

Jefferson High School Music

Jazz/Concert Band Syllabus

Overview

School music programs serve a three-fold purpose:

1. Musical education of the students
2. Performance opportunities for the students, given to the community
3. Service to the school and community

As such, each JHS music class will reflect each of these elements.

Descriptions: (From the JHS Course Catalog)

- **Jazz Band:** The emphasis of this ensemble is developing musicianship through performance of traditional “big band” literature, including jazz, swing, blues, funk and myriad Latin styles, among others. Improvisation will be a major component of the class, as it is perhaps the most critical defining element of jazz. Members of this group are expected to also participate in Concert Band, schedule and instrumentation permitting. Attendance at concerts and festivals is required. Members of this group also perform in Pep Band unless they are participating in the sport for which Pep Band is playing.
- **Concert Band:** The emphasis of this ensemble is developing musicianship through performance of high-quality concert band literature. Students will develop poise, confidence, character, tone quality, facility and musicality as individuals and ensemble performers, as well as an appreciation for the theory and historical context of music. Attendance at concerts and festivals is required. Members of this group also perform in Pep Band unless they are participating in the sport for which Pep Band is playing.

Expectations and Consequences

Class rules are as follows:

1. Only one person speaks at a time. Everyone else attends to them.
2. Respect each other, and respect equipment in the school and department.
3. Come to class with a positive attitude, ready to make music together.

In the case of broken rules, the first resort will always be to seek a resolution with the student(s) involved. From there, issues of a larger scale may involve an email/phone call to parents, referral/detention, parent-teacher-administrator conference, and then other school policies such as suspension.

Grading Policy

There will be **individual performance tests**, taken for the most part in a practice room with an audio/video recorder. Ms. Kramer will assign these to each class, at least 5 class days in advance. There will also be **other assignments**, including but not limited to: listening assignments, written responses, and creative projects. *Typically, there will be one homework assignment each week.* Students must have paper, a pencil, their planner, and all necessary music in class every day.

Attendance

Students are expected to be in class and ready to work when the bell rings. ***This also applies to zero period.*** As per JHS policy, a student will receive a disciplinary referral on the 4th tardy of the quarter, and for every tardy after. This count resets each quarter.

Students are expected to attend and be on time for all performances. Students in Concert/Jazz Band are expected to play for designated home football and basketball games as the Pep Band. All exceptions, other than emergencies, must be cleared with Ms. Kramer TWO WEEKS BEFORE the performance. The Calendar of Events is attached and online, and any changes will be announced in advance in class and online.

Musicians use a "call time" for performances. This is the time an individual is expected to be present, dressed appropriately for the event, with instrument warmed up and sheet music ready. Tardiness will adversely affect students' grades.

Other Policies

- The only beverage allowed in the music room is water in a clear, plastic container, and there should be no food, as per Jefferson High School policy.
- Except in the case of an emergency or documented medical need, students will not be permitted to leave the classroom to use the restroom or get a drink of water. If an emergency need arises, permission should first be obtained from Ms. Kramer.
- In the music room, all cell phones and mp3 players are to be turned off and out of sight for the entirety of class, unless other instruction is given. The first offence will be a warning, after which the device will be confiscated and left in the main office.

OSU Concessions

The majority of our budget comes from fundraising, most of which is the result of the OSU Concessions program. We staff a concessions stand at all Oregon State University home football games, in addition to two other events later in the year. In order to fairly distribute this commitment and maintain the necessary number of volunteers, **all students will be required to volunteer at one event this school year.** *If this poses a serious conflict for your family, please contact Ms. Kramer ASAP.* Students will earn class credit. The dates are included in the Calendar of Events. Transportation to and from JHS is provided, and workers are given a meal allowance. Parents are welcome!

Concert Dress*

MEN:	black dress pants	WOMEN:	black, closed-toe dress shoes
	black socks		(less than 2 inch heel)
	black dress shoes		black dress pants or long skirt (mid-calf)
	solid black long-sleeved dress shirt		solid black dress shirt (modest neckline, at least cap sleeved)

**The Pep Band has required T-shirts for sports performances. New member shirts are provided, and replacement shirts are \$10. They will be ordered ASAP.*

Violation of concert dress will result in a lowered performance grade, and could result in a student not performing. Questions about attire should be brought to Ms. Kramer **two weeks before** a performance. There will be a concert dress check approximately two weeks before our first concert, during which students will be asked to bring in their clothing for approval.

Music Enrichment:

All music students will be required to attend at least one outside performance per semester, and then complete a short review of their experience. The performance should be an ensemble that is 1) on par or above our performance level, and 2) performing music which the student can relate to our school curriculum (i.e. a band, orchestra, choir, musical, jazz combo, etc.).

New this year, students will be given a monthly opportunity to attend an outside performance! Transportation will be provided, but ticket costs will not be covered. Events will be announced in advance and a sign up sheet will be posted in the music room. These trips will be optional, however, are a great way to both fulfill this requirement and expand his/her musical growth!

Class Material:

The JHS Music Department strives to build class curriculum based on the National Core Arts Standards (revised and released June 2014), which are:

- A. Create
 - 1. Generate and conceptualize artistic ideas and work.
 - 2. Organize and develop artistic ideas and work.
 - 3. Refine and complete artistic work.
- B. Perform
 - 4. Analyze, interpret, and select artistic work for presentation.
 - 5. Develop and refine artistic work for presentation.
 - 6. Convey meaning through the presentation of artistic work.
- C. Respond
 - 7. Perceive and analyze artistic work.
 - 8. Interpret intent and meaning in artistic work.
 - 9. Apply criteria to evaluate artistic work.
- D. Connect
 - 10. Synthesize and relate knowledge and personal experiences to make art.
 - 11. Relate artistic ideas and works with societal, cultural and historical context to deepen understanding.

Online Communication

All students and parents are encouraged to:

1) Join the Jefferson Music Boosters page on Facebook! Important class and schedule information will be communicated here for both band and choir.

2) Bookmark and regularly check the JHS Music Department website! It includes recordings other information. The link is www.jhslionsmusic.weebly.com.

Questions?

If you (student or parent/guardian) ever have any concern whatsoever, please do not hesitate to contact me. The preferred methods are email and phone, but appointments can also be made. I look forward to a great year working with these wonderful, dedicated young musicians!

Ms. Christina Kramer, Band Director
christina.kramer@jefferson.k12.or.us

Jefferson High School, Room 301
(541) 327-3337, ext. 335

*I also teach band at Jefferson Middle School in the afternoon; I can be reached at ext. 232.

In order to earn all the possible points, please sign, detach, and return the following contract page by Friday, September 5th.

Jefferson High School Music Department
2014-2015 Contract

STUDENT:

Name (Printed): _____

I have read and understand this syllabus. I understand what is expected of me, and that should I not meet these expectations, there will be consequences for my actions. I understand that I am responsible for being aware of all events on our calendar, and will strive to inform Ms. Kramer of conflicts ***at least two weeks prior*** to an event when possible.

Signed: _____ Date: _____

(OPTIONAL) Student phone # for school-related communications: _____

PARENT/GUARDIAN:

Name (Printed): _____

I have reviewed this syllabus with my student, and I understand what is expected of him/her. I have also reviewed the Calendar of Events and will strive to stay updated. If there are any questions or issues, I will contact Ms. Kramer to resolve them.

Signed: _____ Date: _____

INSTRUMENT INFORMATION: *(only for personal/non-school instruments- in case of theft)*

Make: _____ Model: _____ Serial Number: _____

Other items kept in case: _____

Volunteering with JHS Music:

Please contact me about helping the music program!

Special skills: _____

Phone number(s)- please specify work/home/cell, and for whom:

Name/type: _____ Number: _____

Name/type: _____ Number: _____

Email (**highly encouraged**): _____

No, thank you.

Please sign, detach, and return this page by Friday, September 6th for full credit.