

Syllabus for Chamber Orchestra

Fred Steiner
Room 102 - Music
377-4888 ext. 609
steinerf@pvpusd.net

Dates for 2019-2020:

October 16, 2019	-	Orchestra parent meeting (PVPHS orchestra room)
October 23, 2019	-	String Festival (here at Pen with RIS)
December 13, 2019	-	Fall Orchestra Concert
February 9, 2020	-	String auditions for 2020-2021 school year
April 17, 2020	-	Spring Orchestra Concert
April 25, 2020	-	Music in the Parks Festival/Six Flags
June 11 th , 2020	-	Every non-senior musician performs at graduation

This syllabus is only an outline of the course of study. Occasionally it is necessary to add performances or change performance dates due to performance venue availability, etc... Please be patient and understand changes are only made when absolutely necessary. Feel free to contact Mr. Steiner with questions.

Participation in the Peninsula High School Orchestra program is a pretty unique opportunity for the students who choose to be involved. We are lucky to have a tremendously supportive community which nurtures appreciation for music and strives to prepare students in our schools to have a vibrant orchestra program. Most communities are not able to provide this opportunity for students in their public schools.

The philosophy and approach to our orchestra classes centers around a few main goals. We want to give all students an opportunity to have **quality experiences making music**. We want to **broaden the students' knowledge of as much orchestra music as possible**. We want to **challenge the students with appropriate performance experiences** some of which will be judged by expert teachers. In pursuit of this goal we expect daily participation in classroom activities and regular individual practice outside of class rehearsal. **We expect every student who chooses to join our program to participate in all scheduled performance activities. This is required for earning an excellent grade.**

SUPPLY LIST: Students are expected to have access to their own instrument and maintain the instrument in clean, functioning condition. All miscellaneous items such as bows, reeds, neckstraps, mutes, binders for music, etc... are the student's responsibility.

STUDENT PERFORMANCE/LEARNING OUTCOMES: At the completion of the year, the student will:

- develop an understanding of rhythm, and apply this skill to individual and ensemble playing
- learn to better recognize correct intonation within the ensemble as related to his/her own playing
- gain a greater understanding of musical style and historical context of the music being performed
- participate in a fulfilling musical performance

TARDIES: I do expect students to be in class on time. I understand our classroom is a great distance from most other parts of campus however we still must have a rigid start time or important minutes are wasted every day. I'm dedicated to making sure students follow the school TARDY policy.

1st and 2nd Tardies – student reminded to be on time

3rd Tardy – parent notified

4th Tardy – Teacher issues referral to administration resulting in conference with student. Parent notified. Student issued 3-4 days of lunchtime paper pick-up.

5th and 6th Tardies - Teacher issues referral to administration resulting in conference with student. Parent notified. Student issued 3-4 days of lunchtime paper pick-up. Saturday school issued to student.

7th Tardy - Teacher issues referral to administration resulting in conference with student. Parent notified. Student issued 3-4 days of lunchtime paper pick-up. Saturday **school issued to student or student is dropped from the class.**

HOUSEKEEPING: Gum is **never allowed** in our music room.

Food only during **lunchtime**.

Take care of the instrument you use (personal or school owned) including making sure they are properly stored with cases closed and latched.

DO NOT TOUCH EQUIPMENT THAT DOESN'T BELONG TO YOU OR HASN'T BEEN ASSIGNED TO YOU WITHOUT PERMISSION.

Always have your own music in rehearsal (not expecting to use your neighbor's music) with your **PENCIL!!!**

PRACTICE AT HOME: Yes, that's right, you need to take time outside of class rehearsal time to prepare your own individual part assignment. It is possible to do that extra practice here in the music room during lunch time, during "free" periods if you have one, and occasionally after school. But for most students, that means you need to practice at home. If you put in extra practice on your own time you will surely notice that you achieve higher grades on **graded playing tests**.

ATTENDANCE POLICY: Regular attendance in rehearsal is necessary for satisfactory achievement. Therefore, it is the responsibility of the student to attend every scheduled class meeting. **40% of the students' grades is based on daily participation.**

40% of the students' grades is based on participating in performances. Notice of an absence from a scheduled performance must be given a minimum of two weeks prior to the scheduled performance. An example of a legitimate reason for missing a performance would be a family event that can't be rescheduled. An example of an unacceptable reason for missing a performance would be an SAT prep class. Naturally, if a student misses a performance due to unforeseen circumstances, we will plan a make-up assignment.

GRADING CRITERIA/GRADE SCALE

Class attendance and preparation 40%

Performance attendance 40%

Playing tests 20%

Final Grade is based on the following scale:

A= 90-100%

B= 80-89%

C= 70-79%

D= 60-69%

F= Below 60%

REQUIRED EXAMINATIONS:

Occasionally the band and possibly color guard students will be tested for a grade on a portion of the music or routine they have been learning. In the event that we have these “tests” the students are given advance notice to prepare. 20% of the students’ grades are based on graded performance “tests”.

The following is an example of the scoring rubric for playing tests:

- | | | |
|---|---|--|
| 5 | - | No faults with great articulation and dynamics |
| 4 | - | Excellent notes, rhythm, tuning, and tone quality |
| 3 | - | All correct notes and rhythm with satisfactory tuning and tone quality |
| 2 | - | Most correct notes and rhythms with some tuning problems and acceptable tone |
| 1 | - | Some correct notes and rhythms with poor tuning and tone quality |