

LISLE SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL

INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC SYLLABUS

FINE ARTS INSTRUCTORS:

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MISSION

Our mission is to instill in our students the love of music. We strive to encourage our students to value the cultures and traditions of all the people of the world. To develop the ability to perform, create, and listen to music with an understanding that is highly desirable for every member of our society. To learn discipline, teamwork, and responsibility important in the work place. Finally students will learn to value the aesthetics of music.

WHY TEACH MUSIC?

It is Science: it is exact, specific, and demands exact acoustics

It is Math: it is rhythmically based on the subdivisions of time into fractions which must be done spontaneously, not worked out on paper

It is Foreign Language: Most of the terms are in French, Italian, or German. The notation of music is a highly developed kind of shorthand which uses symbols to represent ideas. The semantics of music is the most complete and universal language.

It is Physical Education: Music requires coordination of fingers, hands, lips, and facial muscles in addition to diaphragmatic control. All these must respond instantly to the sound the ear hears and the minds interprets.

It is Art: is allows a human being to take all of the above and use them to create emotion, humanism, and feeling.

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

CONCERT BAND (FRESHMAN - SENIOR)

Concert Band is open to all students with appropriate junior high level playing experience on a band instrument. Audition with the instructor may be required. The students will learn about instrumental playing techniques, scales, rhythms, music history and composer profiles. Students will learn basic ensemble skills and perform interesting music of various historical periods and styles.

Concert band students will prepare five concerts, community performances and festivals. Also the band will attend Spring Break performance trips every two years. The Concert Band will combine with the

Symphonic Band to perform at home football games during the fall and selected home basketball games during the winter. Performances are an integral part of the band program. Students are expected to make a commitment of personal practice at home and attendance at performances outside of the school day. A six day marching band camp is held the week before school starts in August to prepare for early football games. Students are encouraged, but not required to take private lessons.

PERCUSSION STUDIES/ENSEMBLE (FRESHMAN - SENIOR)

The Percussion Studies class is for all high school percussionists. All Percussion students must be enrolled in this class, which addresses both musical fundamentals and techniques unique to the percussionist. Students in the Percussion Studies class will perform a wide range of musical works written especially for percussion ensemble. In addition the students will prepare music to perform with the marching band and both concert bands. Students are expected to commit to personal practice at home and attendance at performances outside of the school day. Each student will purchase their own set of basic sticks and mallets. A six day marching band camp is held the week before school starts in August to prepare for early football games.

JAZZ BAND & JAZZ ENSEMBLE (FRESHMAN-SENIOR)

The Jazz Bands perform a variety of styles of jazz music from various eras. Music performed ranges from 1930's and 40's big band jazz to contemporary jazz, Latin jazz and jazz-rock. The performances of these ensembles include school concerts, community service, opening acts to professional groups, and jazz festivals. Rehearsals are before school each day. The ensembles are open (by audition) to students who play saxophone, trumpet, trombone, piano, guitar, bass or drum set. Placement in Jazz Band (introductory level) and Jazz Ensemble (advanced) will be determined by audition. PRE-REQUISITE: Current Membership in band program, with the exception of some rhythm section players with consent of instructor.

CRITERIA FOR GRADING

The following criteria are used as a basis for learning in band classes:

TONE QUALITY: Student instrumental tone quality will be assessed based on the maturity, warmth, control, and resonance appropriate to experience level.

INTONATION: Students will be able to play in tune with other students in their section and with the ensemble as a whole.

NOTE ACCURACY: Students will demonstrate that they are able to learn and play the correct notes according to the music they are reading, rehearsing, and performing.

RHYTHMIC ACCURACY: Students will be able to accurately perform a variety of rhythms in a variety of meters (time signatures).

DYNAMICS: Students are expected to make the correct changes in volume as indicated by the printed music.

NOTATION/THEORY: Students will be able to read notated music using a variety of time signatures and key signatures.

TONE/BREATH CONTROL/PHRASING: Students will use proper muscles and correct posture for the purpose of proper tone production. This will lead to quality tone production and shaping of musical phrases.

ARTICULATION: Students will perform a wide variety of articulations as indicated in the printed music. These will include: tenuto, staccato, marcato, slurs, accents, etc.

TEMPO MARKINGS: Students are expected to know and understand the tempo markings as directed by the composer, often in a foreign language. They must demonstrate this knowledge during class.

TERMINOLOGY: Students will learn the meaning of instructions given in the music in foreign languages, usually Italian, but sometimes French, German, or Latin.

GRADING

The course grade will reflect the following:

1 st Quarter	40%
2 nd Quarter	40%
Semester Final	20%

3 rd Quarter	40%
4 th Quarter	40%
Semester Final	20%

Students have the opportunity to earn: 50 points for performances, 50-100 points for playing tests, 25 points for evening rehearsals, 10 points for each day of class, and various other points for occasional written homework.

Points are awarded for each rehearsal based on the following:

Having required materials, being on-time, being engaged throughout the lesson, maintaining proper rehearsal behavior, and arriving prepared on assignments.

FORMATIVE ASSESSMENT: Formative assessments are an ongoing, integral part of every class.

SUMMATIVE ASSESSMENT: Summative assessments include individual performance testing and ensemble performances (at least one per quarter).