

Color/Winter Guard 2014-2015

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Course Description and Objectives

Color/Winter guard is an indoor color guard activity, derived from the outdoor summer activity that is commonly part of marching band or drum corps. Color guard is performed outdoors on a football field or parade route, and is part of a marching band or drum corps. Winter guard is performed indoors, usually in a gym or indoor arena during the winter or spring season. Instead of performing as a visual accent to the marching band, each winter guard team picks its own music to perform to. This helps to encourage individuality. Winter guard teams are judged, not only on talent and precision, but also on creativity. There are multiple ways that winter guards perform. They can use various pieces of equipment, props, and dance moves.

The typical winter guard consists of various numbers of members depending on the unit. The staff of the guard is drawn from many different specialties, sometimes specialties overlapping: there are equipment instructors (sometimes one for the unit, sometimes broken out into the individual sections), dance instructors, and drill instructors. The equipment instructors create the work done with equipment and teach it to the guard. The dance instructors create and teach the body movements in the show. The drill instructors focus on the position of the guard members on the floor at all times. There is also a captain, who is one of the performing members that assumedly has the leadership skills and presence to be the representative of the guard. The captain takes over smaller administrative duties and leads the team when the instructors are not available. They are also the representative of the guard during awards ceremonies.

Show length (in time) depends on the class that the guard is performing in. Each guard is allotted a set amount of time to set up their staging (including a vinyl floor if the guard is using one, and any props associated with the performance), set all their equipment, perform their show, and then break down their staging. Each team needs about two minutes for set-up and tear-down each, so the shows are around five minutes long. Going over time incurs heavy penalties, affecting the team's overall score.

Course Materials

All materials are provided to the members but there is a \$35 participation fee payable to West High School. Fundraising is expected by members to help defray the cost of competitions, uniforms, equipment, and silks.

Format and Procedures

Show respect: keep hands, feet, objects, etc. to yourself

- Talk only during appropriate times in low voices
- Don't interrupt the staff or other students while they are talking
- Share ideas and opinions during discussions and cooperative group project
- Keep the rehearsal room clean
- Attend all practices and shows
- Be appropriately dressed for practices and shows
- Be on time to shows and practices.
- Abstain from the use of drugs and alcohol.
- Abstain from the use of foul and abusive language.
- Have a positive attitude.

Do not bring in personal material – CDs, pictures, music, video, etc. – of any kind that has not been previously cleared by the staff.

Special Rules, Regulations, and Requirements:

- Must attend all practices and shows or let the coach know well in advance of any problem.
- Be responsible for uniform and equipment.
- Must ride the bus or group van to shows and back (unless accompanied by parent on the way home.)
- Must participate in all fundraising projects.
- Must attend the awards banquet at the end of the season
- Help others obtain their goal so you may obtain yours.

Standards Required of Participants:

- Academics: Follow the guidelines set by the Utah High School Activities Association and the Salt Lake School District.
- Conduct: An athlete will be terminated from the team for inappropriate activities such as fighting, alcohol drinking, smoking, stealing, vandalism, violating school policy, or any other conduct unbecoming to a West High athlete.

Grading Procedures

- Elective credit is for completing the school year.
- Members will be graded for participation in all rehearsals, shows, and competitions. Absences and lateness **will** be a factor in giving the grades. The other factor will be “pass-offs” of skills when appropriate.
- Grades are based on a combination of practice, show, and competition participation. Grades are posted to **Teacher Assistant** usually within two weeks of their due dates. All assignments and their appropriate grades can be found in Teacher Assistant.
- Extra Credit is not normally available in this class.
- Grading Scale will be as follows:
 - A 95-100
 - A- 90-94
 - B+ 87-89
 - B 83-86
 - B- 80-82
 - C+ 77-79
 - C 73-76
 - C- 70-72
 - D+ 67-69
 - D 63-66
 - D- 59-62
 - F 0-58

Tentative Schedule

A calendar can be found in the calendar section of the winter guard website. This website is located in the Athletics section of the West High School's site or here: http://staffsites.slcschools.org/sraymond/winter_guard/wgindex.html

Contact

The best method to contact me is through e-mail, which I check several times a day. You may also call me; however, I do *not* answer my phone while I am teaching. Please leave a voice mail (578-8500 ext. 279) and I will return your call as soon as I am able. If you need to see me before or after school, please contact me first so that I can make sure I'm available for you.