

Name of Course: Tall Flags with Competitive Marching Band

Course Number: 001197 - 001199
 Instructor Names: Ms. Jeri Webb (Director) Mr. Daniel Greenberg (Associate Director)
 Telephone: (858) 780-2000 ext 3262 (858) 780-2000 ext 3242
 Email: jwebb@powayusd.com dgreenberg@powayusd.com
 Website: www.westviewgold.org

Course

Description

The Tall Flags/Color Guard class is a yearlong performance class and provides students with the opportunity to develop musical/visual concepts and skills. These concepts will be used in conjunction with the marching program. Evaluation will be provided by the Southern California School Band and Orchestra Association and the California Tall Flag Association, in addition to teacher observation. Membership is determined by auditions (usually in May). Workshops and clinics will be provided prior to auditions. No dance training is required. This class is for PE and elective credit only. Students receive 5 credits of PE and 15 credits of electives.

Photo Gallery

		
<p>Tall Flags Performing at Disneyland</p>	<p>Tall Flags at Poway Days Parade</p>	<p>Tall Flags features at Winter/Spring Shows</p>
		
<p>Tall Flags at Winter Guard Competitions</p>	<p>Tall Flags with Marching Band Yearbook Photo</p>	<p>Tall Flags at Winter Guard Competitions</p>

What If I'm Not Good Enough? (Course Expectations)

Tall Flags with Competitive Marching is a course open to all students. If you are a beginner and interested in joining our program, please contact one of the directors and we can give you information on how you can join. Auditions are generally held in May.

Homework

Tall Flags with Competitive Marching has different seasons: Marching (through November), Winter (through January), Winter Guard (through April) and Spring (through June). Each season has different routines, requirements and expectations. Students are expected to come to all rehearsals prepared with work learned. In order to have work prepared students need to practice outside of school. The amount of time required is individual (based on student needs).

Course Statistics and Data

Year	Quarter	Class Size	# of Students 80% or higher	# of Failing Students	Ave Grade % (Grade)
2013-2014	1	15	100	0	4.0
2013-2014	2	15	100	0	3.6
2013-2014	3	15	100	0	3.73
2013-2014	4	15	100	0	4.0
2014-2015	1	15	100	0	3.93
2014-2015	2	15	100	0	3.93

What are the time commitments?

Tall Flags with Competitive Marching time commitments vary with the seasons. Marching Season (before school through November) is the most time intensive commitment season. In general Tall Flags rehearse every Tuesday evening and Thursday afternoon. To view our schedule - visit <http://westviewgold.org/calendar>

Parent Responsibilities

- Student attendance is important – don't allow students to miss school
- Students should practice as often as possible. Encourage excellence from them!
- Avoid overloading your performer with too many extra activities. Their performance will suffer overall.
- Become involved with your child's music-related activities. Volunteering is a great way to be involved. Extra help is always needed!
 - To Sign Up - <http://westviewgold.org/pages/volunteers>
- Attend events and make positive and encouraging comments about performances. Our attitudes reflect on our kids, which in turns affects their performance.
- Encourage good sportsmanship toward each other and to our competitors at all times.
- Assist your child with scheduling commitments and avoiding conflicts. Careful planning is a must.
 - Should your child have conflicts request to be excused by the director as soon as possible.
 - To excuse multiple conflicts:
 - Print out the Calendar

- Mark any conflicts
 - Have your child meet with the director to request permission to be excused (only the director may excuse the student)
- Join Booster Membership or Band Dads and receive a free Booster/Band Dad shirt.
 - To join Band Dads - http://westviewgold.org/pages/band_dads
 - To be a Booster Member - [http://westviewgold.org/pages/boosters_members\(1\)](http://westviewgold.org/pages/boosters_members(1))

Student Testimonials

In March, when filling out course request forms as an 8th grader, I had no idea what to sign up for. Most of my friends were going to do competitive marching band and I wanted to be able to hang out with them. When I saw Tall Flags on the course list, I did not know what that was nor did I ever imagine that it would change my life. I decided to give it a try and signed up with a few of my friends who did not know what to do in high school either and we all auditioned together. Tall Flags, also known as Color Guard is the performing arts group that is part of the Westview Gold program. The group dances while spinning flag rifle and saber. During the fall season, we compete along side the competitive marching band, performing a 10-11 minute field show and half time at home football games. During the Winter/Spring season, we split to Winter Guard where we compete alone on a big floor in a gym. To some people, being part of Color Guard seems like a big commitment, but when you join the team and learn and grow together while making memories that will last you a lifetime, it seems like the commitment is so obscure. I have been part of the Westview Color Guard for 3 years and am Co- Captain this year. Each learn I learn more and grow as a person while building up my leadership skills and creating stronger bonds with an amazing group of people who share and have the same passion as I do.

Being a part of Color Guard in the end is the most rewarding thing to do. Once a season is finished, you look back and reflect on how much you have learned as a person everyday from those around you. There is nothing more rewarding then stepping onto or off the field and hearing the crowd go wild for you as you give them a performance they will never forget. I am still today very happy that I choose to step outside my comfort zone and do Color Guard because I have learned so much from my coaches as well as my teammates. The memories and skills acquired through this program is something that you can not get anywhere else and the people that are apart of it are irreplaceable. So if you are wondering what to do in high school and want to make memories and learn so much, I highly encourage you to join Westview Color Guard and step into a whole new world that you have never seen before.

-Nghia Le, Class of 2016

My name is Justice Calica, I'm a senior and the current captain of the 2014-2015 Westview Gold Color Guard. I've been a part of color guard since freshman year and I can honestly say it has changed my life.

To those who don't know what color guard is, we are a team that spins flags, rifles, and sabres while also incorporating different styles of dance. During marching season, which lasts from August to November, we perform with the marching band on the football field. This is our field show, with over a hundred students in the band alone, the guard brings the element of visuals to the show. We bring the art out of the sounds of the band, breathing life into the music and giving it a physical manifestation. In an activity of over a hundred people, it's easy to lose people in the crowd but you can't ignore the person spinning the six-foot flag. During field season, we form close bonds and friendships with the band. However, when field season comes to a rather bittersweet end, the guard doesn't stop performing. Instead, we leave the band and move our art into a gym where our space is greatly condensed and gives us the ability to focus on ourselves. This is winter guard, lasting from February to April. We use this time to polish our fundamentals and write a show to a piece of music, similar to field season but on a smaller and more intimate level. This is where we get to truly show how good we are as we put together staging, choreography, and equipment work. At this time, because we are in a gym, we are able to really put out captivating performances to connect with both the audience and the judges.

Color guard is more than just an extracurricular. It's a team and a family that grows closer and closer as the year goes on. I've met so many different people and guard has accepted each and every one of them for who they are. Every single person plays a key role in what we do, highlighting the importance of coming together. In guard you learn how to cooperate with people that you may not exactly see eye to eye with, you learn to respect different opinions and come to a peaceful conclusion. Personally, I have not changed since before color guard but instead guard has taught me to embrace who I am and be confident in myself. I became a leader in order to keep bringing my team success. Out of all the things I have done in my four years of high school, being part of the color guard is by far the single greatest thing I have pride in. Because of all the sweat and hard work, we have continued to strive to be the very best we can be and more. I love what I do and I can say with confidence that guard is what I want to continue doing for a very long time.

As my time to leave the team draws closer I appreciate every moment I spend with them. They have not only made my high school experience bearable but helped me through some rough spots. I will never forget the time I've spent with the amazing people I've had the fortune of meeting but they have changed my life for the better. I could not imagine how different I'd be without this team.

- Justice Calica, Class of 2015