

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS - HIGH SCHOOL INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC

Band and Orchestra

Brass Class (0.5 credit)

This class is open to all students in grades 9 through 12 who play a brass instrument. Enrollment will be by director recommendation only. This performance and skill-based class will include marching, concert, jazz, and chamber music. This group performs during first trimester for community activities, school functions, and special performances.

Prerequisites: Director Recommendation

Fee required

Percussion Class (0.5 credit)

This class is open to all students in grades 9 through 12 who play a percussion instrument. Enrollment will be by director recommendation only. This performance and skill-based class will include marching, concert, jazz, and chamber music. This group performs during first trimester for community activities, school functions, and special performances.

Prerequisites: Director Recommendation

Fee required

Woodwind Class (0.5 credit)

This class is open to all students in grades 9 through 12 who play a woodwind instrument. Enrollment will be by director recommendation only. This performance and skill-based class will include marching, concert, jazz, and chamber music. This group performs during first trimester for community activities, school functions, and special performances.

Prerequisites: Director Recommendation

Fee required

Beginning Guitar Class (0.5 credit)

This course is for students without previous experience. Instruction includes basic chords and strum patterns, bass guitar, lead guitar, staff and tablature notation, and introductory Barr chords. Music of all styles is utilized including Rock, Folk, Pop, and Classical. Guitars are provided for in-school use. Open to grades 10 through 12.

Prerequisites: None

Fee required

Marching Band (0.5 credit)

The Mason High School Marching Band is open to all students in grades 9 through 12 who play a brass, percussion, or woodwind instrument. This is a select group who rehearses after school. Enrollment will be by director recommendation. This performance-based group will perform at marching band competitions, most football games, community and school functions, state contest, and special performances.

Prerequisites: Director Recommendation

Fee required

Concert Band (1.0 credit)

The MHS Concert Bands meet for two trimesters, and are open to all students in grades 9 through 12 who play a brass, percussion, or woodwind instrument. Enrollment will be by audition only. These performance-based classes will include concert, jazz, and solo ensemble music. In addition, the Concert Bands will concentrate on the basic fundamentals of instrumental music (scales, tone, rhythm, etc.). These groups perform during the school year for community activities, school functions, district and state contests, and special performances.

Prerequisites: Audition and Director Recommendation

Fee required

Concert Winds (1.0 credit)

The MHS Concert Winds meets for two trimesters, and is open to all students in grades 9 through 12 who play a brass, percussion, or woodwind instrument. This group prepares band students for entering the Symphonic Band or Wind Symphony. Enrollment will be by audition and director(s) recommendation. This performance-based class will include concert, jazz, and solo/ensemble music. This group performs many times during the school year for community activities, school functions, district and state contests, and special performances.

Prerequisites: Audition and Director Recommendation

Fee required

Symphonic Band (1.0 credit)

The MHS Symphonic Band meets for two trimesters, and is open to all students in grades 9 through 12 who play a brass, percussion, or woodwind instrument. This group prepares band students for entering the Wind Symphony. Enrollment will be by audition and director(s) recommendation. This performance-based class will include concert, jazz, and solo ensemble music. This group performs many times during the school year for community activities, school functions, district and state contests, and special performances. Ninth grade students must also be enrolled in the Marching Band during the fall of their freshman year.

Prerequisites: Audition and Director Recommendation

Fee required

Wind Symphony (1.5 credits – 3 trimesters)

A highly select group performing the finest in wind literature, in which sophomores may participate with the Honors Wind Symphony. Proper instrumental technique, ear training skills, music theory, and appropriate rehearsal/performance disciplines will be taught and maintained within the group throughout the three trimesters. Enrollment is by audition and director(s) recommendation. This performance-based class will include A/AA concert literature and solo and ensemble music. Students selected must be available for rehearsals after school, public performances, solo and ensemble adjudicated events, and OMEA district and state contests. Sophomores will be introduced to and adjust to the demands of advance instrumental technique while playing advanced literature in preparation for their instrumental leadership in the junior/senior years. Although they will be participating with the Honors Wind Symphony, sophomores will not receive honors credit. Participation in OMEA adjudicated events for all levels will be required.

Prerequisites: Audition and Director Recommendation

Fee required

Honors Wind Symphony (1.5 credits – 3 trimesters)

The MHS Honors Wind Symphony is a highly select group who performs the finest in wind literature. Proper instrumental technique, ear training skills, music theory, and appropriate rehearsal/performance disciplines will be taught and maintained within the group throughout the three trimesters. Enrollment is by audition and director(s) recommendation. This performance-based class will include A/AA concert literature and solo and ensemble music. Students selected must be available for rehearsals after school, public performances, solo and ensemble adjudicated events, and OMEA district and state contests. Within the class, sophomores will be taking Level I as described above and will not receive honors credit. Juniors will be taking Level II of the course, com-

plete additional requirements and will receive honors credit. Seniors will be taking Level III of the course, complete advanced requirements and will receive honors credit. Participation in OMEA adjudicated events for all levels will be required. All students must adhere to the honors requirements.

Prerequisites: Audition and Director Recommendation

Fee required

Chamber Strings Ensemble Class (0.5 credit – 1 trimester)

This class is open to all students in grades 9 – 12 who play violin, viola, cello or double bass. Enrollment is by audition and director recommendation only. This performance and skill-based class will include small ensemble playing and advancing skill technique. This group performs during first trimester for community activities, school functions, and special performances.

Prerequisites: Audition and Director Recommendation

Fee required

Concert Orchestra (1.0 credit – 2 trimesters)

The MHS Concert Orchestra is open to all students in grades 9 – 12 who play violin, viola, cello or the double bass. Proper technique, ear training skills, music theory, and appropriate rehearsal/performance disciplines will be taught and maintained within the group. Enrollment is by audition and director recommendation only. This performance-based class will include class B/A concert literature and solo and ensemble music. Students participating must be available for public performances, solo and ensemble adjudicated events, OMEA district contests, and occasional after school rehearsals.

Prerequisites: Audition and Director Recommendation

Fee required

Symphony Orchestra (1.5 credit – 3 trimesters)

A highly select group performing the finest in orchestral literature, in which sophomores may participate with the Honors Symphony Orchestra. Proper orchestral technique, ear training skills, music theory, and appropriate rehearsal/performance disciplines will be taught and maintained within the group throughout the three trimesters. Enrollment is by audition and director(s) recommendation. This performance-based class will include A/AA concert literature and solo and ensemble music. Students selected must be available for rehearsals after school, public performances, solo and ensemble adjudicated events, and OMEA district and state contests. Sophomores will be introduced to and adjust to the demands of advanced orchestral technique while participating with the Honors Symphony Orchestra. Although they will be participating with the Honors Symphony Orchestra, sophomores will not receive honors credit. Participation in OMEA adjudicated events for all levels will be required.

Prerequisites: Audition and Director Recommendation

Fee required

Honors Symphony Orchestra (1.5 credit – 3 trimesters)

The MHS Honors Symphony Orchestra is a highly select group who performs the finest in orchestral literature. Proper orchestral technique, ear training skills, music theory, and appropriate rehearsal/performance disciplines will be taught and maintained within the group throughout the three trimesters. Enrollment is by audition and director(s) recommendation. This performance-based class will include A/AA concert literature and solo and ensemble music. Students selected must be available for rehearsals after school, public performances, solo and ensemble adjudicated events, and OMEA district and state contests. Juniors will be taking Level II of the course, complete additional requirements and will receive honors credit. Seniors will be taking Level III of the course, complete advanced requirements and will receive honors credit. Participation in OMEA adjudicated events for all levels will be required.

Prerequisites: Audition and Director Recommendation

Fee required