

Liberty Instrumental Music
Independent Study Syllabus
Brandi D. Jason, Director
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Purpose:

The purpose of the Liberty Instrumental Music Department is threefold: to expose students to the highest quality wind and orchestral literature, to produce an excellent quality product by way of mastery of skill, musicianship, and knowledge of music theory/history, and to transform students into literate consumers of music.

Grading Policy:

30% Formative
70% Summative

Formative Class Work:

➤ **Daily Performance Assessment**

Students will demonstrate the following:

- prepared for class
- proper rehearsal etiquette
- musicality
- proper playing technique
- retention of skills

➤ **Written and Aural Music Theory Assignments**

Summative Quizzes and Tests:

➤ **Performance Evaluations**

- Held regularly to assess growth and development of skill.
- May be announced or unannounced.
- May include current ensemble repertoire, All-County/State audition materials, private lesson work, Solo & Ensemble selections, or secondary/ternary instrument study.
- Second chance learning is available on performance evaluations only, but will not change the results of chair placement or music auditions.

➤ **Music Theory Tests**

- Students will demonstrate knowledge of basic music theory concepts, such as: interval identification, simple and complex meter rhythm dictation, chordal sonority, key signatures, melodic dictation, major/minor scale forms, cadences and simple chord progressions.
- The final music theory exam is 10% of the final grade.

➤ **Concert Preparation and Performance**

Final Performance Evaluation

- Students are expected to prepare music to a “note perfect”/superior level incorporating all music markings, thoughts and ideas discussed in class.

Dress Rehearsal and Concert Attendance

- Absence request form must be submitted two weeks prior to a missed absence. (Ms. Jason will determine if the absence is excused or unexcused.)
- Concert participation is a required aspect of this course.
- Students are expected to have correct concert attire, demonstrate proper concert etiquette, and contribute appropriately to the ensemble.

unexcused absence- a written report may reduce the impact of missed participation

excused absence- a written report may eliminate the impact of missed participation

Performance Critique of Concert

- Students will demonstrate content knowledge by accurately evaluating the musical qualities of the ensemble's performance. (completed in class)

- **Composer Report (one per quarter/ 200 points)**
- Students are expected to complete a quarterly composer/musician report on an approved topic.
- Reports must be a minimum of three pages, double-spaced, 12 pt. font, free of grammar and spelling errors. Must contain a cover page and bibliography of at least one book source. Please see Ms. Jason or Ms. Null for college-level research materials.
- Points to be researched are:
 - ✓ General background information (please be thorough)
 - ✓ Music education, notable teachers & experiences
 - ✓ Compositional techniques, writing style, identifiable music characteristics
 - ✓ Important concerts, milestones or achievements
 - ✓ Notable compositions- briefly describe three and why they are worth your mention
 - ✓ What was happening historically in the world at that time? How did it affect him/her?
 - ✓ What new trends were being made musically at that time?
 - ✓ Why is this composer/musician remembered today? How did he/she impact music history?

Absence Policy:

Students have one class day per absence to complete missed work. Students out of class due to a field trip, club or class activity are still responsible for turning in work on time.

Late Work Policy:

All late work will be marked down one letter grade per class day. All late work must be handed in three days before the end of the marking period.

Student Signature: _____

Parent Signature: _____