

MUSIC COURSES

110 Music Appreciation

Weeks

Nine

Grade 9

The primary course objective is that students learn to value music in their own lives and as an essential ingredient in the lives of all humans. The approach taken in this course is primarily sociological rather than historical. Each unit addresses why humans value or need music. Some units include: To Tell Us Who We Are, To Invite Us to Move, To Enhance Expression, To Share Our Humanity. Music will be presented as a natural and essential ingredient of the student's own life and of human life in all cultures. Listening to and analyzing a myriad of musical examples will be a primary activity as well as some written work.

INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC COURSES

101 Freshman Band (meets every other day)

Two Semesters

Grade 9

The ninth grade band will study intermediate techniques, sacred, contemporary, and traditional band literature with lesser technical demands. Units in basic theory and fundamentals in good overall musicianship will be experienced. Performances will be concerts, band festivals, and some limited marching. Students will be encouraged to use and develop their talents so that they can enrich their own lives but also be of service to their Creator, others, and themselves.

102 Concert Band

Two Semesters

Grades 10-11

The concert band will participate in the same events as the Symphonic Band. These are Marching Band (first nine weeks), Christmas Concert, Winter Concert, District Band Festival, Spring Concert, and spring parades. One night or early morning sectional is scheduled and required per week during marching season. The Concert Band plays literature with lesser demands than the Symphonic Band. Considerable time and emphasis is placed on skill development and improvement through the use of scales, music theory, and other basic fundamentals.

104 Symphonic Band

Two Semesters

Grades 10-12

Prerequisite: See below*

The Symphonic Band is a select group of instrumentalists from grades 10, 11 and 12. To be placed in this band, a student must have an above average interest and skill in the performance of highly technical band literature. This band participates in all of the activities listed for Concert Band and may also perform occasionally on its own as invitations occur. One sectional per week before school is required. The willingness to serve their school, community, and others is the concept that is emphasized. *The ability to perform major and minor scales, various interval studies, sight read, and perform rhythmic drills along with good basic musicianship is a prerequisite for membership in the symphonic band. Members are eligible for various woodwind, brass, and percussion ensembles for solo and ensemble festivals as well as playing in the school pep band.

106 Orchestra

Two Semesters

Grades 9-12

The orchestra is a group of string players that will be studying intermediate string ensemble techniques, sacred, contemporary and traditional orchestra music with a certain degree of technical demand. There will also be units in music theory, sight singing and fundamentals in good musicianship. The orchestra will perform at various concerts, with the possibility of a performance at orchestra festival. The student must have prior middle school orchestra experience or have taken at least two years of private string lessons.

VOCAL MUSIC COURSES

- 120 Freshmen Choir** (meets every other day) Two Semesters Grade 9
The Freshmen Choir is an ensemble designed to give an overview of choral music fundamentals, styles and literature. It is an open enrollment to all incoming freshmen with no audition required. Quality 2-, 3- and 4-part compositions will be studied and memorized for approximately 4 performances per year. Sight-reading skills and basic music theory as it applies to singing will also be studied. The choir meets every other day, alternating with either band, study, powerpoint or word processing classes. Successful completion of the year-long class will enable the student to receive .5 credit. Attendance at rehearsals, district choral festivals, school, church and community events is required to receive full credit toward graduation. Robes will be issued to all members for performances; however, each member must provide their own black shoes and pants to complete the uniform.
- 121 Men's Ensemble** Two Semesters Men in grades 10-12
The Men's Ensemble is a choir made up of men in grades 10th - 12th. It is an open enrollment with no audition required. The Men's Ensemble is considered a learning choir, so therefore they will not have as many performances as other groups. However 4 or 5 performances will be scheduled and all are mandatory for full (1.0) credit and letter grades. The Ensemble will sing a variety of choral literature conducive to the changing male voice and also stress proper sight reading/theory skills. Styles such as Spirituals, Classical, Christian Contemporary, Vocal Jazz and Barbershop will be explored and performed. Robes will be issued to the members for performance; however, all members must provide their own black shoes and pants to complete the uniform.
- 122 Women's Choir** Two Semesters Grades 10-12
This is an open enrollment choir and is also a traveling choir. The Women's Choir can expect to travel every other year, opposite the Concert Choir. Responsibility for expenses is solely up to the individual members. It is for women in grades 10-12 who demonstrate competency in proper tone and vocal technique through having at least one full year of high school choir experience prior to enrolling. Classical, Christian Contemporary, and Vocal Jazz are some of the styles that will be studied. Sight-reading and music theory skills will also be applied to quality women's literature. Approximately 8 required performances per year will be scheduled. Participation in school chapels, assemblies and musicals is expected but not mandatory for all members. Attendance at rehearsals, district/state choral festivals, school, church and community events is required to receive full 1.0 credit towards graduation. Robes will be issued to all members for performances; however, each member must provide their own black shoes and pants to complete the uniform.
- 123 Concert Choir** Two Semesters Grades 10-12
This audition-only choir is a choral ensemble made up of only 11th and 12th graders who have demonstrated competency/ confidence in proper vocal production, tone, sight-reading, music theory and also state presence/etiquette. In order to be eligible for an audition, all members must have at least two years' experience in the SCHS Choral program and/or special permission from the director and registrar. A wide variety of choral literature will be studied each year. The Concert Choir will be expected to perform in approx. 8-10 concerts each year. Many may involve Saturdays or Sundays. All performances are required in order to receive full (1.0) credit and letter grades. Participation in musicals, chapels, special assemblies, district solo and ensemble are not required but highly recommended. Concert Choir is a touring choir, and all members will be expected to travel. Group fundraising for tours will take place on a limited basis, with the remainder of monies being raised on their own. Robes will be issued to all members for performances; however, each member must provide their own black shoes and pants to complete the uniform.

NOTE ON MADRIGALS: Any student wishing to audition and become a member of Madrigals must be enrolled in at least one of the Choral Ensembles that meets during the regular school day. Madrigals is a non-credit, voluntary ensemble which meets once per week for approx. 2 hours.