

**General Music History  
Course Syllabus**

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**Class Goals:** Students will discover that Music is one of the most powerful communication tools in our culture. Students will become familiar with the role and importance that Music has in our society. The class will include a survey of music from diverse cultures around the world and its impact on historical events.

**Topics to Be Covered:**

1. Music genres, history, and technology from the classical music period through current American popular music.
2. Musicians, events, and technology that have shaped the progression of music throughout history.
3. The connection and evolution of musical styles that has helped to produced much of the music popular today.
4. Basic music notation and musical theory used by musicians and composers.
5. Introduction to musical instruments and vocal ranges.
6. Analysis of musical performances in both audio and visual formats.
7. Basic hands-on activities using some percussion instruments and guitar.

**Place within the Program of Study:** This course fills the Fine Arts requirement for the Tennessee High School Graduation requirements. The course also fills a requirement of the Fine Arts course of study.

**Instructional Philosophy:** It is my hope that students will develop a true appreciation for music and develop an understanding of music as an art form. Through an exploration of where music came from and how it has developed over time, students will develop a true, deeper understanding of the importance of music in their life. It is expected the students be respectful of all musical lessons, other students' ideas, and other students' abilities.

**Requirements: (all of which factor in the grade earned)** Students are required: to participate in daily discussions of music lessons and examples, to be respectful of the creative process of other classmates, to keep a journal of class notes, review questions, bell-ringers and other writing assignments. Complete all homework, written assignments and class projects. Protect all musical equipment by following the rules outlined by the instructor regarding their use. Display appropriate classroom behavior and respect for others. Follow classroom rules as established and discussed by the instructor. Display a positive learning attitude.

**Grading and make up work:** The grade earned for this course will be taken from student grades for: participation, classwork, quizzes, test, and projects. Second chance opportunities are available for most graded work. Assignments missed due to absence must be complete within 3 days of the student's absence. It is the student's responsibility to keep up with missed work.

**Students are expected to check Teams and their grade portal regularly.** Any missing assignments will be coded as a 0. This means that when that assignment was graded, the student's work was not yet turned in. Students may turn in assignments after this occurs but will only receive partial credit. Always check Teams for assignments when there is a sub.

**Materials:** Music textbook (kept in classroom), 1-single subject notebook with pockets preferred, pencil or pen (blue or black), School issued computer. Most assignments will be sent through TEAMS. Headphones (that connect to computer- Dollar store brand is fine)

**Extension Materials:** Throughout the course students will listen to a view performance from a wide variety of music styles. These will include vocal and instrumental music, musicals, and clips containing music from movies.

**Classroom Expectations:**

1. Students will sit were assigned.
2. Students will be allowed to eat or drink in the classroom, except for bottled water.
3. Students are expected to be on time.
4. Students should visit the restroom between classes.
5. Students will not move furniture or equipment without permission.
6. Instruments are off limits unless used for class and with permission.
7. Positive behavior and language are always expected.

**Grade breakdown**

Classwork/homework	50%
Exam	15%
Tests and Projects	35%

**Timeline:**

Quarter 1-	Elements of Music, Jazz, Gospel, Early Country
Quarter 2-	Music notation, Rhythms, Early Rock, Motown, 60s, 70s, 80s
Quarter 3-	Technology and the recording industry, Modern popular music
Quarter 4-	Classical Era, Guitar and Keyboard

**Live Performance Recommendation:**

Students are highly encouraged to attend musical performance. Nothing beats experiencing a live musical performance. Our band and choir put on several concerts a year. Local middle schools also put on several concerts. There are many opportunities in the are to se bands play live and Nashville is also a short drive away.