

Syllabus and Expectations

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CLASS RULES:

- 1. Respect self, others and their property. Treat others, as you want to be treated.**
- 2. Follow directions, be prepared to work.**

CLASS OBJECTIVES:

General Units of Study: Students will learn the basic language of music through exploration of the four elements: **Rhythm, Melody, Harmony, Tone Color, and Music History**. A week or two will be spent on each element. Students will use voices to sing, play instruments, and create music during class time. **Participation is required for all activities.** Students will also practice writing music through completing worksheets during class time.

Materials / Assessments: On most days **NO materials** will be need, **however on occasion a pencil** or pen will be required and the teacher will give *adequate notice* (the day before). Students will be responsible for turning in all worksheets and participating consistently in all activities and class discussions. (See attached rubrics)

Goals: By the end of the course, the student will be able to read basic music notation, sight-read a simple melodic line of music, sing with others in harmony, and improvise to basic chord progressions. The student will also be able to understand simple meter and be able to read and perform simple rhythmic phrases by clapping or by using instruments.

GRADING:

- Daily Participation (**singing** and playing instruments) (Informal and formal classroom observation) 80%
- Worksheets, in class work, and assessments (Written tests, individual, and group song project) 20%

Class format: **First half** of each class period - learn / review concepts.

Second half of each class period – use / practice concepts with use of instruments and singing.

Poor Behavior and Consequences: Positive behavior and participation is required! Students are graded daily by using the 2 attached rubrics (Singing and Intention).

7th Grade Music Course Map

Priority Learning Targets, National Music Standards, and General Skills Developed:

Rhythmic Theory - Students identify and define standard notation symbols for pitch, rhythm, dynamics, tempo, articulation, and expression.

- Identify durations of note and rest values: whole, half, quarter, eighth in simple meters (2/4, 3/4, 4/4).
- Identify and perform dotted rhythms (dotted half and dotted quarter).
- Identify the components of a time signature (simple).
- Perform rhythms (including syncopation and triplets) in simple meters (2/4, 3/4, 4/4) using whole, half, quarter, and eighth notes and rests.
- Identify the number of beats per measure in a musical example (two or three beats per measure).
- Notate simple rhythmic patterns.

Melodic Theory - Sing or play melodies accurately and expressively from a written score in at least one clef.

- Identify letter names on the grand staff including one ledger line above and below.
- Identify solfeggio syllables in C major on the grand staff.
- Notate melodies on a staff.
- Identify steps and skips on the staff.

Singing - Students sing accurately and with good breath control throughout their singing ranges, alone and in small and large ensembles.

- Sing a major scale using solfeggio.
- Demonstrate musical independence through the performance of a vocal line sung with one or more parts.
- Demonstrate proper technique, physical involvement, focus, and discipline.
- Demonstrate various timbres through singing (head voice, chest voice, belting, etc.).

Music History and Culture - Students describe distinguishing characteristics of representative music genres and styles from a variety of cultures.

- Understand the progression of the musical historical periods.
 - Baroque (1600-1750) (Bach, Handel, Vivaldi)
 - Classical (1750-1825) (Mozart, Haydn, Beethoven)
 - Romantic (1825-1900) (Berlioz, Mahler, Brahms)
 - Modern (1900-now) (Prokofiev, Gershwin)
- Identify aural cues specific to each historical period.

General activities to cover and develop the above: Playing sticks and drums, singing and playing melody and harmony, composing and performing a group song using xylophones, bells, and glockenspiels.