



8th Grade Music

Mrs. Haggerty
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<http://ind-sinclair.weebly.com/8th-grade-music.html>

Textbook

Share the Music, Macmillan/McGraw-Hill

Daily Schedule

1. Sponge Activity: A sponge activity is a five minute review strategy. The questions focus on the material presented the previous day. It serves as a review for the students and an assessment tool for me so that I know what concepts are being grasped and what concepts need further clarification.
2. Review of previous material.
3. New material.
4. Preview of upcoming assignments (projects, tests, etc.).

Homework Policy

I do not give homework on a regular basis. However, students will have homework occasionally. In most cases, class time is given to work on assignments. For projects, daily class time is allotted. Please check the calendar on my website for due dates and upcoming assignments.

Required Materials

1. pen/pencil - if the students don't come with one to class, I always have a reserve of pens and pencils they may purchase for 25 cents each.
2. notebook
3. folder
4. loose leaf paper

Grading Weight

Sponge Activities - 30% of the final grade

In-Class assignments/Worksheets - 30% of the final grade

Tests/Projects - 40% of the final grade

My Availability

Should you have any concerns or questions, please feel free to e-mail me or call me. Below is a list of the best times to get a hold of me by phone:

7:30 - 8:00 AM or 3:00 - 4:00 PM

Goals and Expectations

Music is a time for exploration and fun. There are various activities the students will encounter in my class. My goal is to expose all students to new genres, forms, and styles of music while teaching them to appreciate the art form as a whole. Students are expected to come prepared to class on time, with a good attitude, and a willingness to participate. The most effective form of learning is through active participation.

Throughout the semester, we will do several research based projects. Students are expected to do all of their own work and put their research findings into their own words. Plagiarism of any kind will not be tolerated. Any student who chooses to plagiarize any portion of any assignment will be given a zero with no exceptions.

Units of Study

1. **Exploring Musical Styles** - In this unit, we will listen to many different styles of music from all over the world. We will hear several styles including ska, calypso, african tribal music, Japanese taiko, and french romantic. We will discuss the development of music beginning with the Baroque period through the 20th Century.

2. **West Side Story** - We will watch this musical adaptation of Shakespeare's *Romeo and Juliet* in class. The students will work collaboratively to research the lives and careers of creators of the production, including Leonard Bernstein and Stephen Sondheim. Additionally, we will juxtapose the musical against the play to look for differences and similarities.

3. **Rhythm Plays a Role** - In this unit, the students will learn to conduct like a real conductor. We will discuss in more detail the role of meter in music. The students will begin to experiment with irregular and compound meters.

4. **iMovie** - The students will choose an African-American composer and create an iMovie on his/her life. This iMovie will be about 5 minutes in length. Class time will be given for research. Students are expected to work on this at home, as well. Each student their iMovie to the class.

5. **Harmony** - In this unit, we will discuss the importance of harmony in music by listening to several different styles of music beginning with gospel. We will delve deeper into the importance of key signatures and a tonal center. We will also learn about some of the harmonic developments in the 20th Century.

6. **Jazz** - In this unit, we will learn about the American music, Jazz. We will take a walk through history and see how this style of music developed, who developed, and why it became so popular so quickly.

This certifies that my student and I have read and understand the 8th Grade Music Syllabus which details the units of study, required materials, grading weight, classroom expectations, homework policy, and late work penalty in Mrs. Haggerty's classroom.

Student Signature: _____

Parent Signature: _____

Date: _____