

# Course Outline: Musicianship

Musicianship is a methods and technology core course where students learn to play woodwind, brass, string and percussion instruments- including the development of modern instruments and their transposition- and apply them to tools used in performance. A special project in electronic technology is also part of the curriculum. This is a required course for students in AVPA-Music program (9<sup>th</sup> grade) and not open to other students.

## Course Goals and Objectives

**Instrument Methods:** Students learn to play one bowed string, woodwind, and brass instrument through the beginning level. Each of these units lasts 7-8 weeks and includes performing solos, scales, duets, and transposition. Students also learn all percussion instruments and perform in a class percussion ensemble (3-4 weeks).

**Technology:** A special unit allows students to experience music from the perspective of electronics. This includes electronic components, circuitry, soldering, and making their own digital metronome. Safe use of materials and tools are demonstrated and practiced before starting each step including eye protection, handling of tools and materials, long hair/ties/lanyards... and washing hands at the end of class.

## Grading, Assessment and Course Responsibilities

Grades are based on the average of all class sessions. Points are awarded based on assessment for *preparation, participation, assessment, attendance* and *team work*- because they foster responsible adult practices.

A = 93 -100	A- = 90 – 92	B+ = 87 - 89	B = 83 - 86	B- = 80 - 82	C+ = 77 - 79	C = 73 - 76
C- = 70 - 72	D+ = 63 - 69	D = 60 - 62	F = 0 - 59			

**Preparation and Participation (approx. 60%)**- Students who are present and prepared earn 3 points each class session as follows: 2 points for bringing instrument and book/materials, and 1 point for actively engaging in class activities. Students who are not in class receive a zero. However, an *excused* absence can be made-up within one week by making an appointment to practice/review any missed material. Unprepared grades cannot be made up. Absences during the last week of the trimester must be made up within one school day after the trimester ends.

**Assessment (approx. 40%)**- Students earn additional points when a specific assignment, quiz or task is assigned (see below). Students who are not in class receive a zero for the assignment. However, this can be made-up within one week by having the student make an appointment to perform/submit their homework.

**Homework:** 3 points for performing the assignment correctly from memory, 2 points for performing the assignment correctly by reading. NOTE: one point is deducted for each mistake/pause.

**Tests:** up to 8 points (students are not graded on preparation during a test session).

**Percussion Etudes:** up to 5 points for the class session (students are not graded on preparation during these sessions). However, if a student does not have their Percussion packet, they will not be able to earn points.

**Technology Unit-** up to 5 points for successful completion of hands-on tasks.

**Attendance:** Being proactive about attendance is essential to personal accountability and musical progress. Therefore, it is the student's responsibility to inform the instructor of any missed sessions and initiate a make-up, as described above. Lateness is not excused unless accompanied by a teacher's note. Otherwise, students will have 1 point deducted from their session grade every 3 minutes. Cutting class has a negative impact on everyone and is not tolerated. Students who cut class or have an unexcused absence lose full credit for that session and their "good standing" status for the academic year, which makes them ineligible for the music honor society, honors ensemble participation, and possibly the privilege to participate in future music electives and activities.

*Consistent attendance is crucial to keeping up with the coursework and overall academic success. Frequent absences (over 10%) can impact your academic performance in this course. Students who exceed 10% of absences will remain in the course. However, the student will receive a grade of "Incomplete" until credit recovery is completed in the summer.*

**Team Work:** Students are expected to cooperate with each other and maintain a positive attitude- especially in areas concerning *safety, trust, and mutual respect*. All students must bring home their instrument after each class, as this contributes to good practice habits and opens needed space in the storage area.