will stay on task for the entire rehearsal.

b. Students will follow all directions

c. Students will be courteous and maintain a high-level of self control.

C. Homework – Practice – students are expected to prepare music and exercises at home. All members should be practicing on a daily basis. Daily/weekly Procedures and Practices (Mus s4) grades will be partially determined by the quality of improvement displayed.

D. Sectionals – All students are expected to attend sectionals throughout the school year. All sectionals will be 2:20 – 2:50 pm. A make-up sectional time will be provided. All sectional dates can be found at [www.howardbands.com](http://www.howardbands.com).