

Grade 8: Music (Band) Syllabus

Mr. So, Mrs. Diniro

Glenview Senior Public School

2018-2019

Overview

Grade 8 Band is an extension of Grade 7 Band, as students continue to focus on topics in performance, theory, history and composition analysis. Through repertoire, playing exercises, listening to audio samples and reading interactive materials posted on the e-classroom, students will learn about different forms, musical terminology and composers. In addition, students will be completing projects to help them learn the different styles and eras of music. Students will have a culminating Independent Study Project, where they take all aspects of preparation, practice and performance accumulated in the past two years and learn a solo piece of repertoire. With a small group, they will put together a group recital for their classmates.

In addition, a variety of extracurricular ensembles and sectionals (Beginner Band, Junior Band, Concert Band, Jazz Band, and Stage Band) will be made available for those who sign up and audition. Furthermore, students will have opportunities to audition for TDSB All City Orchestra / Band and a wide variety of community bands.

Students will have opportunities to perform in a wide variety of contexts, including school assemblies (Remembrance Day, holiday assembly etc.) school concerts (Winter and Spring), Music Festival (OBA), Grade 6 open house in January and the TDSB Instrument Symposium.

Class Participation

Successful learning requires consistent practicing and attentive listening. Music classes only take place 3 times every two weeks; as such focused practice during every class is imperative to your success. Students should ask questions of clarifications, offer assistance to others in their section and seek extra help when necessary.

Furthermore, students are expected to take extra care with the equipment in the room. Instruments are very expensive and shared amongst students within the school, and thus should be treated respectfully. In addition, accessories such as mouthpieces, reeds and method books should also be looked after carefully to ensure that they stay in good shape.

Students are expected to attend all classes, arrive promptly and be present with all necessary equipment (instrument, accessories, music and handouts). Students are also expected to participate fully in all activities (playing, performances, presentations and theory lessons). Lastly, maintaining a neat and tidy binder for notes and music is a part of student responsibility.

Practice expectations

Learning a band instrument is muscle memory for both fingering and the embouchure. Embouchure (muscles surrounding lip and mouth muscles) require extensive training. As such, students are expected to sign out their instrument and practice approximately an hour and a half each week to develop and maintain a good embouchure and playing habits. Time can be divided up as according to individual students' personal schedules. Students are asked to submit all practice entries online for ease of tracking and transparency. The link will be posted in the Google classroom and periodical emails will be sent to parents to update them on their child's progress.

Materials Needed

½ inch binder to store all music and handouts.

Method books

Standards of Excellence, by Bruce Pearson

Theory handouts as necessary.

Repertoire as assigned in classroom.

Playing Tests

All playing tests are expected to be performed on the assigned date. Performing an instrument is a complex task that requires utmost concentration. Students are expected to be a respectful audience during playing tests.

Online classroom (Google Classroom)

Google classrooms

- All students will be enrolled in their appropriate grade 8 classroom.
- Rehearsal schedules, announcements and resources will be posted on the centralized Grade 8 classroom.
- Assignments and playing test schedules will also be posted on the google classroom.

Assignments

1. Unit tests

- At least two playing tests each term.
- Clapping / rhythm tests.

2. Assignment

- Regular scale worksheet assignments
- ongoing practice logs
- Theory handouts and online assignments

3. Final Project

- Independent Study Project (ISP) - performance of a chosen piece with a written analysis and some research on the historical context of the composition. Group recital performance at the end of the year.

4. Class Participation Mark

- Regular attendance at rehearsals, sectionals and home practicing is mandatory. It will reflect in class participation and performance for tests as well as concerts.

Final Grade

The weighting of the final mark will be as follows:

- Classroom / rehearsal participation
- Theory tests and assignments
- Playing tests
- Practice logs

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Class Schedule

(Please note the schedule is subject to change)

Week of September 3 rd	- Reassessment and review of classroom rules
Week of September 10 th	- Major scale construction – tones and semi-tones

Week of September 17 th	- Major scale construction – tones and semi-tones continued
Week of September 24 th	- Method book work, natural minor scale construction
Week of October 1 st	- Method book work, natural minor scale construction
Week of October 8 th	- Scale assessment
Week of October 15 th	- Scale assessment
Week of October 22 nd	- Method book work, preparation for first playing test
Week of October 29 th	- Method book work, preparation for first playing test
Week of November 5 th	- Method book work, first playing test
Week of November 12 th	- Method book work, first playing test
Week of November 19 th	- Method book work, distribution of holiday repertoire
Week of November 26 th	- Method book work, work on holiday repertoire
Week of December 3 rd	- Method book work, work on holiday repertoire
Week of December 10 th	- Holiday concert preparation
Week of December 17 th	- Holiday concert preparation, distribution of term 2 music.