

Orange High School

Visual & Performing Arts Department

Course Outline/Syllabus

Strings I

Ms. G
Strings Director
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973-677-4050

Course Description

Welcome to Strings I! Please be advised that this is a performance-based class, and we will be performing for each other and for several concerts and events throughout the school year.

This course is for students who are new to playing an orchestral string instrument, specifically violin, viola, or cello. We will learn to read music notation, ensemble pieces, chamber music, and solo repertoire from various genres.

Course Goals

- Develop the aesthetic sensitivity, musical knowledge, and independent ensemble performance skills of each orchestra member
- Develop high level thinking required for complex reasoning, critical thinking, problem solving, and listening skills through music performance
- Promote and develop positive interactions such as teamwork, cooperation, leadership, acceptance of differences, discipline, and creativity
- Enhance thinking in all other subjects while maintaining the integrity of music as its own subject

Student Objectives

- Perform independently and in groups a variety of string orchestra and full orchestra repertoire
- Perform with appropriate musicality, musical knowledge, and ensemble performance skills
- Demonstrate and utilize correct rehearsal skills and etiquette

Topics of Instruction

| | | | |
|------------------|-----------------|----------|--------------|
| Posture | Notation | Beat | Musicianship |
| Bow Hold | Articulation | Rhythm | Ensembleship |
| Sound Production | Musicality | Dynamics | Blend |
| Instrument Care | Tone Quality | Melody | Balance |
| | Stage Etiquette | Harmony | Tempo |
| | Stage Presence | Timbre | Mood |
| | Texture | Form | |

Classroom Conduct

Make responsible choices.
Use kind words.
Strive to do more than is expected.
Include yourself in all class activities.
Care for instruments and school equipment.

Students are to be in class every day on time and prepared with class materials and ready.

Consequences

1. Verbal Warning
2. One minute after class and phone call to parent/guardian
3. Lunch detention
4. Termination of Instrument Contract
5. Referral to Assistant Principal

Depending upon severity of behavior, steps 1-4 may be skipped.

Grading & Make-up Policies

25% Tests
25% Authentic Assessments
20% Quizzes
20% Classwork
10% Homework

Students are responsible for all missed assignments due to absence. Students with excused absences will be allowed up to one week upon return to class to submit missing work. Unexcused absences will result in a negative impact on individual grades.

Concert and Performance Policy

As a member of the Orange High School Orchestra, concerts are MANDATORY and will each count as a test grade. Absences will only be excused due to family emergency and must be submitted in writing ASAP.

Winter Concert: Thursday, December 17, 2019

Spring Concert: Thursday, May 28, 2020

Attendance

Attendance is mandatory and essential for developing musicians. Absences negatively impact personal growth as well as the overall ensemble's growth.

You are expected to be in class on time and ready to go every day. Those who arrive after the bell must have a pass to be admitted to class. Those who arrive late without a pass will be marked late and have points deducted from their daily grade.

Daily Classwork Grades

- Posture (5 points)
- Bow hold (5 points)
- Preparation (5 points)
- Tone (5 points)

Academic Dishonesty

Students and their parent/guardian should refer to the Orange High School Student Handbook regarding the Academic Dishonesty Policy. Cheating in any form will not be tolerated and will result in a zero grade for the assignment.

Late Work

You are expected to hand in assignments on time. Late assignments will be marked down a grade unless otherwise cleared with the instructor.

Restroom Policy

A pass to the bathroom will be granted at appropriate times during class. If this privilege is abused, it will be taken away. No passes will be given during the first 20 minutes and last 20 minutes of class.

Required Supplies and Materials

1. Pencil - you may NOT mark music in pen or marker
2. Instrument
3. Folder
4. Notebook (preferably a composition notebook)
5. School Gmail account to access Google Classroom
6. Any additional material distributed in class (sheet music)

These are mandatory for every class.

Recommended Texts

*You and the instructor will discuss which instrument is the best fit for you. **Please do not purchase method books until you have been assigned an instrument.***

- Suzuki Method, Book 1
- String Explorer, Book 1
- All for Strings, Book 1

Mission

The mission of the Orange High School Orchestra is to provide exemplary musical experiences that enable players and audience members to be engaged actively and reflectively, using high quality examples of orchestral literature from a wide range of genres and time periods.

**Orange High School
Visual & Performing Arts Department
Strings I
Course Outline/Syllabus - Agreement**

I have read and understand the expectations of this course as set forth in the syllabus. I agree to abide by the rules and procedures established by the instructor. I will treat myself and others with respect.

Student's Printed Name: _____

Student's Signature: _____

Date: _____

Parent/Guardian's Printed Name: _____

Parent/Guardian's Signature: _____

Date: _____

Current Phone Number: _____

Current Email Address: _____

PLEASE SIGN AND RETURN ONLY THIS PAGE



**CITY OF ORANGE TOWNSHIP
BOARD OF EDUCATION
VISUAL & PERFORMING ARTS
ORANGE, NEW JERSEY 07050**

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Supervisor of Visual & Performing Arts, K-12

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INSTRUMENT CONTRACT

Dear Parent/Guardian:

The Orange Township Board of Education is affording students the opportunity of taking instrumental music lessons during the regular school day. They are also providing the music instrument stated below at no additional cost.

Instruments are extremely expensive and hard to replace. Therefore, instruments and all their parts must be protected. It is a big responsibility and we ask your cooperation and understanding in the following:

- If the instrument is lost or damaged during the school year, you must replace or repair it **at your expense**.
- Do not allow your child to loan the instrument to others, including their other brothers, sisters or cousins.
- Do not allow your child to leave this instrument in the school. **HOME PRACTICE IS REQUIRED!!!** It must be taken home for practice at the end of every lesson day, rehearsal or concert.
- All instruments are to be returned to the music teacher at the end of school or if your child transfers to another school district.

We suggest that you consult with your homeowner or renter insurance agent to see if you can include this instrument on your existing policy. This will save you great trouble and personal expense if it is lost or stolen.

Thank you for understanding these conditions. Please sign and return the bottom portion of this document if you agree with the contents of this contract so your child may begin music lessons right away. To speak to me at any time, please contact the Main Office of your child's school. I will promptly return your call!

Sincerely,

Miss G
Strings Instructor

Please cut below this line and return to Miss G

Student Name: _____ Date: _____
 School: _____ Grade: _____ Room: _____
 Instrument: _____ Serial #: _____
 Manufacturer: _____ Condition: _____
 Homeowner/Renter Insurance Company _____ Policy #: _____

Parent Signature

Student Signature

Miss G