

Pembroke Pines Charter High School
Percussion Techniques, Syllabus
Mrs. Jessica Rivero, Instructor

As a percussionist in the Pembroke Pines Charter High School Band, you are in a highly visible section of the band that is watched and admired by many people. You are representing the band all year long from the time the drumline marches into the stadium for the first football game until the percussion ensemble plays at our Spring Concert or for Recruitment.

The part that you play is an important one within the band and within your section; It does not matter what your role in the section is, what your age (grade) is, or what percussion instrument you play.

This syllabus does not in any way supercede the school or band handbook. All of the rules in those documents still apply. This is more of an addendum to show the percussionists what the band program expects of them. **As always, the director reserves the right to make any changes to this syllabus as they deem necessary.**

Percussionist Goals

To be able to work with others in the section toward a common goal, whatever that goal may be.

To approach each part they play with a good attitude and a willingness to do the best job on that part that they can do.

To establish a practice regimen that allows them to play their instrument consistently well in order to achieve their maximum ability in percussion.

To become a total percussionist with basic understanding and technical facility on the majority of percussion instruments.

To be able to compete on the level of other percussionists at other schools, while in high school and in college.

To be able to acquire a college scholarship by participating in band and/or percussion at each student's respective chosen college.

Additional responsibilities

1. All percussionists are responsible for taking care of all equipment to see that it stays in proper working condition.
2. All percussionists are responsible for putting the equipment in the appropriate place at the end of a rehearsal.
3. All percussionists are responsible for keeping the percussion room clean.

Individual Assignments and Projects

Depending upon their individual plans of study, students will, over the course of the school year:

- Master between eight and twelve rudimental and concert snare drum etudes or solo works
- Demonstrate mastery of the 40 Percussive Arts Society International Drum Rudiments
- Demonstrate rhythmic acuity, control, flexibility, and finesse associated with advanced snare drum performance
- Master between four and eight etudes or solo works for two-mallet marimba
- Demonstrate command of the twelve major and twelve (harmonic) minor scales and tonic arpeggios

- Demonstrate competency in sight-reading in major and minor keys through the study of books such as Pasquale Bona's *Rhythmic Articulation*
- Master between two and four significant works for four-mallet marimba
- Demonstrate competency in exercises from Leigh Howard Stevens' *Modern Method of Movement for the Marimba* that relate to repertoire being studied
- Master between two and four significant etudes or solo works for timpani
- Demonstrate competency in tuning, technique, and tone production, developing these through the study of method books such as the Alfred Friese/Alexander Lepak *Timpani Method*
- Study, rehearse, and perform at least four significant works for percussion ensemble.
- Demonstrate skills on ancillary instruments such as tambourine, triangle, and cymbals called for in the performance of these works.
- Demonstrate competency in listening and coordinating their playing with that of others, and in following the directions of a conductor
- Demonstrate on drum set an increased competency in swing, Latin, and Afro-Cuban styles, and in use of brushes, by working progressively through books such as Riley's *The Art of Bop Drumming* or Jain's *The Total Jazz Drummer*.