



Erie High School

Mrs. Rebecca Laquidara, Music Teacher

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Music Appreciation

Course Description:

This course is designed to introduce students to the elements of music through reading, listening, discussion, and performance. Students will be given the opportunity to explore different instruments and genres, as well as learn about the theory and history of music.

Course Objectives:

1. Students will understand basic music concepts.
2. Students will explore various musical genres.
3. Students will develop listening skills.
4. Students will use a variety of media to explore music.
5. Students will gain confidence through discussion and performance.

Course Materials:

- Folder
- Pen or Pencil
- Chromebook

Class Expectations:

- **BE ON TIME:** Students are expected to be in their seat, prepared for class, when the class begins.
- **BE RESPECTFUL:** Students will treat their teacher and their peers with kindness and respect. Discussions require back and forth, please be polite and cooperative.
- **BE INVOLVED IN ALL ACTIVITIES:** Participation is a sizable portion of your grade; therefore, you cannot pass unless you participate. Music is a hands-on experience and active involvement in your learning is expected.
- **USE CLASS TIME WISELY:** I am not a huge fan of homework, and I will not be available at 10pm to ask me questions, so please be sure to actively participate when you are in class. This means, if you are working on a project, you use the class time I give you to do that project.

Topics to be covered:

- Letter names of the lines and spaces for bass and treble clefs.
- Basic rhythms using sixteenth, eighth, quarter, half, and whole notes, and rests.
- Basic musical markings and symbols.
- Musical terms as related to tempo, dynamics, tonality.
- Exploration of musical instruments.
- Introduction to various musical genres and composers.
- Analysis of student chosen works and artists.

Estimated Schedule:

QUARTER 1:

- Weeks 1 and 2: syllabus/classroom expectations/getting to know each other – Soundtrack of My Life Project
- Weeks 3 and 4: parts of music/pitches of the treble and bass clefs/Quiz 1
- Week 5: note and rest values/Quiz 2
- Weeks 6 and 7: introduction to piano/finger numbers/piano keys/how they relate to the notes on the staff/name that tune
- Weeks 8 and 9: rhythms/time signatures/bucket drumming/compose your own rhythms/performance

QUARTER 2:

- Weeks 1 and 2: instruments families/Quiz 3
- Weeks 3 and 4: composers/Composer Instagram Project
- Weeks 5 and 6: genres/genre project
- Week 7 and into week 8: Music History Timeline Project
- Weeks 8 and 9: Musical Theater

Grading:

Grading in music class is based on a point system. The more important something is to your learning the more points it will be awarded. The following categories will be assessed:

Participation/Classwork: Students will participate in ALL classroom activities. Chromebooks are required and phones will be put away. Class time is to be used to work on music activities. Students will remain actively engaged and on task. Failure to follow these rules will result in a loss of participation points.

Do Now: Students are expected to complete a “Do Now” as soon as they enter the classroom. Failure to complete the do now for the day will result in a loss of points. Points will only be awarded for actual answers. No credit will be given for “idk,” “I don’t know,” “not sure,” or any other answer of that nature. ALWAYS GUESS! Full points will be awarded, even if your guess is incorrect.

Quizzes: As new material is covered, students will take quizzes on what they have learned. It is my policy to review everything that will be on the quiz during the class before the quiz date. If a student misses this review, it is THEIR RESPONSIBILITY to find out what they missed.

Projects: Projects will be assigned throughout the semester. Ample time will be given in class to complete each project. If a student has not completed a project because they are not using class time wisely, they will need to finish the project at home for homework. ALL PROJECTS ARE WORTH 100 POINTS UNLESS OTHERWISE STATED.

Absences:

If a student misses a class, it is their responsibility to obtain the material covered during their absence. If a student misses a quiz, they are expected to make it up upon their return – provided no new material was covered during their absence.

LATE WORK MAY BE ACCEPTED AT THE TEACHER’S DISCRETION

NO LATE WORK IS ACCEPTED THE LAST WEEK OF EACH QUARTER – TEACHER WILL NOTIFY THE CLASS OF THE CUT-OFF DATE

Technology in the Music Class

Technology is used in this classroom *solely* for **educational purposes**.

Examples include:

- YouTube tutorials
- Looking up the definition of a word
- Listening to music when directed by the teacher
- Research for a project

The use of headphones, cell phones, tablets or other technology for purposes of social media, watching movies, phone calls, or texting while in this classroom is **STRICTLY PROHIBITED**. If you are found to be watching movies, making phone calls, or sending texts during class OR on Facebook, Facetime, Snapchat, Instagram, Twitter, OR ANY OTHER SOCIAL MEDIA PLATFORM, **you will be written up!**

Please sign below and submit by September 11, 2023.

I have read the above syllabus for Music Appreciation and understand what is expected of me/my child.

PLEASE PRINT STUDENT'S NAME

PLEASE PRINT PARENT'S NAME

PARENT'S SIGNATURE AND DATE

PARENT'S EMAIL ADDRESS

PARENT'S PHONE NUMBER