

Granada Middle School
Band and Orchestra Syllabus
2022-2023 School Year

Respect ◊ Diligence ◊ Perseverance ◊ Responsibility ◊ Helpfulness ◊ Excellence

Instructor: Mr. Silva
Email: rsilva@ewcsd.org
Website: GMSmusic.org

IMPORTANT: ALL STUDENTS MUST EARN AN A, B, OR C IN ALL ACADEMIC CLASSES TO STAY IN THIS ELECTIVE. STUDENTS EARNING D'S OR F'S IN OTHER CLASSES ARE SUBJECT TO REMOVAL AND WILL BE PLACED IN A STUDY SKILLS CLASS.

WIND ENSEMBLE COURSE DESCRIPTION: The Wind Ensemble is an advanced level year-long enrichment elective, and students must have completed an audition to be accepted into this class. Students in this class represent the high caliber of our music program and must meet the expectations of the director in order to keep their spot in this ensemble. The music we will study will be highly advanced (high-school level music) and this ensemble will have a very active performance schedule. Daily, consistent practice is mandatory to keep your spot in this ensemble.

SYMPHONIC BAND COURSE DESCRIPTION: The Symphonic Band is a beginning/intermediate level year-long enrichment elective. Students enrolled in this class will get to experience playing flute, clarinet, saxophone, trumpet, French horn, trombone, baritone, tuba, or percussion. The symphonic band will also have an active performance schedule. In this class, we will further develop tone quality and technical ability, moving from intermediate level music to more advanced music as the year progresses.

CONCERT ORCHESTRA COURSE DESCRIPTION: The Concert Orchestra is a year-long enrichment elective for returning string students at Granada Middle School. Students must complete an audition to be accepted into this class. Students enrolled in this class must have at least one year of experience playing a violin, viola, cello, bass, or piano. Students in this class represent the high caliber of our music program and must meet the expectations of the director in order to keep their spot in this ensemble.

CONCERT BAND COURSE DESCRIPTION: The Concert Band class is a year-long enrichment elective for students at Granada Middle School who have one year of experience or no musical experience. The students in this class will have the option of playing flute, clarinet, saxophone, trumpet, French horn, trombone, baritone, tuba, or percussion.

STRING ORCHESTRA COURSE DESCRIPTION: The String Orchestra class is a year-long enrichment elective for students at Granada Middle School who have one year of experience or no musical experience. The students in this class will have the option of playing violin, viola, cello, or bass.

JAZZ BAND COURSE DESCRIPTION: Jazz Band is an after-school ensemble. Consistent attendance to all rehearsals is a requirement for any students involved with this ensemble. Students must have at least one year in our program in order to participate. An audition is required.

*All students will be required to complete an audition in May to be placed into an ensemble for the 2020-2021 school year.

COURSE OBJECTIVES: By the end of the school year, each student in this class will be able to:

1. Learn or improve music reading skills
2. Improve their tone quality on their instrument
3. Learn scales on their instruments
4. Improve intonation (playing their instrument in tune, as a soloist and within the ensemble)
5. Critically evaluate performances and accept constructive criticism from qualified music professionals
6. Further the sense of pride and enjoyment in playing an instrument
7. Sight-read music of medium level (grade level 1-2 out of 5)
8. Learn how to prepare for an audition

REQUIRED MATERIALS: Must be brought to class every single day. Students will receive a **warning** the first time they forget any of their materials. The second time, they will be issued a **detention**. Consistently forgetting materials will result in **parent conference** and could lead to being removed from this class.

1. Black 1" ring binder (due by Friday, August 23rd - Binder check will take place this day, 10 points)
2. 10 Individual plastic sheet covers to protect music from flying away or getting ruined
3. Preferably 2-3 mechanical pencils (to avoid needing to sharpen). **NO PENS, SHARPIES, or MARKERS!**
4. Instrument, ready to go, in good-working order, **REQUIRED: ID name tag attached to case!**
5. **Woodwinds:** Size 3 or 3 ½ reeds (you must own at least 5 reeds), cleaning rod/swab, cork grease
6. **Brass:** Your own small bottle of valve oil, slide grease, cleaning snake, straight mute (trumpets)
7. **Percussion:** Own pair of SD-1 sticks, and practice pad are required.
8. **Violin/Viola/Cello/Bass:** Rosin. Rosin is specific to each instrument. Shoulder rests - required of all violin and viola students. **Strings:** 1 set of extra strings (4 strings total). You are expected to have your own replacement set of strings.
9. All students need a metronome and tuner - these are mandatory/required.

CLASSROOM PROCEDURES: Failure to follow classroom procedures will result in a **warning** (first time), **referral** to ALC (second time), or parent phone call or **conference** and possible **removal** from the program.

1. Wait outside in a single file line. Wait for permission to enter the classroom in a quiet, respectful manner.
2. Get your instrument from your assigned locker first thing (know your lock combination!). If you have a larger instrument, take it out of the case, and put the case back into the locker to save space.
3. If you need a music stand, grab one from the stand rack and quickly go to your seat before the bell.
4. Put your backpack underneath your chair.
5. Set up your instrument, as instructed.
6. Place your music folder on your stand.
7. Put your pencil on your stand. Pencil checks are part of your grade!
8. Check the board before the beginning of class and put your music/materials in the listed order. IF you forgot your music, you must share with your neighbor, or ask the librarian for a copy **before the bell rings**.
9. Warm up: have your instrument/music/stand/pencil ready to go.
10. Do **NOT** play unnecessary sounds (purposefully squeaking, playing really high notes, or making funny sounds). This may result in a detention.
11. When the director gets on the podium, go to rest position: face forward, stop playing, listen **silently**.
12. When the director gives the stop signal, stop immediately and quietly go to rest position.
13. At the end of class, wait until you are dismissed to pack up.
14. Return your instrument to your locker, or take it with you. You are responsible for your belongings!
15. Pick up any trash and put all of your belongings in your backpack or locker.

CLASSROOM RULES: All students are expected to show good behavior and be positive role models to each other. Failure to follow ANY of our class rules will result in a **written warning** the first time. On the second offense, the student will automatically be issued a **detention**. Serious or subsequent offences will result in a **parent phone call or conference** and possible **removal from the program**.

WEIGHTED GRADING CRITERIA: STUDENTS TAKING THIS ELECTIVE WILL BE ISSUED A LETTER GRADE (A, B, C, D, F)

§ **Participation Points** are earned based on the student's attendance to mandatory rehearsals (as announced), citizenship/behavior, attitude, and preparedness to each class. Forgetting instrument/music at home, tardiness, disrupting the class, or failing to be an active participant in the learning process will result in loss of participation points.

- There will be unannounced **music folder and pencil checks** that will go toward the participation points. Students must always have their music and a pencil to earn full participation points.

§ **Quizzes** will be administered to check for progress in learning new music. We will have playing exams once a week. A **project** will be issued during the second semester (more details to come).

- **Make Up Quizzes:** It is the responsibility of the student to make up a quiz if they are absent (Mr. Silva will not always remind students). Make up quizzes will take place during field time on Tuesdays or Thursdays and **must be made up within 2 days of an excused absence**.
- **Retakes:** Students make retake a quiz **ONCE** if they received a 79% or below. You must re-take it within 2 days of receiving the first score.

§ **Performances** are mandatory! Please see the attached calendar of events. Call time is a half hour before the start of the concert. Late or no-show students will lose a fraction of the points or all points toward performance grade. Students who do not wear all parts of the attire will also lose points for the performance score. Most performances will be worth 100 points.

§ **Practice Logs** must be filled out every day to keep track of daily practice. These are due on the first Monday of every month and must be signed by a parent/guardian in order to receive credit. Logs can be turned in up to one day late **with a 10 point penalty**. After that, the student will **NOT** be allowed to turn in the practice log and will lose all of the points possible for that assignment.

Your grade is weighted as follows:

Category	% of total grade
Participation	10
Quizzes/Projects	25
Practice Logs	30
Performances	35