

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS - MUSIC DEPARTMENT

PERFORMANCE MUSIC INSTRUMENTAL – 0700

Grades 9, 10, 11, 12
ELECTIVE (1 credit)

Purpose: The primary function of any ensemble is to educate the students to a variety of quality concert literature, which gives them both a historical perspective and allows for the exploration of current trends in composition. The second purpose is to educate the community through the performance of such literature.

Course Description: Band is a course in instrumental music technique, open to all students 9-12 who have skills on a band instrument and a desire to improve these skills, both individually and in an ensemble setting. This course will focus on fundamentals of music, including scales, tonal exercises, articulation, rhythm, technique, theory, and ensemble playing by learning and preparing musical repertoire from different time periods as well as improving playing skills and tone production. A required performance schedule provides opportunity for demonstration of the mastery achieved by students.

Requirements: Public performance is required. Rehearsals may be held after school at director's discretion. Attendance at all events is required. Participation in marching band is not required for concert band.

Prerequisites: Must be able to play a concert band or orchestral instrument.

PERFORMANCE MUSIC: CHORAL - 0703

Grades 9, 10, 11, 12
ELECTIVE (1 credit)

Purpose: The primary function of any ensemble is to educate students to a variety of quality concert literature, which given both a historical perspective and allows for exploration of trends in composition. The second purpose is to educate the community through the performance of such literature.

Course Description: Chorus is a class in vocal music, open to all students in grades 9-12 who have some musical skills and a desire to improve those skills, both individually and in an ensemble setting. This course will focus on music fundamentals: scales, basic theory, articulation rhythm, intonation, tonal exercises.

Prerequisites: Any student with a genuine interest in music is welcome. Prior knowledge of music is helpful, though not essential. A willingness to try "something new" is essential.

Requirements: Students in chorus are required to learn and perform music as selected by the director. Daily participation is necessary. **Student attendance and participation in scheduled concerts is required.**

MUSIC THEORY I - 0701

Grades 9, 10, 11, 12
ELECTIVE (1 credit)

Purpose: This course will develop an understanding of music by studying the: (1) nature and use of the fundamental grammar of music, (2) techniques of voice leading/part writing of music, (3) harmonization of melodies. This course is designed for any student wanting to learn more about music.

Course Description: The course will cover elementary functions, grammar, and mechanics of music.

Requirements: Students will be required to submit graded homework. Class participation will be assessed by means of assigned drills. Tests and quizzes will be given periodically to check class for understanding.

Prerequisites: Successful completion of eighth grade general music.

MUSIC THEORY II - 0702

Grades 9, 10, 11, 12
ELECTIVE (1 credit)

Purpose: In this course the student will learn about melody (the song), harmony (the chords) and texture (which sounds or instruments are used). These are all elements of music theory. Through Musical Instrument Digital Interface/MIDI (Computer Aided Music), the student will learn to manipulate these musical materials. The student will explore different concepts of melody, harmony and texture in both existing and original music.

Course Description: In a classroom setting students explore the elements that come together to create music.

Requirements: Computer Aided Music Theory requires nightly homework in music writing.

Prerequisites: A basic playing knowledge of any musical instrument is suggested, but not required. A basic knowledge of computers is suggested but not required. MUST complete Music Theory I.