

LINCOLN-WAY NORTH HIGH SCHOOL

# WIND BAND

COURSE SYLLABUS, 2013-2014



## INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION

Instructor: Mr. Barnish; Mr. Hickman  
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Website: [www.lwnmusic.org](http://www.lwnmusic.org)  
Office: Room C112B (Music Office)  
Office Hours: Monday-Wednesday 7:45-8:15Am or by appointment

\* I'm always available and ready to help and answer your questions! My office door is always open!

## PHILOSOPHY & GOALS

The goals of the Lincoln-Way North Band Program are:

1. To study, rehearse, and prepare music to the highest level of understanding and excellence so that students can experience the excitement of sharing musical gifts with others through performance.
2. To provide students with an opportunity to be a part of the greater whole – to know that each individual is equally important to the success of the entire group.
3. To learn about ourselves through the journey of studying, preparing, and performing those things that will help make us better people.

The Wind Symphony is an integral part of the Lincoln-Way North's Band Program. A "fusion" arena for other subjects, it fosters the highest performance standards while offering its members an opportunity to expand their technical, intellectual, and musical horizons. It is devoted to the study, preparation, and performance of quality traditional and contemporary literature. The curriculum is designed to emphasize the development of comprehensive musicianship, general musical knowledge, and instrumental performance fundamentals, through the study of mid-level high school literature (See the director for further details of learning objectives). Percussionists will meet in a separate class and join the winds on Fridays each week.

## GENERAL REHEARSAL INFORMATION

Rehearsal Time: M-F, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup> Period, C110 –Band/Orchestra Room  
Rehearsal Schedule: The schedule for each week will be posted in the band room.  
Class Materials: All personnel are expected to have his/her music (including any method books), instrument (w/accessories), and a pencil at all rehearsals.

## CLASSROOM EXPECTATIONS

Treat others the way you wish to be treated:

1. Be Kind.
2. Be Respectful.
  - a. Pay attention in class. Listen closely when someone is talking.
  - b. Do not talk. Raise your hand to speak.
  - c. Socialize before or after class, not during.
  - d. Use the bathroom before or after class, not during. \*\*only 2 passes out of class per semester.

- e. Be on time.
- f. Work hard in EVERY rehearsal. Mark your music!
- g. Come to class with a positive attitude.
- 3. Be Ready, Responsible, and Industrious.
  - a. Be PROACTIVE.
  - b. Practice routinely outside of class.
  - c. Be a leader! Help others succeed!
  - d. Work together with your fellow band members!
  - e. Clean and care for your music & instrument on a regular basis.
  - f. Care for the band room and other related school property.

Three general precepts:

- 1. I respect your time – you respect mine by being on time and prepared.
- 2. Respect the music – If you do, you will care for it in a personal fashion.
- 3. I'll treat you respectfully – act accordingly and with respect.

## CLASSROOM RULES

- 1. No cell phones in rehearsal. EVER. (See school policy on cell phones).
  - a. Why? – They are a distraction to our goal and against school policy.
- 2. No food, drinks (including water), or gum in the band room.
  - a. Why? – They cause poor tone quality, can damage instruments, and it is against school policy.
- 3. Leave all backpacks, cases, and other unnecessary items outside of the band set-up.
  - a. Why? – They are a distraction and have nothing to do with band rehearsals.
- 4. If "it" is not yours, do not touch "it."
  - a. Why? – Instruments are expensive. Instrument *repairs* are expensive.
- 5. Do not "hack" (play) when you are not being directly worked with.
  - a. Why? – It is a distraction and disrespectful to other students and the conductor.

## REHEARSAL PHILOSOPHY & PROCEDURES

Rehearsals (Re-"HEAR"-sals) are not to learn your part – rather they are to learn everyone else's part and therefore, the music. Rehearsals are a time to work together, not individually. The development of music fundamentals and the discovery of how the composition works in relation to the composer's intent is the focus of rehearsal time. Your part is your responsibility. This standard is important because it is the professional standard and it is what good musicians do.

Before rehearsals the:

- 1. Musician is inside the band room when the bell rings.
- 2. Musician sets up his/her own stand and chair properly and in the correct area.
- 3. Musician attends rehearsal with music (including method books), pencil, and instrument in good working order and with all accessories (quality reeds, mutes, oils, clean mouthpiece, etc.) Musician prepares for rehearsal through practice.
- 4. Musician prepares for rehearsal that day by demonstrating proper warm-up technique (long tones, lip slurs, scales, etc.)
- 5. **Musician demonstrates proper decorum by concluding all preparations when the conductor steps to the podium.**

During rehearsals the:

- 1. Musician works and performs to the best of his/her ability.
- 2. Musician demonstrates proper posture, hand position, and embouchure.

3. Musician demonstrates frequent eye contact with the conductor while playing and receiving verbal instructions. Musician takes notes or marks the music for future improvement and individual practice.
4. Musician demonstrates proper rehearsal decorum by not talking while the conductor is rehearsing another section.

After rehearsal the:

1. Musician prepares their chair and stand for the next ensemble rehearsal.
2. Musician demonstrates proper instrument, equipment, music care, and storage. Instruments should be disassembled, swabbed (if necessary), and put in cases.
3. Musician prepares for the next rehearsal.

## DISCIPLINE POLICY

Students should follow the rules and expectations stated above and in the Lincoln-Way North High School Parent-Student Handbook at all times. If a student is not following the rules and expectations, being disruptive, or misbehaving, the student will be subject to the Lincoln-Way North High School Discipline Policy, and the following system:

1. First offense: Verbal warning.
2. Second offense: Verbal warning. Written referral to main office. Parents will be notified.
3. Third offense: Written referral to main office. Parents will be notified. A Parent-Teacher conference will be scheduled. Students may be removed from class.

*Steps in this hierarchy can be passed over as a result of extreme misconduct.*

## GRADING POLICY

The final semester grade will be calculated as follows:

40% 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter Grade

40% 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter Grade

20% Final Exam

- Participation – Showing up is expected, not to get credit!
  - If a student is not prepared on a consistent basis, it will be reflected in assessments related to the mastery of the content. If the director feels that a student has missed enough class time to be detrimental to subject mastery, parents will be notified, and additional assignments may be necessary to fulfill class assessment needs.
- Performances – 30% of your quarterly grade
  - Daily rehearsals culminate in quarterly performances of quality wind band literature. It is mandatory that students attend their OWN dress rehearsals and performances, be on time, and prepared. **If a student misses a performance for ANY reason, the instructor will determine an appropriate make-up assignment and due date commensurate with the quarterly cornerstone assessment that the concert represents.**
- Playing Tests – 40% of your quarterly grade
  - Students will be assessed on musical material distributed and worked on daily in class. These tests will include "Box of Destiny" and "SmartMusic" assessments. Students will not "fail" these tests, they can be re-taken until the student earns a passing grade. Every Wednesday after school will be the designated retake day. Grades will be given based on a rubric to be discussed later in class.
- Projects & Written Work – 30% of your quarterly grade

- These are independent student activities designed to supplement and enhance the rehearsal and study of select quality repertoire in a rehearsal sequence. Activities will encompass a wide range of musical skills from composition to listening including self-assessments. Projects will also include activities that further develop musical fundamentals.
- Concert Review
  - Student musicians will need to complete one review **per semester**. These can be turned in at any time during the first or second quarters, but must be done by final exams. To complete this assignment, students will simply need to attend any musical performance of a group they are NOT involved in, and complete a short write-up of what they experienced. The write up should include a one page reflection (double spaced) on repertoire selected, performance, professionalism/etiquette and a reflection on your experience.

\*\*SMARTMUSIC is a computer program which allows you to practice and perform your repertoire and perform for assessment. It will be accessible to every student at school but a student subscription is available for \$36 for a year, which would provide access to the program at home. Grade curving for SmartMusic will be applied to your grade, please pay attention in class when your directors are discussing what percentage you need for an 'A' and what percentage would require to retake your SmartMusic exam. An 85% will earn you a grade curved up to 92%, 86-91% will earn you a 95%, a 92% or above will earn you a 100%.

## ATTENDANCE & TARDY POLICY

The success of the Wind Band is in direct relationship to students' attendance and effort during class time. The attendance policy is the same as Lincoln-Way North High School's attendance policy.

Students must be in the **band room** seated with their instrument when the bell rings, or they are **tardy**. Days that students are **tardy** will be tracked and reported to the main office.

If a student is absent from a regular school day, it is the **student's** responsibility to check with the director, practice music to maintain classroom standards, and take care of any make-up work.

As a member of the Lincoln-Way North Wind Symphony, students are expected to:

1. Place attendance at all band dress rehearsals and performances as of equal, if not greater, priority to any other activities in which you are involved.
2. Demonstrate responsibility by informing your parents of dress rehearsal and performance dates.
3. Demonstrate responsibility by informing a director of potential conflicts in advance.

If a possible conflict can be foreseen, a note with the specific nature of the conflict ("a previous commitment" is not acceptable), when the conflict is, and when this commitment was made, should be given to the director no less than 21 days prior to the performance. **If a student misses a performance for ANY reason, the instructor will determine an appropriate make-up assignment and due date commensurate with the quarterly cornerstone assessment that the concert represents.**

**Dress rehearsals are considered a part of the performance, and are mandatory.**

All musicians are expected to stay for the ENTIRE concert, in the auditorium. Musicians who are tardy for the call time, display improper concert etiquette, leave the auditorium, or leave the

building before the time stipulated by a director will have their performance grade lowered one letter.

### WEBSITE/YOUTUBE CHANNEL

The Lincoln-Way North High School Music Department has a website, [www.lwnmusic.org](http://www.lwnmusic.org). On the website is a department calendar, which students can use to keep track of dress rehearsal and performance dates.

The Wind Bands, will also have a YouTube channel, accessible by instructions given in class. The channel contains quality performances of music related to class, and on occasion, videos of rehearsals will be posted here. Students will be assigned to watch videos on the channel on occasion as an assignment.

"Bookmark" all of these for easy access.

### PRACTICE

Individual practice/review of music and other related classroom materials outside of the school day is essential to the success of the student musician and the Wind Bands as a whole. Students should set aside a daily time to do so.

Students in the Wind Symphony are expected to practice at least 5 days a week for 30 minutes each day. Practice time is more effective if completed in smaller portions on a frequent basis instead of all at once.

### SECTIONALS-WIND ENSEMBLE ONLY

Wind Ensemble musicians are required to attend regular sectionals (meaning with other members of their band/all other members of their section) outside of the usual class time. Sectionals will be held from 3:15-3:45 on Monday's with a rotating schedule throughout the year.

### PRIVATE LESSONS

Private instrument lessons from a highly qualified instructor can be a highly rewarding and worthwhile experience for any band student. Students are not required to take private lessons, but will be highly encouraged. Most private lesson teachers in this geographical area teach right in the LWN Music practice rooms, making it easy for students to schedule and attend lessons.

Assistance and contact information for a variety of private lesson teachers is available from Mr. Barnish and Mr. Hickman.

### CONCERT DRESS / ATTIRE

Whether on stage or seated in the auditorium, concert dress is to remain "intact" until the conclusion of a concert. More details regarding check out of uniforms are forthcoming.

**MEN:** Lincoln-Way North High School provides all male students with black tuxedos. Students will check them out from the school and will have to pay a small cleaning fee of \$10. Male students will need to purchase their own tuxedo shirt, and supply their own **black** dress shoes and **long black dress socks**.

**WOMEN:** Lincoln-Way North High School provides all women with black dresses. Students will check them out from the school and will have to pay a small cleaning fee of \$10. Female students are expected to adhere to the following dress regulations: 1) ONLY Black, silver, or gold

jewelry can be worn; 2) Any hairpieces need to be black; 3) Appropriate black **dress** shoes need to be worn; 4) Hosiery needs to be a "natural" color.

"Black" concert wear removes the visual distraction and puts the focus on the **music being performed**.

## **MUSIC**

Music and other classroom materials are supplied by the Lincoln-Way North High School Bands. Students are responsible for all materials, and must be returned by the end of the school year. If a student loses a book or original music, the replacement fee is \$10.00 per item.

"Parts" will be assigned by the director on a "rotating" basis, challenging every student equally.

## **SCHOOL-OWNED INSTRUMENTS & LOCKERS**

School owned instruments are available and will be checked out by Mr. Barnish or Mr. Hickman. Students will need to pay a fee of \$75.00 to rent an instrument from the school for the school year. Students who need more than one school instrument will need to pay a fee of \$100.00 for the school year. Please see the "Equipment Loan Contract" for conditions and expectations. Any student needing a "loaner" instrument will be allowed to use it for three days. Any more than three days will require a payment of the instrument rental fee.

Lockers are available to students to store their personal instruments. Only combination locks that are provided by the school are allowed. Lockers must be kept clean and orderly. If misused, the **privilege** of storing personal items in a band locker may be revoked. School assigned band folders should not be stored in your locker, but in the cabinet in the band room.

## **IMEA**

IMEA is the All-State/All-District bands. These bands are chosen by audition only. They are made up of student from all around the region, and all around the state. Auditioning is not required, but is a great way to be more involved, and meet lots of great people. Be on top of music deadlines and start practicing.

## **CHAMBER ENSEMBLES**

Wind band members will be rehearsing for one week per semester on chamber music. Students should learn how to prepare an ensemble, work together, and assess/solve problems by putting lessons taught by instructors to practical work.

## REQUIRED DATES

Please put these dates into your personal calendar. This schedule is subject to change. This schedule is also available in the "Charms" system linked on the Lincoln-Way North music website. If any changes are made, they will be posted online and students will be notified.

WHAT	DATE	TIME
Fall Concert Rehearsal	Wednesday, October 2	3:30-4:30PM
Fall Concert	Thursday, October 3	6:00 Call Time, 7:00 Concert
*LWN/LWE Orchestra Concert	Tuesday, October 8	7:00
*Choir Concert	Thursday, October 10	7:00
*IMEA District Auditions	Tuesday, October 15	Evening
*IMEA Jazz Festival	Saturday, November 16	All Day
*IMEA District Festival	Saturday, November 23	All Day
*Auditions for Solstice Concert	Wednesday, November 13	4:00pm-6:00pm
*Madrigal Dinners	Thursday, December 5- Saturday, December 7	Evening
Winter Concert Rehearsal	Monday, December 9	3:30-4:30PM
Winter Concert	Tuesday, December 10	6:00 Call Time 7:00 Concert
Solstice Concert Rehearsal #	Thursday, December 12	3:00PM
Solstice Concert #	Friday, December 13	6:00 Call Time, 7:00 Concert
*Music Department Trip to Nashville/Orlando	Friday December 27-Thursday, January 2	TRIP
*IMEA All-State Convention	Wednesday, January 22 – January 25	TBA
8 <sup>th</sup> Grade Band Step-Up Night #	Thursday, January 30	TBA
Vandercook Percussion Festival +	Saturday, February 1	All Day
SWSC Band Festival	Thursday, February 13	All Day
LWC Percussion Festival +	Saturday, February 15	All Day
BAND- O- RAMA	Wednesday, February 18	TBA
Late Winter Concert Rehearsal	Friday, February 28	3:30-4:30pm
NIU Concert Band Festival	Saturday, March 1	All Day
Late Winter Concert	Tuesday, March 4	Evening
*L-W Solo & Ensemble Contest	Saturday, March 8	All Day
*Choir Concert	Tuesday, March 11	7:00
2014-2015 Band Auditions	Wednesday, March 26 <sup>th</sup>	5:00pm
*Musical Performance	Thursday, April 10- Saturday, April 12	Evening
Percussion Concert +	Thursday, May 1	7:00pm
Spring Concert Rehearsal	Thursday, May 15	3:30-4:30PM
*Choir Concert	Monday, May 19	7:00
Spring Concert	Tuesday, May 20	6:00 Call Time 7:00 Concert
*Orchestra Concert	Thursday, May 22	7:00
*Jazz Showcase	Friday, May 23	7:00
Music Department Banquet	Saturday, May 24	12:00pm
LWN Graduation Ceremony	Tuesday, June 3	Evening

\* Extra events, optional to wind band students.

+ Percussion Ensemble only

# Wind Ensemble only







LINCOLN-WAY NORTH HIGH SCHOOL

## WIND BAND

### MEMBER EXPECTATIONS AGREEMENT

PLEASE FILL-OUT AN RETURN BY  
FRIDAY, AUGUST 23, 2013

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT I HAVE READ AND FULLY UNDERSTAND THE ATTACHED "LINCOLN-WAY NORTH WIND SYMPHONY SYLLABUS" AS BOTH GIVEN AND DISCUSSED IN CLASS. I HEREBY AGREE TO ABIDE BY IT AS INDICATED BY MY SIGNATURE BELOW. FURTHERMORE, I RECOGNIZE THAT FAILURE TO DO SO COMPROMISES THE MUSICAL INTEGRITY AND SUCCESS OF MY FELLOW MUSICIANS AND THE SUCCESS OF THE ENSEMBLE AS A WHOLE, AND MAY LEAD TO MY REMOVAL FROM THE ENSEMBLE.

PRINT STUDENT NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

STUDENT SIGNATURE: \_\_\_\_\_

PRINT PARENT NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

PARENT SIGNATURE: \_\_\_\_\_

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_