

Music Concepts Syllabus 2022-2023

Dear students and families,

Welcome to Middle School Music Concepts! I am looking forward to a rewarding, fun, and successful semester. I am excited to get to know each student. My classroom is open to parent volunteers, so if that interests you, please reach out. If you have a musical talent that you would like to share with my class (or know of someone who does!), please let me know. I'd love to have you share! I also want to encourage you to email me with any questions or concerns you may have during the semester. I am happy to discuss those with you. My email is klyon@greenwoodcharter.org.

What this class is all about:

This is an introduction to music class. This is not a band, orchestra or chorus class. In this class, students will learn to create, respond, perform, and connect with music as they learn basic music concepts. These concepts will include, but are not limited to, rhythm (note values), melody (notes on a staff), music history, contemporary composers, musical terms and markings, and performance. Students will hopefully have the opportunity to be taught by visiting experts in the field of music. Students will be introduced to different musical genres and instruments. We will learn inside and outside of the classroom.

Class requirements and expectations:

My objective is to have fun learning! In order for this class to be fun, the following school-wide norms must be honored:

- Be Responsible: Students are on time, attentive and ready to learn. If something unexpected comes up, please communicate with me!
- Be Engaged: Show PLANT (Posture, Listen, Ask & Answer questions, Notice, Track the Speaker). Do your best work. Have a positive attitude. Follow directions quickly.
- Be Respectful: Use professional language. Protect the feelings and ideas of the speaker. Speak kindly and calmly. Care for your environment.
- Be Safe: Make sure to walk! Keep bodies and objects to yourself. Use furniture correctly. When setting up or stacking chairs, please be careful and aware of your surroundings.

Teacher expectations: The music concepts class is an elective where we get to learn and explore music. Just as music is diverse, so are the students in my class! My classroom is a place where students and teacher should feel safe to explore their interests in music, and share those opinions! I welcome class discussions and hope that each student feels safe to use their voice. Of course, both teacher and students have a responsibility to make the culture of our class amazing! As we engage in learning, please let it be done in a respectful and kind way so that both students and teacher feel safe, respected, and welcome.

Student expectations: My students can expect me to be on time and well prepared for each class. All students can expect that I will treat them with the same respect that I ask from them. Students can expect to explore and share ideas through discussion and writing.

Daily schedule: Our class is held each school day on Monday-Thursday from 12:53-1:28. Our class is located in the library. Please be on time and prepared to participate!

Google Classroom: I will be very active on Google classroom! Please check on there for any reflection writing assignments and/or video clips we watch in class. Students can also find this syllabus and any other information on that classroom. Join the classroom with this code: **hey1bh3**

Supplies needed: Please bring a sharpened pencil, in case that is needed. All other supplies will be provided to the students. Please leave chromebooks and other electronic devices put away.

Videos: I will sometimes show video clips that correlate with the subject matter of that week. Please be assured that I will only show videos that are approved by GreenWood or by our administration. I will post to our google classroom the videos that we watch in class. If we watch a movie, I will send a permission slip home for parents to sign.

Electronic Devices will not be tools needed in this class. Students are expected to leave them put away and to not bring them out during class.

Grades: Students are responsible for turning assignments in ON TIME, whether absent or not. If arrangements need to be made for a late or missed assignment, the student should talk to me personally. Students are responsible for making arrangements for their make-up work if they have any work that is missing or late. Grades will be posted

to Jump rope within two weeks of the assignment being turned in. Students will be able to monitor their progress that way.

Class curriculum:

The four Utah Core Standards for the Fine Arts are Create, Perform, Respond, and Connect. My curriculum for this class is based on these standards and these are what students in my class will be assessed on.

Each class period will begin with crew. We will begin with a reading, mindfulness to music, a writing reflection in our journals, and a class discussion. Then we will move into that day's topic and activities.

Assignments & Quizzes: Most weeks there will be in-class assignments (packets, worksheets, etc) that will be due on Thursday by the end of the class period. These smaller assignments will be graded on Fridays. Students will also be graded on participation and quality of work. Occasionally there will be quizzes on topics such as identifying notes & music history. These will be given after a lot of practice and will be done in class.

Tests: There will be two tests this semester!

1. Rhythm and note values and applying it.
2. Identifying notes on the main staff and applying it.

Projects: Students will be expected to finish two projects this semester.

1. **A presentation on a famous musical composer or group/band.** Students will choose who they want to give their presentations on and sign up for a day sometime during the semester to present. More details will be provided to them.
2. **A composition project.** Each student will compose a piece of music that will showcase the different theory concepts they learned that year. Students will be given a rubric explaining the the specific musical elements their piece must include. These will be due and presented the last week of class.

Performance: There will be one performance at the end of the semester. This will be largely student- led, teacher supported. The performance this year will either be held during Forest Crew or at a school sponsored family night event. Students will be assessed on their performance skills and participation, and YES it is required! But, no need to worry because we have all semester to practice!

Thank you for choosing my Music Concepts elective class. I am looking forward to a wonderful semester!