



MUSIC HISTORY SYLLABUS

2024-2025

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Course Description

The purpose of this class is to hone listening skills, and to familiarize students with the styles of composers and the periods in which they wrote.

We will be studying the history of Western Music from the Middle Ages to the present. After a unit on the parameters, or elements of music, we will study the different style periods, starting with the Middle Ages and the Renaissance and progressing through to music of the 21st Century.

Goals and Objectives

Students will understand the different style periods and the common elements of music from those periods. Students will be able to differentiate music from different periods, and be able to identify the music by period, and in some cases, by composer. Students will improve their listening skills and develop the ability to analyze a piece aurally. Students will learn basic musical terminology and will be able to use it effectively.

Expectations

1. You will attend class regularly and on time. You will use the restroom for emergencies only.
2. You will participate in all class functions both in person and online.
3. You should take notes and utilize the concepts that we learn in your own musicianship practice.
4. You will have your music and school-owned device with you during all class meetings and lessons.

Required Materials

- Music (provided)
- Water bottle
- School provided computer or personal tablet (cellphones are unacceptable for this class)
- *Music: An Appreciation* by Kamien 10th Ed. (provided, and must be turned in at the end of the school year in good condition)

General Course Outline

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| Quarter 1 | The Elements of Music Music of The Middle Ages Music of The Renaissance Time Period |
| Quarter 2 | Music of The Baroque Time Period Music of The Classical Time Period |
| Quarter 3 | Music of The Romantic Time Period Music of The Modern Time Period |
| Quarter 4 | Jazz Music Rock Music Pop Music World Music |

Grading Procedures

Assessments (formal & informal) – 60%

This includes formal assessments such as performances and quizzes or writing assignments as well as more informal assessments based on performance on a daily basis. Also included in this portion of the grade are assessments related to the specific learning goal (Marzano scale) for a given unit.

Daily Participation and Attendance – 40%

Students are expected to attend class and fully participate every day because each lesson and every class is a unique event that cannot be replicated.

Grading Scale

90-100%=A 80-89%=B 70-79%=C 60-69%=D 59% and below=F

Assignments

In each historical time period/unit, students will complete multiple assessments including a formal unit test, listening quiz, composer project, and informal class activities that reinforce concepts from the unit.

Midterm and Final Exam

The midterm exam (December) and final exam (May) for this course is cumulative and can be exempted by following the Gibbs High School exam exemption procedures.

Plagiarism and Cheating

This class focuses on acquiring historical knowledge and applying that knowledge to one's performance practices. Plagiarism and cheating do not help a musician improve his or her craft. Therefore, any student engaging in plagiarism or cheating of any kind including but not limited to: the use of artificial intelligence to write papers or identify listening excerpts, cut-copy-paste without citing the source, or copying another student's work will result in a failing grade for the assignment or assessment.