

Course Syllabus for Instrumental Classes
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Course Description

Instrumental and percussion classes are performance-based classes. The instrumental program at Houston County High School does not offer a non-performing class. If a student registers for a class he or she is expected to perform with that class at all functions. Students are exposed to elements of music history, music theory, and music performance while participating in a performing ensemble. Students learn various aspects of solo and ensemble playing in a number of musical styles. Music compositions studied in these courses range from grade three to grade six in difficulty level (based on the GMEA scale of 1 – 6).

Objectives:

The following QCC objectives will be met. Demonstrating correct playing position, embouchure, breathing technique, ensemble playing, balance, blend, intonation, rhythm, competency of appropriate literature, sight reading, individual performance, articulation, phrase structure, key signatures, notation, vocabulary, and responding to the conductor.

Teacher Expectations, Rules, Requirements:

To receive credit for this course, students are expected to participate in **ALL** semester performances. These performance dates will be published at the beginning of the semester on the band calendar which students will receive and sign off.

While the school does own a limited number of instruments for student use, students are expected to purchase or rent their own instruments. Percussionists are expected to furnish their own mallets and sticks. Likewise, students are expected to furnish all needed accessories for their instruments (mouthpieces, reeds, valve oil, etc.). Music, folders and other instructional materials will be provided. All music should be returned after its use. Students will be charged for any lost music during the semester. Students using school owned instruments must be responsible for any repairs due to misuse or mistreatment of the instrument while the said instrument is signed out to the student.

Students are expected to have all materials in class every day. Should an instrument need to be repaired, the student and the parents should notify the director and have the repairs made as soon as possible. Since the focus of the class is learning to play an instrument, each day that a student does not have an instrument hampers that student's chances at successfully completing the course.

ALL nonessential materials such as books, notebooks, magazines and homework from another class will not be allowed in the rehearsal area. No food, drink or gum is allowed during rehearsal (please act responsibly in this area)

Grading Procedure:

If a student adheres to the procedure a grade of A will be received in the class. Grading Procedure: Each student must participate in class each day, adhere to all band handbook rules (handbook can be obtained from the director or online in the band website) and attend all performances. End of semester term paper on a teacher approved subject must be completed if a performance is missed.

I, _____ have read and understand all of the objectives, requirements, and expectations taught by Mr. Shaw and Mr. Wilson.

Parent Signature _____ Date _____

Student Signature _____ Date _____