

TPHS Band & Orchestra Syllabus 2009–2010

Instructor: Amy Willcox

Course Goals:

1. Develop a life long appreciation of music & the arts
2. Improve musical technique through ensemble & sectional rehearsal/performance
3. Develop interpretive skills as an ensemble
4. Develop teamwork & leadership skills
5. Become more proficient sight-readers
6. Apply a knowledge of music theory & history
7. Share your passion for music with the TPHS community

Expectations & Obligations:

1. Learn a demanding list of repertoire
2. PRACTICE- it's your homework!
3. 100% participation: being on time, asking questions, improving technique, listening to suggestions & helping others. Let's play the music, not just the notes!!!!
4. Demonstrate a knowledge & appreciation of basic music theory; you must know all your major & harmonic minor scales for warm-ups.
5. Be an active participant, always hold yourself to a high standard
6. Maintain a cooperative & collaborative attitude
7. Keep equipment in playable condition, which includes having all required accessories
8. Show respect to staff, artists & fellow students

Classroom Procedures

Instrument drop off- The classroom will be open by 7:15 each morning

Instrument pick up- The room will be open for at least 20 mins. after school, sometimes longer.

Music Storage- Each instrument has a designated area for storage

Music Folders- After seating auditions you will receive a folder to keep at school with all your original pieces. Our music is quite expensive. You will be responsible for replacing lost or damaged music. Place your folder in the storage cabinet at the end of each rehearsal. Please only use pencil when marking your music & always keep a pencil in your folder.

Restroom- Take care of all personal needs before class begins.

Clean Up- Put your chair, music stand & folder away after each class. Percussion must be stored in the proper location. Class will not be dismissed until the room is cleaned properly.

Stay Current- Check my website in order to stay current with events throughout the year.

Letters of Recommendation- Please be sure to ask in advanced for summer camp & college letters. It is in your best interest that I have at least four weeks to write a fabulous letter for you. Visit your counselor for info. regarding requesting a letter.

Classroom Rules:

Food- Absolutely no food or drink allowed! Bottled water is ok.

School Equipment- IF IT'S NOT YOURS DON'T TOUCH IT! This will relieve you of any responsibility should anything disappear or become broken. All students using school owned instruments must fill out an instrument agreement form.

Outside Materials- Do not bring: homework, books, ipods, cell phones, rubics cubes or anything else you can think of. Materials which do not belong are only a distraction to you and those around you. Violation of this rule will result in a Saturday school assignment.

Punctuality- Three tardies = 1 Saturday school. It is not my responsibility to inform you that you have been marked tardy. If you are late, consider yourself marked tardy!

Rehearsal Activity- Pay attention! Many suggestions for improvement of others will also apply to you.

No Talking- Talking during rehearsal will result in an F for your daily participation as well as a possible **demotion in chair placement!**

Raise your hand- This is just like any other class, you must raise your hand if you have a question, comment or concern.

Posture- It is imperative that you sit in proper playing position at all times. Improper posture negatively affects your tone production.

Sickness- If you're sick PLEASE do not come to my class and spread your germs! If you come to school, you are expected to participate. If you are too ill to play your instrument I need a note from the doctor, otherwise you are expected to play.

Missed Work In Other Classes- Please do not ask me if you can make up missed work from other classes during my class. I don't pull you out of your Math class to play your scales for me!

Concert Attendance- Concerts are mandatory. Everything we work on in class leads up to our concerts. It is a group effort and if you are not present the group suffers. If you have an emergency your parent/guardian needs to notify me asap! If you miss a concert you will be required to play each piece so that I am able to assess your progress.

Extra Practice- You are more than welcome to use our practice rooms after school. Be sure to first check how long I plan on staying.

Grading

80% Daily Participation/Performances **20%** tests/quizzes

Required Materials- (check my website for local & online stores)

Metronome & Tuner- A must have for successful practicing

Lyre & Flip Folder- (band students) for Pep Band

Woodwinds- 4 extra reeds at all times (nothing smaller than a 3). Cl & Sax. players should all have a hard rubber mouthpiece (*see me for suggestions*)

Brass- must have valve oil, cleaning supplies & mutes. Tpt. players should have a cup mute, plunger & a straight mute

Strings- must have rosin & an extra set of strings at all times. You never know when a string could break!

Percussion- Stick bag including: snare sticks (wood tip), hard rubber mallets, medium yard mallets & timpani mallets. *Check out steveweissmusic.com*

Concert Attire

Orchestra/Band-

Guys- Tuxedos (w/ a black bow tie), black socks (not ankle socks) & all black shoes

I have a few tuxedos to lend to students who are unable to purchase a tuxedo

Ladies- Wear all black. If you chose to wear a dress it must be at or below your knees.

Shoes must be all black

Jazz Band-

TP Jazz Band Shirt, black pants, black socks (not ankle socks) & Black shoes

Pep Band-

Black TPHS band shirt/sweatshirt & jeans (free admission when wearing your uniform)

Leadership *We will vote on leadership positions in each class

Class President- Represent class @ booster mtgs., help organize trips, fundraisers & competitions

Publicity- Help publicize concerts & music dept. events

Historian- Take pictures & coordinates video taping of concerts

Librarian- Help organize/maintain the music library & class folders

Calendar-

In addition to three formal concerts this year, each class will participate in at least 1 SCSBOA festival & an additional festival/class trip. *To bring trip costs down there are a number of fundraising opportunities to participate in throughout the year.

Contact & Website

Amy.willcox@sduhsd.net <http://teachers.sduhsd.net/awillcox>

Music Department Database

The database is my primary means of communication with you. Parents & students will receive class updates & important info. regarding concerts, fundraising opportunities & events. Please go to the main page of the website to update your current account (returning students), or create a account (new students).

Upcoming Events:

*9/9 Mandatory music parent info. mtg., TP lecture hall 7 pm

*9/3 Drum line meeting after school, M-1 2:35 (all students welcome)

*9/11 First pep band game!!! 5:30 pm (pizza party before game!

*9/17 Music Booster mtg, M-1, 7 pm, all parents & students are welcome

(Please cut here and keep the syllabus)

Your first assignment is to turn in your signed syllabus form

9/3 (2-4-6 classes) & 9/4 (1-3-5 classes)

I have read & agree to the rules & policies set forth in the music syllabus

Parents & Students please initial the following-

- _____ _____ I understand the grading procedures
- _____ _____ I understand all classroom rules & expectations
- _____ _____ I understand I must have all required equipment
- _____ _____ I have updated my database info/registered on the database (visit the home page of my website)

Student Print Name: _____

Student Signature: _____

Student Email: _____

Parent Signature: _____

Parent Email: _____
