

General Music Syllabus

Instructor ~ Mr. King

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All rules in the student, school, and county handbook apply to Music Students at school and in our classroom, virtually and/or otherwise.

Course Description:

This course is for the non-musician that enjoys listening to music, as well as those with a background in music study seeking information outside of the performance arena. The course explores the role music plays including entertainment, dance, art, film, other cultures, religions, and musical theatre. The course may also give basic introductions to music mechanics, ear training, theory, harmony, composition, chords, rhythms, analysis, history, and styles.

Course Outline and Objectives:

First Quarter: What is Music and Why is it Important?

Quarter Project – Culture Playlist

National Standards: GM.P1 and P2; Cr1 and 2; R1 and 2; Cn1 and 2

Second Quarter: Rhythm & Theory Basics

Quarter Project – Percussion Ensembles

National Standards: GM.P2 and 3; Cr2 and 3; R2

Third Quarter: Musical History Overview

Quarter Project - Composer Biography

National Standards: GM.Cr1; R1, 2, and 3; Cn1 and 2

Fourth Quarter: Focus on Genres

Quarter Project – Mad Musical Scientist

National Standards: GM.P1 and P3; Cr1 and 3; R1, 2, and 3; Cn1 and 2

Upon Completion of this course, the student will be able to:

1. Connect with music on a deeper level than ever before via “Perceptive Listening” skills.
2. Understand basic principles of basic music analysis techniques.
3. Implement rhythmic, harmonic, and melodic performance techniques.

4. Determine how music evolved into what it is today regarding notation, performance, historical perspective, pathos, ethos, and logos (ethics, emotion, and logic).
5. Develop a much deeper understanding of why music is vital in our lives.

Expectations:

Students are expected to be on time, prepared, and ready to begin at the start of every class.

Tardiness: Students must be in their seats when the tardy bell rings. Any tardy will be recorded according to school/classroom rules. Three tardies will result in the loss of a Daily Grade.

Restroom/Locker pass: Students must come to class prepared and take their restroom break before class. Do not ask to leave the classroom unless it is an emergency. In the event of such an emergency, a hall pass is always required to be on the student's person at all times. Only one student may leave at a time, and that student must relinquish their cell-phone and sign out before leaving.

Cell-phones/Electronic Devices: Only permitted when the teacher is using them in the lesson for the course content. Earbuds are not allowed to be used unless given specific permission by the teacher during individual work. **Earbuds are never to be used during group work or lectures!** Students are expected to pay attention and participate to the best of their ability every day and should understand their electronics may be confiscated at any time per the instructor's discretion in the event of any disruption whatsoever.

Furthermore, a student using their device will receive a warning on the first offense, get it taken up for the class period on the second offense, and get it sent to the office upon habitual abuse of this rule.

Food/Drink: Food is NEVER allowed in the band room. I will, however, allow you to eat quickly before class in the foyer between the band and choir rooms. Drinks OTHER THAN SODA in containers with screw-top lids (or something comparable) are allowed. If you buy a drink with a straw lid during a fundraising period from a group in the school, that is also permissible. If a spill occurs it is your responsibility to clean it up entirely.

Other Expectations:

1. Each student is expected to participate in class activities with a positive attitude. The more you "buy in" to what we do, the more you will enjoy it and learn from it!

2. Each student is expected to keep track of any missed assignments/tests. If absent, refer to Google Classroom for any missed items. Students are also encouraged to get contact information from other students for easy communication of missed assignments. There is also a cabinet in the room where I will put paper copies of every assignment should you lose yours.

→ **Classroom Codes: 3rd Period: qpp534m 6th Period: 3uvpltp**

3. Any parent/guardian needing access to any and all instructional materials may do so by emailing me. I will then either send them the requested materials directly or invite them to join the Google Classroom.

3. Any form of cheating or plagiarizing will not be tolerated. Any communication during tests, quizzes, or in-class assignments unless otherwise instructed by the teacher will be treated as cheating even if it is unrelated to the task at hand. If a student is caught, they will be given a zero for that assignment. A second offense will result in an office referral.

4. Students must always be respectful to the instructor and their classmates at all times. Everyone will not always be on the same level musically, and every student must acknowledge that fact.

5. A seating chart will only be implemented within the first two weeks of school to ensure I can learn all of your names. Beyond that, you may sit where you like until a problem occurs requiring me to move you. **YOU MAY NOT PUT YOUR FEET UP IN A CHAIR!**

6. Most importantly, every student is required to have fun! It is mandatory!

Grading:

The break-down of the full grade to be earned is as follows for Q1 and Q3:

13% Daily Participation

23% Assignments

23% Projects

28% Tests

13% Listening Journals

The break-down of the full grade to be earned is as follows for Q2 and Q4:

10% Daily Participation

20% Assignments

15% Quarter Exam

20% Projects

25% Tests

10% Listening Journals

1. Each class will be worth 5 points. These points are included within the Daily Participation/Preparedness category listed below. This means each week is worth 25 points regardless of snow days or holidays (students receive a “free” 5 points on those days, basically) for a total of 225 points each quarter. If necessary, points will be deducted based on the student's attendance, participation, preparedness, adherence to school policies, and behavior. **ANY unexcused absences* from class will result in a zero for the day, which can be made up within one week upon returning by completing a predetermined make-up assignment.**

***Absences involving anything related to COVID will be dealt with on a case-by-case basis. Your daily points will not be taken away and you may make up any necessary assignments.**

2. **Written and playing tests will be given periodically. IT IS YOUR RESPONSIBILITY TO MAKE TIME TO COME MAKE UP TESTS IF YOU MISS THEM! No penalty will be incurred for a make-up test, students will receive full credit as long as arrangements are made by that student to make it up within the quarter it was assigned.**
3. **Written assignments are due at the end of class or the following school day, unless otherwise indicated, and that date will be posted on GC attached to each assignment. I will accept late work up to one week after the assigned date, and up until the end of the quarter for 70% credit.**
4. **When submitting work on GC, make sure to press the “turn in” button and/or “Mark as Done” button as well as submitting/attaching any Google Forms or Docs as necessary. Remember you can edit any assignment multiple times before the deadline and “submit”**

as many times as you like prior to the due date.

Renaissance Rewards:

To apply these incentives, the student must physically or virtually present their card to me during the final week of each quarter.

Red or White card – Drop 2 Daily or Homework Grades

Black or Silver card – Drop Lowest Daily or Homework Grade

Materials:

1. It is NOT recommended to use permanent ink on anything involving music as mistakes are inevitable. I am a professional who has studied music for twenty years and I make mistakes on my music every single day. If you have nothing else, or if you so choose to use ink, it **MUST** be Blue/Black Pen **ONLY-No Exceptions! I will hand your assignment or test back to you if I see ANY OTHER COLOR and you will start over or receive a zero for that assignment!**

2. One-subject spiral notebook for Listening Journals (provided)

3. Staff Paper (provided)

4. General Music Textbook (provided and online)

5. Various percussion instruments (provided)

6. Positive attitude!! (not provided)

****Anything in this syllabus is subject to check at any time****

I am looking forward to a great year!

