

Music

Class Guitar

0.5 Credit: Semester

MU1200

Prerequisite: None

This class is intended for students who have little or no training on guitar. The course will cover many styles of playing from rock to jazz, Latin and classical. An emphasis will be placed on learning the basics: chords, scales, rhythms, and students will learn to play both melody and rhythm guitar. Mini recitals, as well as a public performance, will be an integral part of the curriculum.

World Music Drumming

0.5 Credit: Semester

MU1300

Prerequisite: None

World Music Drumming is an interdisciplinary performance elective that uses an aural hand drumming tradition to teach students about other cultures through music. We will study the traditions and musical cultures of Africa and the Caribbean. Through participation in this course, students will demonstrate proper performance technique of world instruments.

Class Piano 1

0.5 Credit: Semester

MU1700

Prerequisite: None

This course is designed for students who have no previous piano playing experience and also for those who study privately. Upon successful completion of this course, students will have basic functional piano skills needed to play simple piano pieces. Students will also have basic music theory, music history, and basic compositional skills needed for music writing and arranging. At the end of each term or semester, students will perform in a recital.

Class Piano 2

0.5 Credit: Semester

MU2400

Prerequisite: Class Piano or consent of instructor

Class Piano 2 is a course designed for students who have previously taken Class Piano or have studied piano privately at an advanced, beginning or intermediate level. *Exceptions will be made on a case by case basis by the instructor.* Students who successfully complete this course will have the ability to play beginning to advanced solo literature, may have the opportunity to play a solo or duet for the solo-ensemble festival, will have a more extensive knowledge of music theory and history and have the knowledge and hands-on experience in writing compositions for playing. Mini recitals are customary throughout the semester and a final class recital with an original composition is required.

Foundations of Musicianship

0.5 Credit: Semester

MU1500

Prerequisite: None

The course combines a three-tier approach to music understanding: music history appreciation, music theory, and music technology. Students will gain a proficient understanding of music theory and ear training. Students will also synthesize their understanding through the use of Music Technology applications. Note: This course is intended for students with little or no music background.

Advanced Music Theory & Appreciation

0.5 Credit: Semester

MU2500

Prerequisite: Foundations of Musicianship

Consent of Instructor

This course is directed toward students who are advanced in basic Music Theory skills and who have had performance or other formal music experience. Students will compose, play keyboard, and study music theory. This course has a rigorous curriculum designed to prepare students for an AP Music Theory exam.

Music Teaching Assistant

0.5 Credit: Semester

This course allows one or two students per semester to assist in various tasks within the Music Department.

MU8001/MU8002

Prerequisite: Consent of Instructor

Concert Band/Concert Choir

Concert Band

1 Credit: Yearlong

This ensemble is intended for all incoming freshmen, students who are new to singing, or students who have taken an extended break from performing in a music ensemble. Students will sing music from a variety of eras and traditions, perform in large and small groups, and develop skills through the practice of music. Involves periodic outside of class commitments such as concerts and festivals.

MU1000

Prerequisite: None

Concert Choir

1 Credit: Yearlong

Concert Choir is a group for students interested in learning more about using the voice in an ensemble setting. Music and lessons are tailored to improve student skills in vocal performance, reading, and singing as part of a multi-section ensemble. All incoming freshmen interested in choir sign up for Concert Choir. Concerts are required as part of course credit.

MU1100

Prerequisite: None

Wind Ensemble Courses/Chorale

Wind Ensemble

1 Credit: Yearlong

Wind Ensemble is designed to enhance students' musicianship and ensemble playing skills through an in-depth study of standard wind band literature. By the nature of the course and the repertoire studied, playing independence and ensemble skills are integral to participation in Wind Ensemble. Thus, instrument proficiency and a basic understanding of music theory are required. Wind Ensemble students perform several band concerts and represent the district at solo/ensemble and large group festivals. Exceptional sophomores may be considered at the discretion of the instructor.

MU2000

Prerequisite: Admission by Audition or Appointment

Chorale

1 Credit: Yearlong

After one year of successful coursework in Concert Choir, students may sign up for Chorale. This ensemble of 35-50 voices studies repertoire from around the world to refine skills in tone and musicianship, choral blend, stylistic performance, and chamber performance. Performances at concerts, workshops, and special events are required as a part of course credit.

MU2100

Prerequisite: One year of Concert Choir or Appointment

Jazz Band/Vocal Jazz Courses

Jazz Lab

1 Credit: Yearlong

Jazz Lab explores the language and styles of jazz from the Big Band era to the jazz of today. Emphasis is given to learning improvisation and developing strong ensemble-playing skills. Note: Whenever possible students accepted in Jazz Lab must also enroll in Concert Band (fr.) or Wind Ensemble (so-snr). Exceptions, granted by permission of the conductor, may be made for instruments not found in traditional bands or in the event that a necessary course schedule that prohibits participation in two instrumental music courses.

MU3220

Prerequisite: Concert Band/Wind Ensemble

Jazz Ensemble**1 Credit: Yearlong****MU3200****Prerequisite: Wind Ensemble****Admission by Audition**

Jazz Ensemble explores the language and styles of jazz from the Big Band era to the jazz of today. Emphasis is given to the understanding and application of jazz theory, learning improvisation and developing strong ensemble-playing skills. Note: Whenever possible students accepted in Jazz Ensemble must also enroll in Wind Ensemble. Exceptions, granted by permission of the conductor, may be made for instruments not found in Wind Ensemble or in the event that a necessary course schedule that prohibits participation in two instrumental music courses.

Vocal Jazz**1 Credit: Yearlong****MU3300****Prerequisite: Chorale or Concert Choir****Admission by Audition**

Students with a strong foundation in ensemble music skills and vocal independence should audition for Vocal Jazz. Admittance into the flagship choral ensemble at Big Foot High School is by successful audition only, which includes singing a solo jazz standard. See the instructor for details. This advanced ensemble participates in district and state festival and tours local schools, performing music of all styles and time periods; specifically focusing on high-level repertoire from jazz, musical theatre, seasonal tunes, and other popular genres.