

Exploring Music I&II Syllabus

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Welcome to Music Appreciation with Mr. Karram.

Course Description

Students reflect on the significance of social influences and historical events on the development of music. Participants focus on the creation, use, and performance of music; and the modes of listening, distributing, and gaining access to music. Public performances may serve as a resource for specific instructional goals. Students may be expected to attend one or more performances outside the school day to support, extend, and assess learning in the classroom.

Course Materials Required:

- 1: Hard, three ringed binder, 1 inch
- 2: Pencil + sharpener or Pen
- 3: Loose-leaf Paper

Course Outline:

Core Unit 1: What is Music and How Does it Affect Us?

Instrument Unit 1: Recorders

Composer Unit 1: Minimalism

Core Unit 2: How to Talk About Music

Instrument Unit 2: Ukeleles

Composer Unit 2: Movie Music

Core Unit 3: Instrument Families

Instrument Unit 3: Guitars

Composer Unit 3: Iannis Xenakis

Core Unit 4: Music Eras

Instrument Unit 4: To be determined

Composer Unit 4: Charles Ives

A core music appreciation unit lasts between 2 and 3 weeks. A composer unit will usually last between 1 and 1.5 weeks including a project. Students will be learning instruments alongside the core unit materials. They will be playing recorders, ukuleles, and guitars in class. Students are responsible for keeping track of their recorders after they are assigned.

Grading

Classwork 10%

-Worksheets, class participation, practice logs, and in-class projects

Formative Assessments 30%

-Written quizzes, unit projects

Summative Assessments 50%

-Written tests, final project

Taking Notes 10%

-Lesson notes, vocabulary, markings in handouts

Tests in music appreciation consist mostly of multiple choice, true and false, and fill in the blank. As the instructor I may give out a pop quiz on the topic studied at any time. The final will be a cumulative test of all units covered in class. No late work will be accepted except in the case of illness or family emergency. No late homework will be accepted without a **note from home**. Assignments that are not turned in will be marked as failing.

Classroom Procedures and Expectations

Students are expected to adhere to all parts of the St. Lucie County Code of Student Conduct.

All students must be in their seats **within 1 minute of the start of class**. Any students not in their seats will be marked tardy.

During class, all students are expected to **remain quiet during instruction and transitions** unless told otherwise. There will be numerous opportunities given in class for individual work or helping neighbors. Class members must be attentive to instructions the first time given in order to ensure a productive learning environment.

There is to be absolutely no gum chewing in the music room. All trash must be placed in the trash bin. The music room must be kept neat and organized. If you use the restroom located in the music room, it must be left clean and you must wash your hands before returning to class.

Disruptive students may be asked to remove themselves from the class until they are prepared to focus. Any student removed from the group during class will fill out a reflection form.

Depending on the severity of the disruption, a referral may be filled out. Three reflection forms will automatically lead to a referral and/or a call home.

A word on notes: You will take a lot of notes in this class. Make sure you are prepared each day with blank pages and a sharp pencil or pen. If you miss a day, it is likely that you will miss 25% or more of what will be on your Unit Test so be prepared to get the notes from a friend, it is not the teachers responsibility to get you the notes. You will use your notes as a study guide

(anything you are required to write down is likely to appear on a test). You will also use them as a resource to formulate opinions about musical selections, and to write 30 second speeches for the review day.

Class Discussions: Significant portions of the class will include in-depth discussions of musical examples relating to the unit we are studying. Participation points for the day are partially earned through insightful comments and additions to the discussion. **Disparaging remarks and deliberately hurtful comments WILL NOT be tolerated in any form.** Our goal for discussions is to encourage thinking about music and different viewpoints should be expressed in a considerate and thoughtful manner.

Listening Exercises: Most class periods will include a listening exercise. During a listening example, students **must remain silent**. These activities may include a worksheet, free write, discussion, or marking-up of music.

Projects: There will be several small, in class projects during each unit. For group projects, all members of a group are expected to contribute meaningfully. Group members will all receive the same grade for projects, but individuals may lose points if it is apparent that they did not participate in the final project.

Project Presentations: All students will be required to present projects to the class. Occasionally, students will be asked to give supportive and constructive comments to their classmates. **Negative comments will NOT be tolerated.** Our goal is to maintain a safe atmosphere for all members of our class to grow and improve.

Parent/Student Agreement

I have read the above syllabus and understand the music appreciation classroom expectations.

Student Name _____ Date _____

Student Signature _____ Date _____

Parent/Guardian Signature _____ Date _____

**Signature due by 8/28/15